

Jean Williams to step down from board

"I'm so privileged to have had this opportunity," said FCBDD board member Jean Williams at the monthly meeting on November 15th as she



announced that she will not seek reappointment when her current term expires in January.

Mrs. Williams was appointed to the board by the County Commissioners in 2009 and is currently the board's Vice President, having been elected to that post in January. She has also served as Secretary and as liaison with ARC Industries.

In August, she underwent cardiac bypass surgery and since then has continued with rehabilitation therapy.

According to Superintendent Jed Morison, "Mrs. Williams has been an awesome board member but has chosen not to seek reappointment due to health concerns, which is

understandable. We are deeply grateful for her service and wish her the best."

Board President Dean Fadel presented Mrs. Williams an engraved clock as a token of thanks. "Your passion, knowledge and historical perspective have been invaluable," he said.

Mrs. Williams was a founding member and officer in Families United, the support and advocacy group that existed from 1979 through 2009. She resides in Clintonville with her husband, Ted. Their son Tom attends ARC Industries North.

The County Commissioners have reappointed board members John Bickley and Renee Stein. They will serve 4-year terms.

Charitable giving exceeds \$100,000

When it comes to supporting the Combined Charitable Campaign, FCBDD staff have long been willing to go above and beyond. This year is no exception.

As of November 19th, the total amount of funds raised was \$101,998. Still more contributions are expected to follow.

Campaign Coordinator Larry Macintosh expressed his appreciation of the staff's generosity. "This has been a very good experience," he said. "We've been fortunate to have excellent leadership from our 20 building and department coordinators, and a super response from staff."

The campaign has included simple, direct requests for donations -- either on a one-time basis or by payroll deduction -- as well as a multitude of activities geared to make giving as painless as possible, including among other things, a gift card drawing, bake sales, a chili cooking contest, and even a pie toss especially for those wishing to smash a co-worker's face with whipped cream.

West Central's Assistant Principal, Mike Ross, deserves the good sport medal for his participation in the campaign.



Russian group visits ECE

FCBDD had the honor of hosting the Russian Child Welfare Study Tour on November 2nd. This was the second visit by the group, the first having been in June. Nineteen delegates visited and interacted with the children at the Early Childhood Education Center on Johnstown Road.

"The group was very gracious and complimented our work. They were especially taken by the inclusion of children with and without disabilities in the same environment," said Rebecca Love, Director of Early Childhood.

They expressed appreciation of Superintendent Jed Morison's efforts to teach them to say "Go Buckeyes."

The tour was sponsored by the Institute for Human Services.



Advocacy conference rolls on at Xenos

The Xenos Center at 1934 N. Fourth Street was the site of FCBDD's third annual advocacy conference on October 24th. Sixty-five individuals participated in the conference titled "Roll on the Wheels of Knowledge."

In his opening remarks, Superintendent Jed Morison welcomed all to the conference. He also commended conference organizers Nan Burns and Jan Montgomery.

FCBDD staff members Kris Potridge and Laurie Green-Lauber presented information on the Employment First initiative. They gave insight into the process of discovery.

Attorney David Zwyer shared information regarding the different types of guardianship. He has over 20 years of experience in working with families to assist with legal and estate planning.

Each session allowed ample time for questions and answers. As the day came to a close, all participants gathered in the multipurpose room and enthusiastically indicated that they thought the conference was a success. They also expressed the hope that they would come back again next year.



Jan Montgomery, at left and, Nan Burns receive applause from attendees.

Decision making in the DD system by David A. Zwyer, Esq.

Effective as of September 10, 2012, Ohio law (O.R.C. Section 5126.043) sets out a new three-tier approach to decision-making in the DD system -- that is, in the services and programs offered through County Boards of Developmental Disabilities and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD).

Strengthened Presumption of Competency

First, if there is no guardian then -- in light of the "presumption of competency" -- the individual himself "shall be permitted to make the decision." The individual may seek and obtain advice, support and guidance from an adult family member or another person without giving up the right to make the decision himself. Although this is not a change in the law, it is the first time the law has so clearly stated that individuals can make their own decisions.

Choosing a Substitute Decision-Maker

Second, an individual may now choose someone else to make a decision on his behalf. This is a major change to Ohio law; but it must be remembered that it only applies in situations involving DD services and programs. It does not change the law in Ohio dealing with guardianships or any services and programs provided by agencies outside the DD system.

This authorization must be in writing. Although the DODD has developed a form for such authorizations -- which will have the advantage of being easily recognized -- the law does not limit a written authorization to this form. If the individual expresses an intent to revoke the authorization, it should be considered to be revoked.

A "chosen representative" appointed pursuant to this written authorization must be an adult. He or she cannot have any financial interest in the decision relating to the service or program. For example, a provider cannot serve

as an authorized representative and sign the person up to receive services from the agency he works for. Also, chosen representatives may not admit the person they represent into Developmental Centers.

Guardianship Unchanged

Third, if there is a guardian, then the guardian shall make the decision. This is not a change in the law. It is important to note there is no requirement that a guardian be appointed. Further, not all guardians have the authority to make decisions about programs and services for their wards. For example, a limited guardian for medical purposes only, can only make decisions about DD services and programs that are medically-related.

Motivation: Values and Philosophy Behind the Changes

The final paragraph of Section 5126.043 includes two powerful statements that reflect important beliefs about people with disabilities as well as values embodied in the Ohio DD Bill of Rights (O.R.C. 5123.62), especially subsections (A), (Q), and (R).

The first statement, found in existing law, states that individuals with developmental disabilities, including those who have guardians, "have the right to participate in decisions that affect their lives and to have their needs, desires and preferences considered."

The second statement (new) indicates that the chosen representative or guardian who makes a decision about DD services and programs for someone with a developmental disability "shall make a decision that is in the best interests of the individual on whose behalf the decision is made AND that it is consistent with the needs, desires and preferences of that individual."

OACB convention nears

The 29th annual convention of the Ohio Association of County Boards serving people with developmental disabilities will be held in Columbus from December 5th to 7th. The location will be the Hilton at Easton.

The keynote speaker will be Buzz Bissinger, author of "Father's Day: A Journey into the Mind and Heart of My Extraordinary Son." The book

chronicles the lives of twin sons born 13 weeks premature in 1983. One son, Gerry, is a school teacher, while the other, Zach, struggles with learning disabilities due to brain damage which resulted from oxygen deprivation at birth.

For convention details, please go to www.oacbdd.org, or call 431-0616.



Employment First helps job seekers

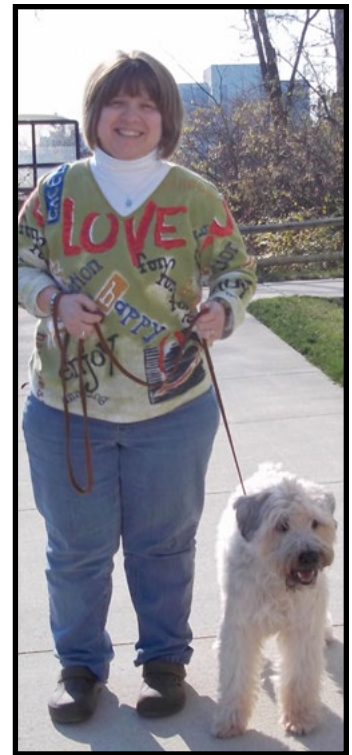
The Employment First initiative has been highly beneficial to those involved. To date, seven of the ten job seekers who participated in last year's seminar are working independently in community jobs and the other three are actively involved in vocational services preparing for employment.



Charle' Henderson is working as a cashier/customer service representative at Target. Charle's experience as a cashier in food service at ARC South helped prepare her for the job.



Jason Robbins is employed as a material handler at Big Lots where he unloads trucks, tickets merchandise, and puts stock out on the retail floor.



Stacia Billings has been operating her own pet sitting business for several years. Job Placement Department staff had been working with Stacia on expanding her business. Through the vocational process, Stacia realized she would like to explore other areas of interest. She has been referred by her RSC Counselor to a Community Rehabilitation Provider for a Career Exploration Assessment.



Tsewang Chambee builds boxes at the AC Lens, a contact lens shipping company. Tsewang was a recipient of a Community Star Award in October and his journey to success in community employment was also described in a feature story in the Columbus Dispatch recently.



Patrick Stumpp also was linked with RSC and is participating in the LIFE Works program through Goodwill. He is participating in paid internships at community work sites to prepare for an independent job.



Stephanie Parsley has participated in community based work assessments to help identify strengths and identify her vocational goal. The Vocational Rehabilitation Coordinator, under contract with the Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC) is working with Stephanie and her Employment First team.



Kyle McKeen works at a company called Possitivity, where he takes apart and sorts electronics and materials. Kyle enjoys using tools and seeing the different computers and electronics that come through.



James O'Brien is a cart gatherer at Marc's supermarket. The management team at Marc's appreciate James' work and report he is doing very well.



Aaron Robinson is very motivated to work in the community and is a dishwasher with the Sanese company at the Huntington Bank Corporate office.

Sidewalk chalk art contest at ARC South

By Scot S. Gassen

ARC Industries South experienced a burst of creative energy on Friday, September 28, 2012 during the first "Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest." Instructor Brenda Lackey organized and acted as emcee for this lively art activity with a seasonal theme of Halloween.

Colored chalk was the medium of expression used by the participants that made up the teams represent separate areas in the workshop. Each team used a section of the front parking lot as a blank 'canvas' to create the individualized images that were evaluated on their artistic merits by Director Kurt Smith, Supervisor Debbie Sorrell, Rehab Tech Jim Leake and participants John Smith and Jimmy Sidders that acted as honorary judges. Special recognition was awarded to Team P-3 for Scariest, Team P-4 for Trueness to Theme, Team A-5 for Most Original and Team A-7 for Most Colorful. All participants were given special award medals and prizes at the conclusion of the event.

Even though this activity was billed a competitive contest, the fun and enthusiasm exceeded



expectations and the occasion proved to be a collaborative effort with a strong feel of cooperation and sense of community among all participants, staff assistants, and audience members.

ARC Industries South looks forward to more successful sidewalk chalk art activities in the near future!

Social Work program continues

A program that provides a 2-year field placement for Master of Social Work students is continuing thanks to the continued support of FCBDD, the Ohio State University School of Social Work and the Nisonger Center.

Students who undertake the program gain hands-on exposure in the diagnosis and treatment of people with developmental disabilities. They also will be ready to enter the work force having been trained to provide the highest level of services.

Pictured are students participating for 2012-2013 (from left) Shelly Atemnkeng, Janell Blanks, Katy Ettinger and Nichele Lyndes.



Hearing set on action plan

A public hearing regarding FCBDD's proposed Action Plan for 2013 will be held on Monday, December 10th at 4 p.m.

The location will be 2879 Johnstown Rd. For more details, please call Linda Fleming at 342-5950.

Bowling fun set for Feb. 9

FCBDD staff bowlers and wannabes will wage a friendly battle among themselves at the Columbus Square Bowling Palace on Saturday afternoon, February 9th.

The 8th annual *For The Fun of It* bowling tournament will feature up to 64 teams of four. Each will bowl three games. The event will run from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, please call Jack Brownley, Director of Schools, at 342-5960.

ARC West honors top employees

The employees at ARC West are excited about the Employment First initiative that is sweeping the state. To assist them in developing marketable skills, staff at ARC West have challenged the workers to follow ten basic work rules. At the end of each quarter, staff can nominate two employees who have done well in following the work rules.

Awards are in two categories. The Top Producer is awarded to an employee who works in a vocational training group. This employee follows the rules, works hard and maintains or improves the production rate, comes to work on scheduled days and gets along well with peers. **Rita Amstutz** was selected as Top Producer this quarter. She is a dedicated worker who takes great pride in her job at ARC West. She even had to be asked to stop working just so she could accept her award.

A second award, Top Performer, is intended to recognize an employee whose interest may be more in habilitation, but who sets a good example to peers as to work behavior. This employee attends as scheduled, follows the rules, dresses appropriately and lets the instructor know when leaving the group. He or she also



Jill Davis

gets along well with peers and set an example for exceptional work behaviors and skills. **Jill Davis** was selected as Top Performer.

Jill has made great strides in expanding her work skills and is now employed part-time in the ARC West Art Studio where she makes her own jewelry.

Both Rita and Jill will have their names engraved on a plaque located in the front office.

Four runners-up were also selected for both wards. Runners-up in the Top



Rita Amstutz

Producer category were Steve Segal, Tara Snyder, Dallas Fletcher and Rashon Gibson. Runners-up in the Top Performer were Robert Winters, Jeremy Baldwin, Angela Ratliff, and Heath Woodruff.

"The staff and employees at ARC West are very proud of this initial round of exceptional employees," said Director Jan Montgomery, "We are looking forward to future award ceremonies where we can celebrate those who are following the work guidelines."

ARC West field trip



Fourteen consumers and staff from ARC West took a field trip to Spring Valley Stables to learn about farms and animals on September 25th. For some, this was their first time being on a farm, seeing and touching animals up close. In addition to feeding them treats and petting them, the consumers did a little pasture clean-up, had a picnic lunch and took a ride on a Kubota tractor. Other animals at the farm included a donkey, goat, chickens, cats and dogs. Thanks to **Sherry Diltz** for an unforgettable memory!

Your opinion, please

Readers are requested to complete the enclosed survey and needs assessment. By doing so, you will help FCBDD improve services so as to better meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.

Please return the completed survey to: Superintendent's Office, FCBDD, 2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, Ohio 43219. The deadline is February 15th.

For additional survey forms, please call Linda Fleming at 342-5950.

Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

Career Milestones



Pictured, left to right, are: Claire Garmon, Latasha Lewis, Anna Srba and Shanita McNeal. Photo courtesy of ARC East.

Claire Garmon, Latasha Lewis, Anna Srba and Shanita McNeal.

Shanita McNeal and **Latasha Lewis** of ARC Industries East volunteered for the 2012 Woman-to-Woman luncheon sponsored by the Columbus YWCA on October 31st. They volunteered the day prior and the day of the luncheon, assembling gift bags, gift favors, placing centerpieces, pens and brochures on over 100 tables, thus giving employees at ARC Industries an opportunity to sharpen their work skills and at the same time give back to their community.

A well-respected leader in Ohio's developmental disabilities community, **Terry Ryan**, Superintendent of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities has announced plans to retire in April, 2013. "The decision has not been an easy one," he explained, "but grandchildren, time with family and friends, volunteering and a bit of travel wait." We wish Dr. Ryan the very best in the future!

Congratulations to **Cindy Massenelli** of Administration for submitting the only correct guess of the identity of the mystery woman pictured in last month's *Evil Witch Guessing Game*. Cindy's outstanding observation skills were evident when she correctly guessed that the "evil witch" in the picture was **Mary Linden**, Administration Receptionist.

With the help of her students and coworkers, Northeast School Instructor **Beth Drees** took a creative approach to celebrating Veterans Day last month. She set up a month-long display featuring pictures of veterans brought in by students and staff. The moving display helped many reflect on the sacrifices made by the brave men and women in the armed forces. Many thanks, Beth!

25 years
Kevin Gilmore

20 years
Michael Berry
Johanna Nitz

15 years
Cindy Ashmore
Sue Boyers

10 years
Denise Henkel
Terri Jones
Theodore Plantz (November)

5 years
Timothy Brock
Melvin Pannell
Robin Rexroad
Michael Scott
Ryan Young



On October 24th the New Leaf Wellness Team hosted a chili cook-off to benefit Franklin County's Combined Charitable Campaign. Contestants from Early Childhood Education, Transportation East and Administration competed, including **Karen Gasaway**, **April Homkes**, **Dianne Kimberling**, **Amy Magginis**, **Mary Martin**, **Patty McCune**, **Dave Nadolny**, **Anna Oscard**, **Angela Ray**, **Jennifer Schueneman**, **Travis Sherick** and **Connie Willis**. Winners were **Larry Macintosh**, *Healthiest*, **Dot Yeager**, *Meatless*, and **Stacy Coriell**, *Peoples' Choice*. The event raised over \$200. Special thanks to **Anna Oscard** for coordinating the cook-off.

The green spot by Kate Sparks

The holiday season is a wonderful time of togetherness and celebration. Unfortunately one of the outcomes of this can be an excess of waste. Now is a perfect time to reduce the amount of trash we create and energy we use.

According to *Use Less Stuff*, Americans throw away 25 percent more trash during the holidays than any other time of year. The extra waste amounts to 25 million tons of garbage. Much of the edible food thrown away each year is wasted during the holidays.

Here are some tips to take into consideration to help with this issue:

Have clearly marked recycling containers at your holiday party for your guests. Instead of using paper products, use cloth napkins, regular silverware and plates rather than plastic or paper.

Compost your leftover food scraps, including vegetables, fruit, tea bags, coffee grinds and egg shells.

Use LED holiday lights, which use about 99 percent less energy than larger, traditional holiday bulbs.

Turn off lights when not in use.

Use reusable grocery and shopping bags when buying gifts. Tell the store clerk you don't need a bag for small or oversized items.

Consider buying rechargeable batteries and giving a battery charger as a gift.

Purchase greeting cards that contain recycled paper or sending electronic greeting cards.

Save used gift wrap, boxes, bags and ribbon for future gift giving.

Have a happy, safe and **green** holiday season!

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Dean Fadel, President
Jean Williams, Vice President
Renee Stein, Secretary
John Bickley
Linda Craig
Helen Ninos
Beth Savage

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.

Jed W. Morison	Carl Scott	Martin Kerscher
Michael Davis	Amy Maginnis	Jennifer Cunningham

News releases, story ideas, and suggestions should be sent to Martin Kerscher at:

2879 Johnstown Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219
(614) 475-6440 FAX 342-5001

Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

is always available on the internet at:

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

December, 2012

- 5-7 Ohio Association of County Boards Convention, Hilton Easton. For more information please call 431-0616 or visit oacbmrdd.org.
- 8 Happy Hanukkah!
- 10 Public hearing on FCBDD's Annual Action Plan, 2879 Johnstown Road, 4 p.m.
- 11 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 11 a.m. Please call 844-3800 for location.
- 13 Self-Advocate Advisory Council, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10 a.m.
- 17 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 21 Family Support (formerly Parent League) meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 21 Winter begins.
- 21 Winter recess for ECE and schools. Classes resume January 2nd.
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 26 Christmas Day observed - all county facilities closed.
- 26-31 Winter recess for adult services. Programs resume January 2nd.

Community Survey and Needs Assessment

Periodically, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities assesses community needs and services provided by the agency. Consumers, families, staff, service providers, volunteers, advocates, collaborative agencies, and the public are encouraged to take a few minutes to complete and respond to this survey. Your response will help the Board in its efforts to improve services and better meet consumer needs. *Please complete the survey and return to Superintendent's Office FCBDD, 2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, Ohio 43219, by January 15th.*

1. Please check as appropriate. (You may check more than one.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Receiving FCBDD Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Who is Not receiving FCBDD Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian/Family Member of Consumer Receiving FCBDD Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian/Family Member of Individual Who is Not Receiving FCBDD Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Staff of FCBDD
<input type="checkbox"/> Board Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Member of Collaborative Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of Child enrolled in local school district
<input type="checkbox"/> News Media Professional
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Member Not Receiving FCBDD Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Advocate
<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Member of Service Provider/ Contract Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Staff of Franklin County School District
<input type="checkbox"/> Elected Official
<input type="checkbox"/> Member of Business Community
<input type="checkbox"/> State Official
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please list: _____) |
|---|--|

2. Please check which (if any) of the following you (or your family member) are receiving from FCBDD.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Education
<input type="checkbox"/> School Program
<input type="checkbox"/> ARC Industries Workshops
<input type="checkbox"/> ARC Industries Employment Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Living Skills Center
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Resources/ Respite
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential/ Supported Living Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Service Coordination Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please list: _____) |
|---|---|

3. Please provide your satisfaction rating for the following categories by circling your choice.

a. **FCBDD Services**

- Early Childhood/ Home Based Schools
- ARC Industries Workshops
- ARC Ind. Employment Services
- Living Skills Center
- Residential/Supported Living
- Family Resources
- Transportation
- Special Olympics
- Individual Options Waiver Services
- Service Coordination
- Other (Please list: _____)

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	N/A Not Applicable
Early Childhood/ Home Based Schools	1	2	3	N/A
ARC Industries Workshops	1	2	3	N/A
ARC Ind. Employment Services	1	2	3	N/A
Living Skills Center	1	2	3	N/A
Residential/Supported Living	1	2	3	N/A
Family Resources	1	2	3	N/A
Transportation	1	2	3	N/A
Special Olympics	1	2	3	N/A
Individual Options Waiver Services	1	2	3	N/A
Service Coordination	1	2	3	N/A
Other (Please list: _____)	1	2	3	N/A

b. **Services Provided by Contract w/ FCBDD**

- Nisonger Early Childhood
- Columbus Speech & Hearing LELP
- Children's Hospital Early Intervention
- Nisonger Dental
- Childhood League Preschool
- CRC Citizen Advocacy
- Easter Seals Preschool
- CRC Parent to Parent
- A.D.D. Dahlberg Center

Nisonger Early Childhood	1	2	3	N/A
Columbus Speech & Hearing LELP	1	2	3	N/A
Children's Hospital Early Intervention	1	2	3	N/A
Nisonger Dental	1	2	3	N/A
Childhood League Preschool	1	2	3	N/A
CRC Citizen Advocacy	1	2	3	N/A
Easter Seals Preschool	1	2	3	N/A
CRC Parent to Parent	1	2	3	N/A
A.D.D. Dahlberg Center	1	2	3	N/A

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	N/A Not Applicable
A.D.D. Community Connections	1	2	3	N/A
Goodwill/ SAGE	1	2	3	N/A
Heinzerling	1	2	3	N/A
Goodwill/ PACE	1	2	3	N/A
Epilepsy Foundation	1	2	3	N/A
Goodwill/ Uniworks	1	2	3	N/A
Cerebral Palsy of Col. & Fr. Co.	1	2	3	N/A
Creative Housing	1	2	3	N/A
Supported Living Services	1	2	3	N/A
Other (Please list:)	1	2	3	N/A

4. Please provide your opinion of the following statements by circling your choice:

	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	N/A	
Overall, FCBDD is providing quality service to the community.	1	2	3	N/A	
FCBDD tax dollars are being spent wisely.	1	2	3	N/A	
Parents/ Family Members of FCBDD Consumers are involved and supported.	1	2	3	N/A	
FCBDD collaborates well with other community organizations.	1	2	3	N/A	
Generally, FCBDD meets the needs of individuals in our community who have developmental disabilities.	1	2	3	N/A	
Consumers have adequate choice in services offered.	1	2	3	N/A	
FCBDD staff treat consumers, family members and public at large with courtesy and with respect:	Consumers	1	2	3	N/A
	Family Members	1	2	3	N/A
	Public	1	2	3	N/A
FCBDD communicates well:	Consumers	1	2	3	N/A
	Families	1	2	3	N/A
	General Public	1	2	3	N/A
FCBDD Prevention Services, including early intervention, immunizations, and public awareness are provided adequately.	1	2	3	N/A	

5. Please respond to the following questions, if applicable:

a. What are the strengths of FCBDD? _____

b. How can FCBDD improve? _____

c. If you or a family are not currently receiving FCBDD services, but anticipate need in the future, please indicate the service you will need and anticipated date: _____

6. If you would like more information regarding FCBDD or follow-up to questions, please indicate what you would like, and include your name, address and phone number. _____

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

If you do not currently receive *Dateline*, the FCBDD newsletter, but would like to receive it, please check in the box and include name and address above.

Thank you for taking the time to offer your opinion.