

Published by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities
"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"

Board endorses children services levy

At its regular meeting on September 24th, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities endorsed Issue 4 -- the replacement levy to support Franklin County Children Services -- which will go before voters on November 3rd.

The 3.10 mill levy would replace an existing 3.15 mill levy that expires at the end of the year. That levy provides over one-third of Franklin County Children Services' operating budget.

Superintendent Jed Morison called passage of the levy "vitally important to our community's continued efforts to protect neglected and abused children."

If Issue 4 is approved by voters, collections would begin next January. The cost to the owner of a \$100,000 home would be an additional \$28.48 per year.

2009

PROTECTING CHILDREN BY STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

LEVY BOOK

OUR MISSION
Through collaboration with families and their communities, we advocate for the safety, permanency and well-being of each child we serve in a manner that honors family and culture.

Franklin County Children Services
Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

Momentum builds for charity campaign

For the past seven years, FCBDD staff have led all county agencies in funds contributed to the Combined Charitable Campaign. This year, staff are showing their support once again, having pledged over \$24,080 at press time.

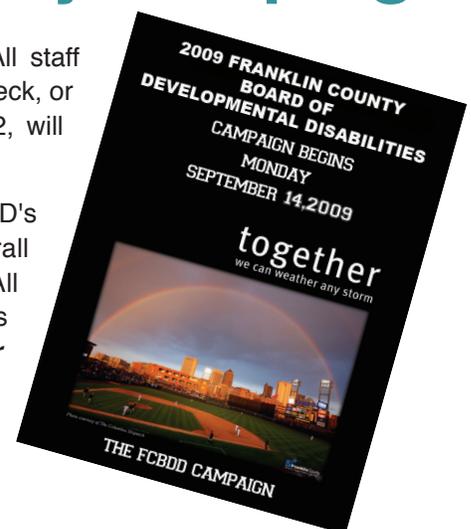
The agency's campaign runs through October 16th.

The annual campaign seeks contributions to one or more of over 500 charitable organizations.

A prize drawing will be held October 19th, featuring a grand prize of a Sharp LCD

television and DVD player. All staff who give at least \$2 per paycheck, or a one-time contribution of \$52, will be eligible for the drawing.

John Mitchem, FCBDD's Adult Services Director, is overall coordinator of the campaign. All staff serving as coordinators are listed inside in **Good For You**.



ARC North penny war made cents

by Shirley Jordan

ARC Industries North spent the month of August engaged in a 'penny war.'

Work groups competed against each other to earn the most points. One point was awarded for each penny collected. Negative points were given when nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollar bills were placed in the container by other groups.

In the end, the big winner was the Citizens Committee for Persons with Developmental Disabilities, which received \$823.24 raised in the war. Over 60,000 pennies were collected.

The janitorial crew supervised by Chuck Skeen was the winner with 11,635 points. They collected \$204.15. In second place was Amber Howard's group. They had 5,806 points, and collected \$67.76. Both groups will celebrate their success with a pizza party.

A big thanks goes out to all who contributed to the penny war. Everyone at North had lots of fun collecting and counting pennies, and scheming to get the most points for their group.



Pictured with the Penny War trophy are: Art Williams and Laura Black holding the trophy. Behind them are Chuck Skeen, James Dingess, Mitch Gillespie and Tom Eletherion.

Photo by Jackie Boyle.

Special Olympics has record breaking day

FCBDD Special Olympics Unified Golf Program had a successful state golf tournament at Meadow Links Golf Course and Academy in Cincinnati on Tuesday, September 14th.

The unified team of athlete Robert Calbert and partner David Noll broke the old course record of 39 by two strokes with a blistering 37 on their way to the gold medal.

All six unified teams, consisting of a Special Olympics athlete and a partner from the community, played nine holes in an alternating shot format.

The teams of Chris Ahlers and Chris Guzzo, Craig Doles and Mike Doles, Don Wharton and Rick Linville, Vernon Clark and Roger Darling, as well as Derek DeFusko and Sandy Beach, were all top-three finishers and medal winners in their respective divisions.

The difficult course included plenty of water hazards and tight fairways but the weather was perfect. Not everything was quite as perfect as the course conditions though.

Athlete Don Wharton said he was "robbed three times" on the putting greens, and though the words may have seemed harsh, the smile on his face and the silver medal hanging from his neck proved his true feelings of the day.

For more information on the Special Olympics program, please contact Ryan Phillips at ryan.phillips@fcbdd.org or visit www.franklincountyflyers.blogspot.com.



Back row, from left, are: Mike Doles, Craig Doles, Roger Darling, Derek DeFusko, Vernon Clark, David Noll and Robert Calbert. In front are: Chris Ahlers, Chris Guzzo, Don Wharton, Rick Linville and Sandy Beach.

Nancy Rinehart gives gift of life

by Kristy Schuy-

In May, Nancy Rinehart, offered a stranger a second chance at life by being a stem cell transplant donor. The FCBDD Service Coordinator helped a 27 year-old woman with Myelodysplastic Syndrome regain her life.

Myelodysplastic Syndrome is a group of diseases in which the production of blood cells by the bone marrow is disrupted.

Nancy's willingness to donate was the result of losing a close friend in high school to leukemia. Nancy had been on the National Marrow Donor Program registry since 2001, but received her first call to donate in the summer of 2008. At that time, she was not asked to proceed to the donation process. She received a call again in the spring of 2009, was determined to be a match, and started the process of a stem cell transplant.

The process required a stimulated collection of stem cells and receipt of Filgrastim. Filgrastim is a protein that stimulates the production of white blood cells. White blood cells are important for protecting the body from infection. Prior to the Filgrastim, she received daily injections for four days.



Nancy shared that the injections and the donation process were not painful, but were uncomfortable. However, she would do it again to help someone else in need. (Nancy is eligible to be a donor up to three times.)

The process is anonymous, so Nancy did not meet the recipient. She learned only the recipient's gender, age and medical diagnosis. After one year, the parties are permitted to make contact with each other if desired.

What a wonderful gift Nancy was able to give to someone in need!

To obtain more details regarding the donation program, go to <http://www.marrow.org>. Also, feel free to contact Nancy at 342-5595.

ARC West celebrates International Day

by Tom Jude



Employees at ARC West had the opportunity to visit China, England, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Romania, and the United States with passports in hand without even leaving the workshop!

Employees helped cut out and paint the flags of countries from all over the world. What a colorful spectacle it was!

The festivities, which took place August 12th, featured hand crafted decorations and samples of food from each country.

A special guest was Jingfeli, a Chinese kite artist working with the Ohio State University. She brought a wide selection of beautiful kites and Chinese artifacts.

International Day concluded with everyone forming a huge circle on the vocational work floor, holding hands and signing "We Are The World."

Sibling conference set for Nov. 6-7

The 9th Annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference will be held at the Columbus Marriott Airport Hotel, 1375 N. Cassady Avenue, on Friday, November 6th, and Saturday, November 7th.

Topics to be discussed include: Assuring Quality Outcomes Through Family Engagement; The Sibling Relationship - a Discussion with Siblings about Siblings; and Advocating for Health Care and Wellness.

This conference was one of the first of its kind in the United States to address concerns of adult brothers and sisters of people with developmental disabilities.

To register or obtain more details, please visit www.ohiosibs.com, or call Dr. Tom Fish at 292-7550.

Focus on Medicaid buy-in program

Historically, people with disabilities were often discouraged from working because their earnings made them ineligible for Medicaid health coverage. The situation changed on April 1, 2008 when enrollment began in the Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities program (MBIWD). The following information about the program has been provided by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

What is MBIWD?

MBIWD is an Ohio Medicaid program that provides healthcare coverage to working Ohioans with disabilities. MBIWD was created to encourage Ohioans with disabilities to work and still keep their health care coverage.

Who is eligible?

To qualify for MBIWD, a person must: be a U.S. citizen or meet citizenship requirements; be a resident of Ohio; be 16 to 64 years old; have a disability as defined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) or be eligible under the MBIWD medically improved category; be employed in paid work (includes part-time and full-time work); pay a premium (if applicable); meet certain financial criteria.

Financial Eligibility Criteria

Income and resources (e.g., cash, stocks) are used to determine eligibility for MBIWD. The following financial criteria must be met for MBIWD: After income deductions, the applicant's annual income must be less than or equal to 250% of the federal poverty level (currently \$27,084); Resources must not exceed \$10,580. (This resource limit is adjusted annually.)

Applicants with annual income greater than \$27,084 should still apply for MBIWD because certain deductions are given.

Premiums

Monthly premiums are required for those eligible for MBIWD with an annual gross income greater than \$16,248. These enrollees will be sent a monthly statement with the monthly premium amount. To obtain and maintain health coverage, the full amount of the premium must be received by the due date or it will be considered a non-payment. Late payments will be applied to the most delinquent premium. Those who do not pay their premium for two consecutive months will be subject to MBIWD termination. To re-enroll

in MBIWD, an individual must pay all MBIWD delinquent premiums and meet eligibility requirements.

How are premiums calculated?

Premiums are determined through a set of calculations based on income, family size, and certain standard deductions (e.g., health insurance premiums, impairment-related work expenses, etc.) Individuals should direct questions about standard deductions or their premium calculation to their caseworker.

How do applicants apply?

Applicants who are new to Medicaid should complete forms JFS 07200 and JFS 07211 (available online: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/consumers/Application.stm>). Existing Medicaid consumers interested in MBIWD should contact their caseworker or the Medicaid Consumer Hotline: 1-800-324-8680. No face-to-face interview is required for this program.

Can MBIWD consumers receive long-term care and waiver services?

Yes. Consumers are permitted to receive long-term care and waiver services while enrolled in MBIWD.

Do MBIWD consumers have to pay a spenddown?

No. There is no spenddown for those enrolled in MBIWD.

What happens if an MBIWD consumer loses disability status?

If an MBIWD consumer loses disability status, he/she may continue to receive health care coverage through MBIWD's medically improved category. To qualify for the medically improved category, consumers must meet certain conditions. Ask a caseworker for more information.

What happens if an MBIWD consumer loses his/her job?

MBIWD consumers who lose their job have up to six months of MBIWD coverage if they meet certain conditions. Premiums are based on the MBIWD consumer's income. If there is a reduction of income, there will also be a reduction in the premium amount.

For more information about this program, please contact 1-800-324-8680 (voice) or 1-800-292-3572 (TTY) or visit www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers.

Good For You

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

The **Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio** reports that the 2009 Buddy Walk was a tremendous success. Over 5,000 persons came to Columbus Crew Stadium for the event, which raised over \$170,000.

On September 15th, **April Homkes** and **Kim O'Brien** of the Early Childhood Department made a presentation to the agency's senior management team regarding the *It Takes Two to Talk* program for parents of children with language delays. Developed by the Hanen Centre, the program emphasizes how children improve language skills with their parents' help.

PLAN of Central Ohio provides planning and lifelong assistance for persons with mental illness, mental retardation or other disabilities. **Albert Acierno**, Marketing Director of the nonprofit organization, outlined these services at a meeting of the Parents League on September 9th.

The following staff members are serving as coordinators of the 2009 Combined Charitable Campaign: **Jennifer Cunningham** and **Amy Magginis**, Administration; **Tim Smith**, Administrative Services and Support; **Mike Doran**, ARC East; **Jan Montgomery**, ARC West; **Nan Burns**, ARC North; **Jim Leake**, ARC South; **Shella Ross**, ARC Sales and Business Office; **Kurt Schmitter**, ARC - ESD Enclaves; **Ben Burke**, ARC - ESD Janitorial; **Debbie Schafer**, ESD Placement; **Mary Jo Ritter**, Bixby Living Skills; **Debbie Guyton**, Hague Living Skills; **ECEFC**, Cathy Gordon; **Gretchen Uhl**, ECLC; **Carol Rantala**, Northeast School; **Barb Michael-Jones**, West Central School; **Diane Kaiser**, Service Coordination; **Amy Kulow**, Transportation East; **Mary Fairchild**, Transportation West; and **Dorcas Sharp**, Transportation South.

Career Milestones

30 years

Mildred Jones
Alice Talley

25 years

Gary Brundage
Denise Clark
Elaine Robinson

20 years

Kevin Brandeberry
Michael Hairston
Sarah Haring
Jeannette Ross
Rhoda Ryan

15 years

Debra Guyton
John Webster

5 years

Kenneth Brown
Leo Brown
John Clarkson
Donna Cox
William Fann
Kristine Gundy
Hallie Hale
Kevin Keyser

My 25 years in Special Olympics

by Jennifer Cunningham

I was 7 years old and I was in the earlybird gymnastics program. I was in line for the balance beam and my mom came up to me and said, "Jenny I don't think you can do this."

I said, "Yes, I can," and got on the beam. She couldn't believe it!

Worthington did not have a gymnastics team because they did not have a coach. My mom asked Mr. Blaine and he said yes.

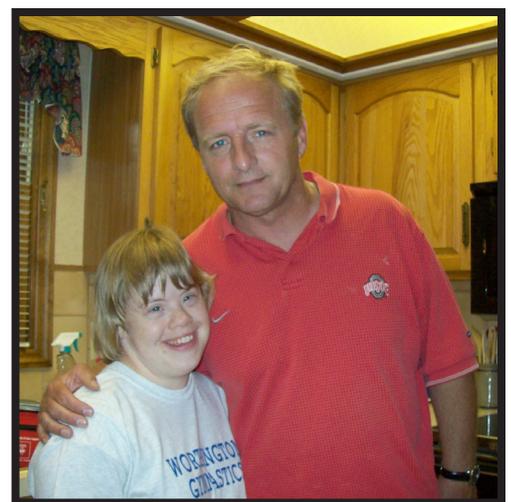
I was 8 years old when I competed in Level 2 gymnastics. I learned a lot from Mr. Blaine -- to believe in myself and work really hard at practices. Now we have a gymnastics team that grows a lot and I have many new friends.

I am 33 years old and I am in Level 4 gymnastics.

I joined Franklin County Special Olympics to do skiing. It has been great. I have been to three international games in gymnastics and skiing, and have competed against people from all over the world.

Special Olympics has been a wonderful experience for me -- meeting new people, competing against people from all over the world, and traveling to different cities in the U.S.

I am really happy to have been in Special Olympics for 25 years. Thank you Special Olympics!



Jennifer gets a hug from coach John Blaine.

At 80, Millie Jones still going strong

Millie Jones, Accounting Officer with the Fiscal Department, turned 80 earlier this year, but unlike many people, she doesn't yearn to take life easy.

"I'm glad when Monday morning comes along. I love my work. I'm fortunate to have something to keep me occupied."

This month, Millie marked a milestone that relatively few achieve -- she completed 30 years of service as a FCBDD employee. She also has earned the accolade for being the agency's oldest employee.

Millie is responsible for receiving all revenue coming to the agency, as well as processing staff mileage reimbursement requests.

Millie joined FCBDD in 1979 after working in accounting positions at the Metropolitan Education Council and

the old A&P grocery chain. Before that, she was a stay-at-home mom for 15 years.

A native of Wheeling, West Virginia, Millie began working for Travelers Insurance there soon after completing high school.

The biggest improvement that Millie has witnessed during her career has been the copy machine. "We used to go through a lot of carbon paper!" she said.

Millie has been married for 25 years to Maurice Jones. He is the former Superintendent of Gahanna-Jefferson Schools. Together they have 6 children, 15 grandchildren and 9 great grand children.

Work doesn't monopolize the time of this energetic octogenarian. Millie



Millie Jones and Superintendent Jed Morison. Photo by Mandy Holland

enjoys reading, especially historical and biographical works. She also enjoys taking in the sights at local antique shops and shows.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Jerry Saunders
Helen Ninos
Dean Fadel
Galen Stover
Lito Ramirez
Renee Stein
Jean Williams

Superintendent Jed W. Morison

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or handicap.

The following staff contribute to the monthly publication and distribution of Dateline.

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Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

is always available on the internet at:

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

October, 2009

- 8, 9 ARC Industries Board of Trustees Retreat - please call 342-5734 for details.
- 12 Columbus Day - all county facilities closed.
- 13 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 21 Parent League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 22 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 22 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 31 Happy Halloween! 

"Quotable quotes"

"My father used to say, 'Don't raise your voice. Improve your argument.' "

---Desmond Tutu