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COLUMBIANA COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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Columbiana County Board of Developmental Disabilities

SPRING 2016
NEWSLETTER

What's Going on at EDI

The transition at the South location with EDI continues to go well. Parents, caregivers and clients have continued to express satisfaction with the staff, the smoothness of the change, and any concerns or questions they have expressed have been answered and discussed one on one or at the monthly parent meetings.

There is an Open House in April where all EDI families will gather for a time of food, fellowship, and officially meeting the staff and Board of EDI.

Again, parents, caregivers and clients look forward as the spring season unfolds to more job opportunities and trainings in the community and at EDI. These opportunities will aid them in continuing to increase their job skills and independence as well as integration into the communities where they live and work.

-Dianna Delposen, CCBDD Habilitation Manager

FUN ACTIVITIES:

- ★ **EDI Central** - had 3 bowling outings to Hunt Club Lanes with clients from The Adult Senior Center
- ★ Took an outing to **CTM**, a company in Salem where individuals that work for the company got a tour and explanation of what the parts we complete are used for
- ★ **Gary Barker** - Bret Michaels tribute singer came to the workshop on February 26th - Everyone had a great time dancing and singing

Hickory Hollow

Anyone looking for a beautiful outdoor venue for clients to participate in outdoor recreational activities is encouraged to contact Bill Richards if they are interested in using his facility located at Hickory Hollow, 33455 Winona Road, Salem, OH for clients. Hickory Hollow is a large recreational area with fishing lakes, hayrides, golf, and other outdoor activities that are very handicap accessible and free for all DD providers and clients. Please note this is the same location CCBDD holds the annual End of Summer Bash. Mr. Richards asks that you contact him in advance to make arrangements at (330) 222-1064.

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Join us for the Best Buddies Walk!

2nd annual Best Buddies Friendship Walk is on Wednesday, May 25th, 4-7 p.m. The walk is sponsored by The Columbiana County Board of DD. The walk will take place at War Memorial Stadium at Lisbon David Anderson High School. There will be a DJ, refreshments and we are hoping for great weather!

Admission is FREE, however donations are accepted and donors who give \$50 or more will receive a gift from Best Buddies Ohio for their support. This event will be in celebration of Best Buddies Ohio, which was able to open a state office in 2016. CCBDD was the first County Board of DD in Ohio to support Best Buddies of Ohio, and we have received state and national recognition for doing so. Many other County Boards of DD have followed suit and supported Best Buddies of Ohio.

Last year, we were able to raise nearly \$7,500 to assist in the opening of the Best Buddies Ohio Office. Join us again this year and help us reach our goal!



Weekly Family Playgroups

Together We Grow Playgroups

Ohio Department of Health
Help me grow

The playgroup is for children age birth to 5 years old. Help Me Grow playgroups are free for families and provide a safe and nurturing environment for you and your child to play together. For more information please call 330 424 0288.

Highlights

- Children interact with other children
- Parents interact with other parents
- Learning environment
- An array of fun activities and themes
- Fun, fun, fun!

- Every Monday: 11:00-12:30 St. Paul's Parish Office, Salem
- Every Tuesday: 10:00-11:30 Robert Bycroft School, Lisbon
- Every Wednesday: 10:00-11:30 Westgate Middle School East Liverpool

"LIKE US" on Facebook - Columbiana County Help Me Grow
www.facebook.com/columbianacountyhelpmegrow
 Help Me Grow is a free and voluntary home visiting program, offering screenings, parent support and information.
 Call 330-424-0288 for more information or to make a referral.

Client Advocacy Group

There is a Client Advocacy group at EDI Central, under the direction of the Habilitation Manager, Holly Adams, that assists in making decisions at the workshop.

The group meets monthly to discuss their activity calendar for the month and makes decisions on things such as party functions, games and entertainment, menu choices and activities that the workshop will participate in throughout the year.

Holly Adams stated, "We enjoy the fact that this is our work place and we have a say. It is important to us that decisions that will affect us and our peers are discussed with us and we help make the best decision for the group as a whole. Being a part of this group is rewarding and helps us to understand how to make good sound decisions and how to work together."

What's your story?

TYLER KYSER, JEREMY CARR, MICHELLE SOX

March is DD awareness month but at Columbiana County Board of Developmental Disabilities, every month is DD month! We have chosen to highlight a few individuals throughout the county each month in 2016 to tell their Story.

This month, we had a great story come our way. We had the privilege to sit down with Tyler Kyser, Jeremy Carr and Michelle Sox to talk about their unique friendship. Their friendship goes back long before they even realized what friendships were all about. In the early days, Robert Bycroft had a program called Infant Stim, where parents would bring their infants into the school on a Friday for 2 hours to do therapy; today this program has transitioned into Help Me Grow. During this time, Tyler, Jeremy and Michelle would be with our therapists receiving different treatments to improve many facets of their lives, while the parents waited, they would sit in the cafeteria taking about life with toddlers with developmental disabilities, exchanging stories, techniques, and supporting each other. These parents forged what would become a lifelong friendship which created an inseparable bond with the kids as well.

As toddlers they had many play dates together. This continued as they grew up. When they were in early adolescence, they played on the Challenger baseball team together. As they got older they all attended Robert Bycroft School. They loved wrestling. Monday Night Raw, Friday Night Smack Down, anything wrestling, they enjoyed watching and talking about together. They also enjoyed video games (and still do).

When Jeremy was a little older he decided that he wanted to join the Special Olympics. A few years later Tyler joined as well, but they both competed in different events. Their paths did not cross much in this extracurricular event, but they still supported each other. They all attended each other's graduation parties through the years because each of them were in different grades.

Tyler, Jeremy and Michelle were asked what they liked to do most during the day now as adults and they all quickly hugged and said "be friends, hang out, and work together at Central". They also said that they could not wait to go out to eat after the Comets Basketball game, where they were going to crush the staff team. They all are currently employed at EDI Central. They take pride and ownership in the work they do there. They truly have a bond that to this day is inseparable. Their smiles are infectious, their passion for life and getting along with each other shows in their daily interactions. We are glad to have each of you as a part of our County Board!



COMETS VS. STAFF BASKETBALL GAME

The Columbiana County Comets Special Olympics basketball team stole one March 23, 2016. Bryan Weingart and Jake Norton made steals that led to baskets in the final 31 seconds as the Comets rallied past the County Board of Developmental Disabilities staff for a 58-57 win in their annual clash at the Nace Gymnasium on Wednesday, March 23rd.

Also helping lead the Comets to victory were Donte Boley, Tommy Baun, Ray Dewalt, Rachel Dennison, Michael Bertschy and Jeremy Carr.

Article Courtesy of: Morning Journal, Staff Reports.

The Beaver Creek Candle Company is a unique organization because candles are handcrafted by people with developmental disabilities. Every candle is carefully prepared, packaged, and shipped by individuals under the watchful eye of the Columbiana County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Our consumers take pride and have a sense of ownership in our company.

The Beaver Creek Candle Company is owned and operated by our consumers because 100% of the proceeds go directly to our workers, thereby improving the life of people with developmental disabilities in Columbiana County. We hope you will purchase a Beaver Creek Candle Company candle and be a part of helping our community.

