

# Dateline

October 2017

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"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"

## Renewal levy is Issue 4

The renewal levy for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities will be Issue 4 on the November 7, 2017 ballot.

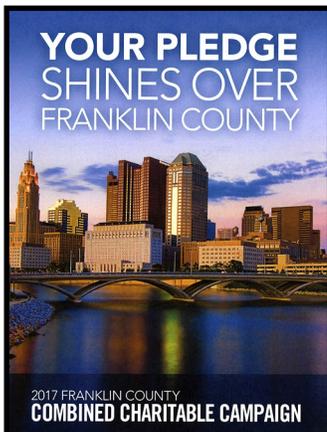
Because this is a renewal levy, it means **no new taxes**. The cost to the home owner will not increase. The ten year levy proposal would be effective from 2019 through 2028.

According to Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO, "this levy renews a levy that initially passed in 1992." Services supported by the levy include early childhood programs, services for school-age children, extensive employment and habilitation services for adults and specialized services including Service Coordination, Special Olympics, supported living, transportation, therapies and more.

Early voting begins on October 11th and absentee ballots will begin to be sent out on October 11th. The deadline to register to vote is October 10th.

## Combined Charitable Campaign begins

The 2017 Combined Charitable Campaign for Franklin County has begun under the leadership of County Commissioner Kevin Boyce.



This year's theme is "Your Pledge Shines over Franklin County" and the coordinator for FCBDD is Jack Brownley, Director of Schools and Special Programs.

Staff of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities have traditionally provided excellent support to the Combined Charitable Campaign. Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison stated that "our staff sees the needs every day in their work with families. We look forward to another generous response and encourage staff to pledge through payroll deduction."

The combined charities offer contributors many options on where to direct their donations. Over 700 organizations, from local to international, are included.

Commissioner Boyce announced that FCBDD's Franklin County's Campaign goal is \$100,000.

### Celebrate 50!

FCBDD celebrates 50 years in 2017.

*Throughout 2017, we are celebrating 50 years of service provided by County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, which were established on October 25, 1967.*

*To help celebrate, each month we will include a bit of history in our journey over these past 50 years to help people live, learn and work in our community.*

**Let's Celebrate 50!**

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**ARC East was the first county owned workshop built from the ground up. It opened in December, 1983.**

**ARC West opened in June, 1989.**

**ARC North was a renovated building that opened in September, 1980. ARC North replaced ARCraft North, which was our first workshop, located on Indianola Avenue.**

# PIECE Project Completes Third Successful Year

## by Kurt Smith

The PIECE Project was celebrated in August with a ceremony and reception in the OSU Ross Heart Hospital Auditorium recognizing individuals, staff and supervisors who participated in the project which is in its third year.

PIECE which stands for Pre-vocational Integrated, Education and Campus Experience is a project supported by FCBDD and operated in collaboration with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center. It is a six-week campus based internship and skills education experience for Adult Services participants and staff based on the OSU campus.

This year's session included 14 participants, 10 direct support staff and two supervisors representing all five adult services facilities. Participants were able to choose from 14 different campus and community-based internship sites which included campus facilities like the RPAC, Bevis Hall Greenhouse and the OSU Garden of Hope. Community internship partners COSI, Franklin Park Conservatory and others rounded out the lineup.

Participants learned job and soft skills necessary to move them toward community employment. Staff learned new ways to support individuals in community-based settings in a two-day training session led by OSU staff early in June. Four participants were also recognized by Columbus City Council for participating in the Smart Columbus initiative by piloting a new transportation app for smart phones.

At the ceremony, participants presented video portfolios documenting their summer experience along with their future goals. There may also have even been a few "GO BUCKS" or "O-H-I-O's" sprinkled in for good measure!

Robyn Norman Supervisor at PIECE and FCBDD's Northeast Center, summed it up in her opening remarks by saying "It was so impressive to see everyone show-up each day with their smiles and positive attitudes as they worked toward their goals, and I am sure that everyone is leaving PIECE with increased confidence".

Congratulations 2017 PIECE project participants and staff on another great year!



## Community Star Awards Banquet

Wednesday, October 3rd

at Villa Milano  
1630 Schrock Road

Social Hour  
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Awards Banquet  
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

## Laura Mongold promoted in ECE

Laura Mongold has been promoted to an Assistant Director of the FCBDD Early Childhood Department, joining the management team of Becky Love, Director and Assistant Directors Sally Harrington and Teresa Johnson and ECE Program Operations Manager Debbie New.



Laura comes to the position with excellent credentials, including seven years as an Early Intervention Specialist and previous service at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

According to Becky Love, "Laura is a certified PLAY Project Consultant, a community advocate for children and a passionate collaborator."

Laura began her new responsibilities in August.

# We've come a long way

*Editor's note: As part of the 50th Anniversary of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, the Columbus Dispatch recently requested and featured an article written by Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison. County Boards were officially established on October 25, 1967. We thought our 'Dateline' readers would be interested. If interested in having a link to the story for Facebook or other purposes, the link to the story follows: <http://www.dispatch.com/opinion/20170915/jed-morison-boards-for-developmentally-disabled-hit-50>*

In the 1960s, close to 5,000 people with intellectual disabilities lived in Central Ohio state institutions. Today, there are less than 90 people living at what was called Columbus State Institute. Orient State Institute no longer serves individuals with intellectual disabilities.

As a young teacher, just out of college, my first assignment was to teach at Gove School, located on the grounds of Columbus State Institute (now called Columbus Developmental Center). After teaching, I would walk the grounds of the institution to visit the individuals in their "wards". Each ward might have 20-30 people in a large room, some sitting on benches watching a black and white television propped high in the corner. State-issued clothing, group meals, group showers and lack of privacy were the norm. Staff were caring and tried hard, but ratios were very limited, only allowing for basic care or emergencies. Some adults spent their days in large adult cribs. Choice of where to live and with whom to live were just not options.

We have come a long way these past 50 years thanks to those parents and professionals who began community based services and sought legislation to establish County Boards of Mental Retardation in October of 1967. Many of these parents rejected the suggestion that their only options were an institution or their child must stay at home all day.

Back then, the term 'mental retardation' was acceptable. It had replaced terms like 'idiot', 'imbecile', and 'feebleminded', which were terms acceptable in the 1800s. Today, terms like intellectual disability or developmental disability are used. While the name changed to County Boards of Developmental Disabilities in 2009, these same Boards continue to provide and support services that value people regardless of their disability.

Today, early intervention services are a priority, recognizing that the greatest amount of brain development is in the early years. School services for all children are a right rather than an option. It wasn't until 1974 that laws were passed guaranteeing educational services for all children.

While sheltered workshops continue to provide valuable services, employment is now the preference for young adults leaving school. Support for people in their living situation is now provided for many, whether they live with their family or with friends in typical neighborhoods. People have more control of their lives with more choice on living arrangements and what they want to do every day.

Therapies are provided, people are encouraged to advocate for themselves, buildings and transportation are more accessible and technology advances have enhanced quality of life. Programs like Special Olympics garner community support and involvement. Service plans for individuals are focused on the person's interests and needs. Family members are able to contribute more to their work or community knowing their loved one is more independent and supported.

In the 1970s and 1980s, deinstitutionalization was the term used to move people from institutions to community settings. Initially, group homes of 8 or 16 people were established in neighborhoods, often with angry neighbors and lively zoning meetings. Today, large group homes are mostly gone and people typically live with 2 or 3 others. Laws have been passed that don't require permission from local officials to live in a particular neighborhood.

Communities and employers are now more accepting and welcoming. Hundreds of employers in central Ohio have hired individuals who have disabilities and are now recognizing the value of these individuals to their companies.

While we have come a long way, most would agree there is still room for improvement. We can continue to educate families about the value of early identification and intervention. We must recognize that options and choice for individuals are important – "one size does not fit all."

We should continue to educate employers on the benefits to a business that can result from hiring a person with a disability. And, we must continue to advocate for people to have opportunities to not only live in our communities, but also to be viewed as a true and included member of the community.

Yes, we have come a long way! Congratulations to County Boards of Developmental Disabilities in Ohio on 50 years of quality service.

*Jed Morison is the CEO/Superintendent of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities and former Director of Ohio Special Olympics.*



# Over 250 attend 5K event

Over 250 came together for the annual 'Discover Your Abilities' 5K event on Sunday, September 17th at JFK Park in Reynoldsburg.

The event is coordinated by the Wellness Team of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD). Participants ran, walked and rolled to support FCBDD Special Olympics. A special thank you to Andrew Boyd, the designer of the 2017 'Discover Your Abilities' 5K medal.



# Columbus Academy visits ARC North by Erick Berquist

Ten Columbus Academy students paid a visit to ARC Industries North recently as part of their school's required community service.

During their visit, students performed a variety of activities including assisting with production, social activities with participants, providing one-on-one time to participants, and even serving food at the "OSU Tailgate Party".

This is the fifteenth year Columbus Academy students have come to North for their service day. Columbus Academy students and staff expressed their appreciation for the experience and North participants and staff loved having them.



# Good for you

## Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Special thanks to Dominic Cappa, long term Board member for ARC Industries. Dom resigned due to relocation in September. Dom was editor of Business First Newspaper and a true leader for ARC Industries and the entire Columbus community. About his involvement with the Board, Dom stated "it has been a privilege to work for ARC's thousands of clients."



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Congratulations to all PIECE (Pre-vocational Integrated Educational and Campus Experience) participants, Coordinators and to the Ohio State University on another very successful experience.

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Congratulations and thanks to Dave O'Neil, Supervisor at Service Coordination, on his retirement. David provided awesome services for this Board and community for 34 years.

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Congratulations to all participants and Coordinators/Volunteers on the 5K 'Discover Your Abilities' event. This was a great event that raised funds for Special Olympics.



Best wishes to Jack Beatty, Director of Service Coordination, who will retire at the end of October. We will celebrate Jack's outstanding career at an Open House at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, on October 3rd from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



# Career Milestones

### 40 years

Christine Andrews  
Janice Sullivan

### 30 years

Thomas Critser

### 25 years

Brigida Alcaraz  
Kim Allen-Green  
Deborah Manson  
Dorothy Moore  
James Yoder

### 20 years

Amy Hixenbaugh  
Nancy Mills-Jones

### 15 years

Paula English  
Deborah Etienne  
Alethea Holz  
Diana Montgomery  
Amy Morse  
Cathy Rogers  
John Shoemaker  
Theresa Watkins

### 10 years

Sharon Bryant  
Mandy Holland  
Z. Juanita Pannell  
Kenneth White  
Gertrude Woods

### 5 years

Rebecca Beaudet  
Matthew Giesler  
Heather Vickers

# MLS All-Star

Congratulations to Special Olympian Brandon Lutz for competing at the Major League Soccer (MLS) all-star week in Chicago.

Brandon was joined by Unified Partner, Megan Young and played at Toyota Park, home of the MLS Chicago Fire. According to Ryan Phillips, FCBDD Special Olympics Coordinator, "these individuals represented the best of what Special Olympics is all about. The players also combined a day of giving and cleaned a Chicago Park, mulched multiple playgrounds and helped leave Chicago a better place than they found it."

All 22 MLS teams were represented at the event and players were recognized at the half-time of the Real Madrid versus MLS All Star Game at Soldier Field with 61,000 fans.



## Remember to register to vote...

**The deadline to register to vote in the November 7th election is Tuesday, October 10th.**  
**You can register in person at the Board of Elections at 1700 Morse Road or at your local public library.**  
**You can also register online at <https://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/>.**

## OCALICON 2017

OCALICON, the nation's premier autism and disabilities conference will be held on November 15-17th at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Autism and disability leaders from across the nation and around the world will present.

For details and registration, call (614) 410-0321 or visit [ocalicon.org](http://ocalicon.org).



## Synergy Conference

The 2017 Synergy Conference, sponsored by the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA) and PAR will be held on October 4-6th at the Embassy Suites in Dublin.

Dozens of breakout sessions will be provided for individuals with disabilities, family members and professionals. For details on the conference, visit [www.synergyohio.org](http://www.synergyohio.org).

## Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

**Linda Craig**, President  
**John Bickley**, Vice-President  
**Beth Savage**, Secretary  
**Marie Crawford**  
**Dean Fadel**  
**Helen Ninos**  
**Renée Stein**

Superintendent/CEO **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 disability.*

The following staff contribute to the monthly *Dateline*:

**Carl Scott**   **Amy Magginis**  
**Jennifer Cunningham**

**News releases, story ideas, and suggestions should be sent to:**

Jed Morison  
2879 Johnstown Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43219  
(614) 475-6440   FAX (614) 342-5001  
e-mail: [jed.morison@fcbdd.org](mailto:jed.morison@fcbdd.org)

Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is always available on the internet at:

[www.fcbdd.org](http://www.fcbdd.org)

## Calendars

### October, 2017

- 3      Community Star Awards banquet at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Rd., 5:30 p.m. Please call (614) 342-5950 for details.
- 4-6    Synergy Conference, Dublin Embassy Suites, 5100 Upper Metro Pl., sponsored by OSDA/PAR. For details, please go to [www.synergyohio.org](http://www.synergyohio.org).
- 9      Columbus Day - all county facilities closed.
- 10     Guardianship Training at Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Please contact Angie Franke at (614) 342-5972 for details.
- 17-19   Project STIR Training at Worthington Holiday Inn. For details, please contact Dana Charlton at (614) 563-0788 or for Franklin County participants, please contact Crystal Schneider at (614) 342-5545.
- 18     Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 20     ARC Industries Board of Trustees Retreat - please call (614) 342-5734 for details.
- 26     Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Self-Advocate Conference at Xenos.
- 26     Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 26     Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 31     Happy Halloween!

## Did you know?

Kristen Henry, formerly with Disability Rights Ohio has been appointed as the director of APSI (Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc.)

## In memoriam

### Ed Creviston

We are sorry to report that staff member Ed Creviston passed away on September 2nd. Ed was a staff member for 27 years at ARC Industries West. Sympathies are extended to members of Ed's family and his friends.

