
Pipeline

News from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

John R. Kasich, Governor

John L. Martin, Director

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November 21, 2012
Volume 6, Issue 25

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Happy Thanksgiving!

This annual Thanksgiving issue shares that for which we are ...



Administration News

1. Intermediate Care Facility Transition and Other News

As part of the transition of the ICF-IID (Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities) program from the Department of Job & Family Services to DODD, the legislation involved ([Amended Substitute House Bill 153](#)) required the departments to conduct a study of the Individual Assessment Form (IAF). DODD has completed several phases of this study, and most recently revised the instructions to the IAF to provide more guidance to providers and increase consistency in application of the tool.

DODD will be providing training to staff who complete IAF assessments beginning in December 2012. To view the recent IAF communication, revised instructions and training schedules, please visit the DODD website at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/medicaid/Pages/ICF-IID.aspx>.

For questions related to the study of the IAF or the revised IAF instructions, contact Debbie Jenkins at Deborah.Jenkins@dodd.ohio.gov, (614) 387-0578. Questions related to the state-wide assessments may be directed to Brent Baer at Brent.Baer@dodd.ohio.gov, (614) 562-3114 or Susan Arnoczky at Susan.Arnoczky@dodd.ohio.gov, (614) 371-0620.

Ohio's Health Care Exchange

Governor John Kasich confirmed late last week that Ohio has opted to allow the federal government to run the state's health care exchange, as mandated under the [Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#) and said the state will retain control over regulating the insurance industry and determining Medicaid eligibility. In [Governor Kasich's letter to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#) he also stated that Ohio would submit additional details to the federal government prior to HHS's February 2013 deadline. More information on the subject is available online from the Office of Health Transformation ([OHT Website](#)).

Health & Safety

Two new DODD Health & Safety Alerts -- *Winter Weather (#52-11-12)*, and *Health and Safety, Priority One (#51-09-12)*, have been updated and added to the DODD website at [DODD Health and Safety Alerts](#).* The purpose of the alerts is to remind all service providers of their responsibility to assure the health and welfare of individuals and provide specific information toward that outcome.

Through an ongoing review of data and situational information, the DODD Major Unusual Incident (MUI) Investigations Unit has identified cases where a delay in the provision of health care services has caused health and safety concerns for individuals. In some instances identified, family members had been asked to be contacted prior to obtaining medical treatment for an individual. In some cases, the delay in contacting family has caused grave outcomes for the individuals served. While providers must be respectful of the wishes of family members, they also must assure that prompt and appropriate medical care and treatment is provided.

DODD takes seriously the importance of a maintaining a statewide system of Health & Safety Alerts and related training to provide consistent and updated information to the field.

Full link: <http://dodd.ohio.gov/healthandsafety/Pages/Health-and-Safety-Alerts.aspx>



2. Ohio Recognizes National Family Caregivers Month

DODD salutes the efforts of Ohio's many family caregivers.

National Family Caregivers Month is recognized in support of the many family caregivers in the workplace who balance work and family caregiving responsibilities. More at <http://www.nfca.org/>

Across Ohio and the nation, recognition of National Family Caregivers Month continues, highlighting the many individuals and families responsible for the health and well-being of individuals with developmental disabilities, the elderly population, and others in need of special care. More than 65 million family caregivers across the nation bring comfort, social engagement, and stability to their family members. Ohio's developmental disabilities community is keenly aware of these selfless efforts *by* so many, and *for* so many.



Ohio Family Caregivers, County Board Staff - Dual Roles

Balancing the demands of family caregiving and work are often the dual roles of County Board of DD staff and other service providers who have naturally gravitated to a line of work that they well understand and find rewarding. For example, Deb Yenrick, Superintendent at the Sandusky County Board of DD, offers this perspective on staff who are also family caregivers: “You can tell how much the staff here care about the individuals they serve, but when you really get to know them you find that they not only care, they also *understand*. It’s easy to say, ‘I understand,’ when you’re talking to a parent who has a child with a disability, however, many of the staff at SCBDD also live it every day. Many staff have siblings or family members who have developmental disabilities.

In fact, there are 13 staff here who are parents of children with disabilities – so they are uniquely qualified to really *understand* the concerns expressed by parents, or the concerns that are not expressed, but certainly felt.

As our County Board looks to the future, and what services families will need to support their children, it is important to know that our staff has this perspective. This gives them first-hand knowledge of the day-to-day needs of families, as well as knowing the feelings of insecurity that thinking of the future can bring.”

Yenrick adds, “Our School of Hope staff member, Deb Conner, has said, ‘I can advocate for parents because I can see things through their eyes. We only have the children during the day, but parents have them for a lifetime.’ ”

Families in Action – The Family Advisory Council

The DODD Family Advisory Council meets regularly to discuss family caregiver issues and share ideas and concerns. Information on a wide range of subjects requested by individuals and families served in Ohio’s DD system is always on the Council’s agenda.

Last year at this time, the November Family Advisory Council meeting included a presentation by Hannah Wackernagle and her Mom, Hollie, who told their story about Hannah’s participation in activities at Central Crossing High School in Grove City. After reading an article about Hannah’s cheerleading activities at the school, DODD Family Advocate Peggy Martin asked the Wackernagles to share their experiences in the public school system. Hollie’s comments included personal reflections as a parent worrying about her child as she began attending school, and whether or not Hannah having Down syndrome would keep her from becoming a part of her high school peer-group. Hannah was given an opportunity to try out for the cheerleading team. She was selected ... and then ...



“ ... One day, after Hannah had been involved for a while with cheerleading, she was out there with the group at a game, kind of ‘working the crowd’ with students in the stands, and mingling with everyone. It dawned on me that I couldn’t tell which one she was. I couldn’t tell Hannah from any of the other girls from where I was sitting – not by what she was doing, or wearing, or anything. She was a natural part of everything. It was wonderful.”

< Hannah Wackernagle and her Mom, Hollie, share their story at Family Advisory Council.

The next Family Advisory Council meeting is December 4th at Columbus Developmental Center. Meetings are open to everyone!

More about Family Advisory Council at www.dodd.ohio.gov/families/familyadvocate.htm



Special Feature

Giving Thanks – Shared Stories from Across the State

In this issue closest to Thanksgiving Day, we highlight a few of the things for which we, at DODD are thankful ... and for which you, our *Pipeline* readers, have told us you are thankful. We take this opportunity to thank you for your feedback and comments during the year. Many *Pipeline* articles are the result of reader input.



Thanksgiving History: The Plymouth Pilgrims were the first to celebrate Thanksgiving. They arrived in North America in December 1620, having sailed across the Atlantic Ocean on the ship named “Mayflower.” After nearly a year in North America, they celebrated the first ‘day of giving thanks’ - Thanksgiving - in autumn, 1621, at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

-These history tid-bits are thanks to a Family Advisory Council Member who asks to remain anonymous.

Thankful for Great People Like John McGee

DODD Senior Policy Advisor Pam Berry, who oversees the statewide Positive Culture Initiative, notes with sadness the passing of John McGee ([Pipeline Extra, November 13, 2012](#)) “I am incredibly sad, yet grateful for the close bond that grew as I worked with John over the years. He has forever changed the way I see the world, and I am blessed to have known him.”



Honoring John McGee

“Safe and loved – Safe and loved.
All people want to be safe and loved.
It’s at the very core of relationship-building.”

– John McGee, in one of his many
Gentle Teaching courses



Thankful for the Opportunity to Serve Others

Service Providers and Others Share Their Thoughts

From: Independence Inc. – Thankful for Direct Support Professionals

Memorable moments from the recent 2012 Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) conference included the story of Kelly Marsh, representing Independence Inc., who received an Outstanding Direct Support Professional award for “...being the best at going out of her way for the residents she serves.” The story goes:

“Last Thanksgiving, the holiday turkey caught fire in the oven! After following practiced evacuation procedures, dealing with the Fire Department’s arrival and departure, and reviewing the damages, Kelly took the residents – including their cat, Cooper – to her own mother’s home for a hastily-arranged substitute Thanksgiving Dinner! Kelly then returned to the residence and spent the rest of the day cleaning smoke residue and restoring order.”



From: Seneca County Board of DD – Thankful for Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility

They're STIR-ing things up again in Seneca County! Seneca County Board of Developmental Disabilities staff report that 96 self advocates participated in a *Unity Conference* at Sawmill Creek this month. Neighboring county self advocates also attended, and participants each received a T-shirt with a phrase across the back:

"Advocacy Makes My Heart Sing"

According to SCBDD Superintendent Lew Hurst, Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility (Project STIR) classes will begin soon. He adds, "The mission of Project STIR is to teach individuals with developmental disabilities around the state that they can be treated equally and with respect, while given opportunities to obtain competitive employment. It also encourages having a voice in everyday life while educating the community about disabilities.

From: Midwest Innovations – Thankful for Nature's Beauty

Lou (below) and his 'family of friends' at Midwest Innovations are all thankful for the opportunity to enjoy nature in the community -- such as a trip to the Butterfly House at Beech Creek Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve in Alliance, Ohio. Thanks to DSP's at Midwest innovations and around the state for planning great trips like this that educate and delight! Lou's sister, Donna, also is thankful as a family member. She writes, "Thanks for forwarding the *Pipeline* -- I received it in an email from our brother Dave. He enjoyed reading about the Butterfly House and the picture of Lou. I also printed it to send to our dad. Our dad is 90, still mentally alert, but physically cannot get around ... we are so glad there is such a place for Lou at Midwest. It has been a prayer answered -- thank you."



Photo Courtesy, Michele Lane, MWI

Lou has a Friend!

Midwest Innovations' staff member Michele Lane took this great photo of Lou earlier this year, getting a surprise visit from a lovely Monarch butterfly at the Butterfly House in Alliance, OH.

First published in *Pipeline* Volume 6 issue 19 August 29, 2012.



From: Preble County Board of DD – Thankful for Community Partners

Diane Knupp, Preble County Board of DD Superintendent, shares this: "Preble DD has had the privilege this year of partnering with individuals and their families to move into the community. In May, some individuals moved from various Developmental Centers to an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) in Preble County. We then assisted four men in moving from the ICF into their own home in the community. Preble DD now has purchased a second home for four women to move from the ICF to a new home - thereby making room for four more people to move from the DC. And most recently, we toured a third home for two women and two men who also want to move into the community." She adds,



Photo Courtesy, Corey Mangan, PCBDD

“This has been a great experience for us. Our realtor told me this has been the highlight of her professional career. She will never forget the excitement on the individuals and their families faces when she showed them their new home for the first time.”



A New Home in Eaton!
Gail Marit, realtor with Country Mile Realtors, along with Junior (seated, left) and Daniel outside their new home in Eaton.

We are enjoying getting to know the individuals and their families. I'm thankful and proud that Preble DD, along with other County Boards, has had the opportunity to make such a big difference in peoples' lives. It's been an amazing experience!”

From: SHC/The ARC of Medina County – Thankful for Great People to Serve

SHC/The Arc of Medina County is thankful for being able to provide 24 years of independent apartment living for individuals with disabilities in Medina County -- last year serving nearly 1500 wonderful individuals, including those who live at Ann Tubbs Estates (below).



Photo Courtesy, Stephanie Moore, SHC/The Arc

There's no place like home!

Ann Tubbs Estates celebrates 24 years of service to the community at the facility's re-dedication and open house on a beautiful day in Medina County last month.

More at www.shc-medina.org



History: President George Washington issued the first national Thanksgiving Day Proclamation in the year 1789.



Thankful for Thoughtful People at Ohio's Developmental Centers

Ohio Developmental Centers Give Thanks

From: Mount Vernon Developmental Center, Deb Hawk, Executive Secretary

“You’ve heard of ‘giving thanks through a storm’? I encountered one of those life-shattering moments five years ago when my son was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He had been suffering for some time with headaches, and the day he called and said, “Mom, I have a brain tumor,” my world seemed to come to a sudden, screeching halt. I had no idea how this would turn out, but I had to decide right then and there how I was going to cope with this ‘in your face’ crisis, and

with the weeks to come. A personal decision for me, was first to place my son in God's hands, and truly believe that he would be OK. *I'm thankful to report that he is.* Some days were easier than others to remain positive. I am forever thankful for my family and friends who kept in close contact and cheered me on during this time. I found myself renewing my determination and faith daily." - *Deb Hawk*

"What are you thankful for?" as answered by Mount Vernon DC residents:

**"I am thankful for my hat and my hankie." - John Z. "I am thankful for my Mom and Dad." - Rafael C.
"I am thankful for my job and my watch." - David P.**

From: Youngstown Developmental Center – Cindy Renner, Superintendent

In a recent YDC Newsletter, Superintendent Cindy Renner shared this note to staff, "Please know that I am very appreciative of everyone's efforts, and know that your giving on a daily basis does not go unnoticed. I'll end with a quote from William Arthur Ward: *"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."*

History: Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird of the United States. But it was Thomas Jefferson who opposed him. It is believed that Franklin then named the male turkey as 'Tom' to spite Jefferson!



Thankful for Artistic Opportunities

Ohio Artists Create in Studios, Galleries, and Homes

From: The Rendville Art Works Annual Gallery Showing at Granville's Bryn Du Mansion

This past weekend, the **Rendville Art Works** artists visited Granville for the seventh November in a row, making the trip up Route 13 North from their art studio in Perry County to the spacious Bryn Du Mansion in Licking County for their annual gallery showing and sale. This is no small feat, as there are many pieces to be packed and unpacked - some quite large. And many of the artists themselves attend and help. Rendville Art Works Director Joel Yeager explains, "There's probably no more receptive a community in which to stage an art show! We opened the doors Friday night - the first day of a two-day show - to a crowd of people who, just like last year, bought most of the work that first night!" All proceeds from art purchases go to the Rendville artists, themselves.



The Art:
"Stacked Neighborhood"
by Rendville Artworks artist,
Kathy Carter (not pictured).

Friends of the artist, however,
agreed to get into the photo and
help show off her colorful canvas
depicting three houses,
stacked vertically.

<(L. to R.) Beth, Rufus, Robert,
and Glenn.

Color it SOLD!



From: Midwest Innovations, Thankful for Mural Artists

Jeanette Coleridge at Midwest Innovations shares this about the power of artistic expression: “Our windows have been painted -- don't worry, it is washable! One Friday, an Art Appreciation Day, the plan was to make a window mural. Our folks used finger paints and everyone painted their hands to make shapes and ‘leaves’ on a tree.



It was great – and, I must say that I have never seen a picture like the one here, of Adrian. It melts your heart how happy he looks!”

**The making of a window mural ...
The making of an artist.**

**“My handprint will be yellow!”
– Adrian F., participant in mural art,
with fellow artists**



History: Abraham Lincoln issued a 'Thanksgiving Proclamation' in October 1863, and officially set aside the last Thursday of November as the national day of Thanksgiving. Earlier, the Presidents made a proclamation each year to specify the day when Thanksgiving was to be held.

Thankful for New Employment Opportunities

Ohioans Get on Board with the Employment First Initiative

From: The RSC Jobs Summit, September

An inaugural two-day DisAbility Jobs Summit hosted by the Rehabilitation Services Commission in September provided many opportunities for networking, and focused on the talented employee pool that is just beginning to be tapped. Referring to the Administration’s *Employment First* initiative and its intent, Governor Kasich addressed attendees and was clearly on-message as he emphatically stated in his opening comments, “We have a tremendous opportunity to change the culture!”



**This Consumer Panel Means
Business!**

**(L. to R.) Mike Snapp, Greg Powers,
Courtney Jordan, and Regenia
Huffman provided numerous tips
on everything from how to combine
different kinds of waivers to get
services you need, to obtaining
reliable transportation alternatives
so you can get to work if you can't
work from home.**



A Thankfulness Potpourri



<A



<B



<C

A) Thankful for a new home – Marsha Mace, Southeast Ohio, also thankful for her cat, Yum-Yum.

B) Thankful for a new job – Dave Schull, Kroger Athens Store Manager, names Blane Morris his next new employee at Athens County's PersonnelPlus Employer Appreciation event last month. Blane took the surprise in stride, giving Schull a Thumbs Up!

C) Thankful for a new waiver – Bradley Shonkwiler, first child enrolled on DODD new SELF waiver, enjoys the new options available to him, including Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention services.



“At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”

– Albert Schweitzer



Thanksgiving Lore

-by Sherry Steinman

The *cornucopia*, or horn of plenty, is a symbol of abundance and nourishment. It is commonly represented as a large horn-shaped container overflowing with produce, flowers, or wealth in some form. Greek mythology offers several explanations of the origin of the cornucopia. One of the best-known involves the birth and nurturance of the infant, Zeus, who had to be hidden from his devouring father, Cronus. In a cave on the island of Crete, baby Zeus was cared for and protected by a number of divine attendants, including a goat named Amalthea (‘Nourishing Goddess’), who fed him with her milk. The baby future ‘king of the gods’ had unusual abilities and strength, and while playing with Amalthea one day accidentally broke off one of her horns -- which then had the divine power to provide unending nourishment, as the goat-as-foster-mother had done.

A cornucopia is often used to describe that which supplies, unendingly, whatever the user or owner needs.

While there is no mythical cornucopia supplying the many and varied needs and wishes of Ohio’s developmental disabilities community, there is a constant flow of support and caring – and of many personal efforts, every day, to do what’s needed for individuals and families. DODD thanks each of you who have put forth these sincere efforts on behalf of Ohioans with developmental disabilities. These efforts do not go unnoticed.

Thank you for reading Pipeline!

Please note the PostScripts, next page.

∞ DD Awareness & Advocacy Event, March 5, 2013 ∞

DODD, Ohio Public Images, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, Ohio SIBS, The Arc of Ohio, and other stakeholders are pleased to announce a new partnership in which next year's annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Kickoff and statewide Legislative Advocacy Day activities will be hosted together. The 2013 *Developmental Disabilities Awareness & Advocacy Event* will be on March 5, 2013 at the Ohio Statehouse, combining the two efforts previously held separately.

Attendance at the 2013 DD Awareness and Advocacy Day is open to all. Participants wishing to meet with their legislators will be required to register in advance. Details coming soon!

The Ohio Statehouse venue will host the Awareness program in the Atrium as always, and registration for individuals meeting with legislators will be headquartered nearby in the Statehouse, allowing for a flow between venues.

SO ... SAVE THE DATE! TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013.

The Annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness & Advocacy Event at the Ohio Statehouse.

More information as the date draws nearer.



^A sneak peek at the 2013 Awareness & Advocacy theme.

∞ OPI Call for Entries, Media and Awareness Awards

Ohio Public Images, Inc. (OPI), an information and advocacy organization encouraging positive perceptions of people with developmental disabilities, has announced the 'Call for Entries' for its annual *Media and Awareness Awards* for the period *December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012*. Entries eligible for consideration in this competition must have been published, broadcast, scheduled, produced, or occurred during that timeframe. The 'Call for Entries' will be posted soon on the OPI website at <http://www.publicimagesnetwork.org/>.

∞ Shared Services Expo, Cleveland – November 27

Ohio's developmental disabilities community is a leader in knowing the value of sharing services, including shared County Board of DD Superintendents, and shared administrative functions.

Here's an opportunity build on that path.

The *Shared Services Expo* highlights successful shared services programs, and offers practical advice to those interested in collaborative shared-service projects. Government entities and schools interested in attending only the morning presentations via Distance Learning should contact John Ramicone at john.ramicone@ideastream.org or (216) 916-6360. Registration fee for this option is \$75 per site. Pre-registration is required. In-person attendee registration is \$50, and includes light breakfast, box lunch, and materials. Register at: www.ideastream.org/education. Contact: Greg Wasil: greg.wasil@ideastream.org

∞ 'Preparing for 2013 Budget' and More – November 29

State Department budget proposals now have been submitted for consideration, as the state prepares for the budget year beginning July 1, 2013. To prepare for what lies ahead regarding the budget proposals and initiatives that will affect the lives of Ohioans with disabilities and their families, register now -- [click here](#) for the program, sponsored by The Arc of Ohio, November 29 at the Holiday Inn, Worthington, 9 a.m. – 4:15 p.m., including an evening program 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. about the Ohio Transitions Developmental Disabilities (TDD) Waiver. DODD Continuing Education Credits are pending. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

OACB Winter Conference – December 5-7

The Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) Annual Winter Conference will be December 5-7 at the Hilton Hotel at Easton Town Center in Columbus. Attendees will learn more about recent developments in Ohio's County Board system, develop professional relationships with their colleagues around the state, and improve their professional skills. Several new and unique sessions are offered this year. Contact Kim Linkinhoker, OACB Associate Director, (614) 431-0616; klinkinhoker@oacbdds.org.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION](#)

NOTE: The Disability Housing Network (DHN) has announced the agenda for the DHN Housing Track at this convention. The sessions will include: DODD Updates; Using Assistive Technology in Community Housing; Working with your Local Metropolitan Housing Authority; and Community Housing Needs for Individuals with Criminal Backgrounds and Intense Behavioral Needs. To view session information, please see the "Welcome Home" track for the OACBDD 29th Annual Convention.

DODD Hotline for Reporting Abuse, Neglect, other Possible Major Unusual Incidents (MUIs)

To report abuse/neglect and other MUI's call toll-free: **1-866-313-6733**. Please note that MUIs are to be reported to the local County Board of DD, however, it is understood that there may be times an individual, staff member, or family member may feel it is a conflict -- or that, potentially, a County Board may be involved in the allegation. In those instances it is important to remember the hotline number is there to be used for reporting concerns in these situations.

Pipeline Feedback ... from You to the State

Pipeline is an electronic publication of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), distributed at least twice monthly to update and inform readers of timely, relevant information affecting stakeholders in the developmental disabilities community. Share questions or comments about *Pipeline* at feedback@list.dodd.ohio.gov or sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov. *DODD values subscriber confidentiality and does not intentionally share subscriber addresses with others. However, in the event of a public records request, the DODD will comply with all applicable Public Records Laws.*

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Department of
Developmental Disabilities

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