

Renée Stein takes the helm

Renée Stein was elected President of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities at the board's annual organizational meeting on January 23rd.

Mrs. Stein had previously served as Vice-President and Secretary, and chaired the Human Resources Committee. She has been a member of the board since her appointment by the Franklin County Commissioners in 2009.

Mrs. Stein is employed by American Express where she is responsible for channel management and lead generation. She has a degree in communication from the Ohio State University.

Mrs. Stein and her husband, Richard, live in Gahanna. They have two children, Justin and Mary.

Other officers elected at the board's organizational meeting were Linda Craig, Vice-President, and John Bickley, Secretary.

Past President Dean Fadel continues to serve on the board. He was recognized for outstanding leadership over the past two years.



Renée Stein

Feedback sought on adult services proposal

A public meeting to review recommendations for the future of FCBDD adult services is set for Wednesday, February 5th at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at 2879 Johnstown Rd.

A key recommendation is to merge ARC Industries South into other adult-services programs by July, 2015.

Several factors are prompting consideration of changes in the adult services area, including increased reliance on Medicaid funding, and new state and federal policies geared toward reducing segregation of people with disabilities and emphasizing employment.

Medicaid funding carries with it the requirement of "free choice of provider." The report notes that Franklin County has seen a "dramatic increase in the number of individuals enrolled in programs provided by private, community providers." Since 2008, that number has increased from 140 to over 1,000 according to the report.

The report stresses the importance of maintaining a variety of options including the ARC workshops, Living Skills Centers and supported employment opportunities.

Meetings have been held with individuals receiving adult services, families, and staff. Superintendent Jed Morison welcomes feedback.

"We realize the recommendations are likely to prompt concerns and questions, and we want to hear them before taking action," he said.

Marcy Samuel, Director of Program Operations, and Dot Yeager, Chief Business Officer, are providing leadership for this planning initiative.

A copy of the draft report may be obtained by e-mail at amy.magginis@fcbdd.org or by calling Amy Magginis at 342-5992.

DD awareness and advocacy day planned

The DD Awareness and Advocacy Day Kick-Off Event will be held on Tuesday, March 4th at the Ohio Statehouse.

A program in the Statehouse Atrium will include guest speakers Director John Martin of the Department of Developmental Disabilities, and self-advocate Christine Brown among others.

The theme for this event is "What are you waiting for?" Keynote speaker will be J.J. House, an 11-year-old from Mount Vernon, Ohio, who will share his personal story of directing the play, "How I Became A Pirate."

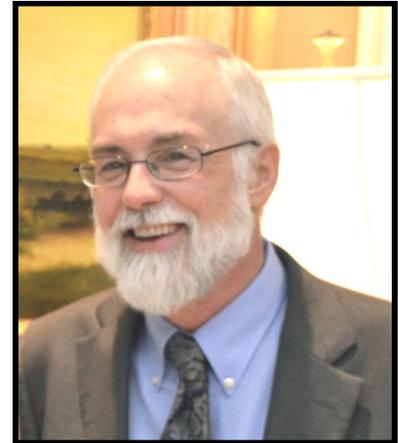
Participants at the event will also have a chance to meet with state legislators to discuss key topics for 2014. In addition to the waiting list for people with disabilities, other topics will be the Medicaid Asset Limit, accessible housing, and replacing the use of "handicapped" in Ohio statutes with person-first language.

Planning the event are the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, Special Initiatives by Brothers and Sisters (SIBS), the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, Arc of Ohio, Disability Rights Ohio, the Ohio Association of County Boards, the Ohio Provider Resource Association, the Ohio Self Determination Association, the Nisonger Center, People First of Ohio, and the University of Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

Participation is free to anyone but will be limited to the first 350 people who register. Registration is now open and can be completed online by visiting www.ddc.ohio.gov or www.ohiosibs.com. The deadline to register is Friday, February 14th.

Those interested in more information can also like the event on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/OhioDDAwareness.

Each person planning to attend must register.



Director John Martin



Self-advocate Christine Brown

Karen Mills is new director at ARC East

Karen Mills has been named the new Director of ARC Industries East. She had served in the post on a temporary basis since the retirement of former Director Clarice Pavlick last year.

Karen has a wealth of experience in the field of developmental disabilities. She did program management and supervision for Kuehnert Homes for two years before joining FCBDD in 1986 as Program Manager at ARC Industries West. From 1989 to 1999, she served as Habilitation Services Manager at ARC Industries North.

After a stint as a stay-at-home mom, Karen returned to work in 2011 at FCBDD first as a substitute



Karen Mills

Teaching Assistant and later as Training Specialist Supervisor at ARC East.

"I've been very blessed to have the opportunity to return and reunite with many consumers and co-workers," she said.

Karen makes her home in Lewis Center with her husband, Michael, and daughter Olivia, a student at Olentangy Orange High School.

A native of Morgantown, West Virginia and graduate of West Virginia University, Karen enjoys cheering for the Mountaineers, as well as making necklaces and scarves in her free time.

ARC North meets production challenge by Joe Kyte

Griffin Wheel manufactures steel locomotive wheels for railroad companies around the world. For the past two years, ARC North has been working with the company, producing and sealing bags of rice hulls to meet their needs. The bags of rice hulls help in the cooling process after the wheels are poured from hot molten metal.

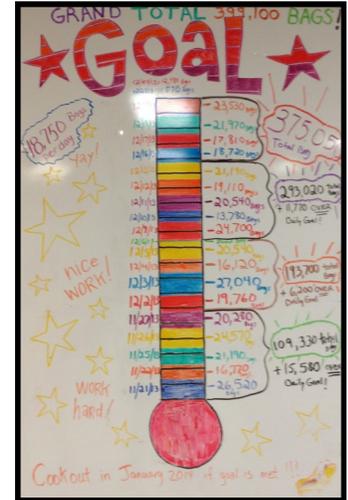
Griffin Wheel requires on average 15,500 rice hull bags each day, which ARC is responsible for providing. In December, ARC had to increase this daily output as a result of being closed for the winter recess. Thus, the challenge was to increase daily output from 15,500 to at least 18,750 bags of rice hulls.

The production was tracked and charted daily so that everyone at ARC North could see the progress.



Due to a tight schedule, ARC North employees boosted daily production of rice hull bags in December. From L to R: Back row - Marcus Maupins, Albert Brown, Bonnie Williams, Abbas Yusuf, Tony Meyers, Jose Vazquez, Jeff Purdom, Donald Ford. Middle row - Mark Millar, Dustin Whaley, Sarah Curtiss, Jason Ford, Jennifer Beck, Antonio Saunders, Natasha Masser, Ryan Jacobs. Front row - Joel Hobart, Heidi Billow, Adam Bailey.

During this time, employees consistently went above and beyond expectations, with many setting production records. Among them, Antonio Saunders produced 2,000 bags one day, and the next day produced 2,001 bags. Ryan Jacobs produced 2,100 bags in one day.



Several potential obstacles came up during the month, including a snow day, change in production material, and a lost day of production due to the holiday party. When all was said and done, a grand total of 399,100 bags had been completed, which was 24,100 bags over the goal.

Thanks to everyone for working so hard!

Beth Savage bids farewell to DSACO

FCBDD board member Beth Savage has bid a fond farewell to the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio's (DSACO) governing board. She had served as Chair of that board for three years.

"I knew when I raised my hand to accept the position... that the experience would be rewarding and challenging. It has been a remarkable experience," she said.



Beth Savage

As of January, Joe Caligiuri is the new Chair of the DSACO board.

In memoriam

Robert Krause

A longtime friend and supporter of ARC Industries and FCBDD, Bob Krause passed away on December 13th. Bob had served as a member of the ARC Industries Board of Trustees from 1981 through 1986, including a stint as Board Chairman. He generously volunteered his time and talents on many occasions in service to adults with developmental disabilities.

Bob was a regular contributor to *the Booster*, a neighborhood newspaper in Clintonville, and a passionate reader and interviewer.

He also was a lifelong New York Yankees fan, having grown up on Staten Island, and was a regular visitor to Huntington Park and Cooper Stadium to support the Columbus Clippers.

Bob was survived by his wife Gloria, daughter Joan Krause, and son Robert "Rocky" Krause.

by Rick Grawemeyer

DSACO names new president

The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio has hired Kari Jones as President and CEO. She began her employment on January 21st.

Kari previously served as the Executive Director for Embracing Autism, where she developed and enhanced programming for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities, and presided over a \$1 million operating budget. Before that, she spent nearly six years at Goodwill Columbus, ultimately serving as the Director of Supported Living. While at Goodwill, Kari received the Distinguished Performance Director of the Year Award.

Kari has also served as a Special Olympics coach and Chairperson of the Events Committee of the Women's Leadership Council for the United Way.



Kari Jones

Please support OPERATION FEED March 1st - 30th



- ◆ More than 248,000 people receive emergency food from the Mid-Ohio Foodbank each year.
- ◆ 35% of food requests are for children, 15% for senior citizens.
- ◆ For every \$1 donated, Mid-Ohio Foodbank is able to provide 3 meals to its partner agencies. 100% of each dollar raised is used to provide food for families in central & eastern Ohio.
- ◆ For more information, please contact Campaign Coordinator Berni Thurn at 342-5996.

Healthy lifestyles workshop set

A free 2-day workshop for people who will commit to teaching people with disabilities about health lifestyles will be provided by the Ohio Disability and Health Program on March 24-25th. The seminar will feature Angela Weaver from the Oregon Office on Disability and Joe Basey from the City of Eugene Adaptive Recreation Department.

For more information, please contact Erica Coleman at 513/ 803-4399 or erica.coleman@cchmc.org.

“Quotable quote”

"Faith is taking
the first step
even when you
don't see the
whole staircase."

-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Former FCBDD Director of Psychology **Joe Edwards** has taken a new position as Director of Ohio State University's Star House, the only drop-in center for homeless teens and young adults in central Ohio. Located at 1621 N. 4th Street, the facility was founded by **Dr. Natasha Slesnick** of OSU's Department of Human Services. Joe is looking forward to "a very unique opportunity to help people." Best of luck, Joe!



Administration staffer **Anna Ocard** has been busy spreading the word about the New Leaf Wellness Team's Healthier Desserts Contest. In two dessert categories, fruit and vegetable, a panel of judges will award prizes based on taste and nutrition. The finals will be held at Administration on February 12th. Please contact Anna at Ext. 5997 should you have any questions. She reminds us that "desserts" is "stressed" spelled backwards!

Hats off to Superintendent **Jed Morison** for providing written testimony in support of House Bill 265 on January 15th. The bill would change the wording on future street signage from "handicapped" to "accessible." The testimony was supported by over 50 county board superintendents from across the state.

"A day in the life of a person with an intellectual or developmental disability" is the theme of a photography contest sponsored by the **Nisonger Center**. Prizes ranging from \$100 (3rd place) to \$500 (1st place) are offered. Photos must be submitted online by March 1st. For more information, please contact Nisonger toll-free at 855/983-9955 or by e-mail at nisongeradmin@osumc.edu.

The **Columbus African American News Journal** has successfully completed its first year of publication. Devoted to bringing about positive change, the journal is published by former State Senator **Ray Miller**. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success!

Career Milestones

35 years

Lynn Turney

30 years

Patricia Tietz

25 years

Pamela Borowy

Gregg Borton

Michael Ellis

Larita Jude

Anne Murnane

20 years

Linda Oliver

15 years

Larry Work

10 years

Deborah Daniels

Jacqueline Garver

Carla May

Richard Simpson

5 years

Virginia Curtiss

Richard Kannard

Lynn Rutledge

Kara Wetterauer



Want a bit of news?



FCBDD's new e-mail publication NewsBits is available for all those wanting brief items of news about the agency delivered online. The publication is sent out from time to time rather than on a fixed schedule.

If this sounds interesting, you may subscribe to NewsBits by sending an e-mail to fcbddwebsite@fcbdd.org.

You're invited...

The Nisonger Center will hold two colloquiums during the month of February. The first will be "Families and the Development of Children with IDD: A Developmental Psychopathology Perspective" by Dr. Cameron Neece on February 3rd.

The second colloquium will be "Beyond Diagnosis: Development as a Predictor of Social Cognitive Processing in Autism Spectrum Disorder" by Dr. Camila McMahon on February 11th.

The presentations will be held in Room 35 of the Psychology Building at 1835 Neil Ave.

For more information, please contact Tamara Hager at 685-3196 or tamara.hager@osumc.edu.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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

Superintendent / C.E.O. **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.

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

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

February, 2014

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 4 Family Advocates for Adult Children (FAAC) monthly meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 11 a.m
- 5 Public hearing regarding Adult Services recommendations, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5:30 p.m.
- 11 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day!
- 17 Presidents' Day - all county facilities closed.
- 19 Family Support, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 24 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 27 FCBDD Human Resources and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 27 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.

Ohio SIBS plan retreat

A transition retreat focused on how siblings can help their brothers and sisters with disabilities is set for the weekend of April 4-6th at YMCA Camp Wilson in Bellefontaine. The retreat is sponsored by Ohio SIBS.

The event is geared to students with disabilities ages 17 to 22 and siblings ages 15 to 25. Sibling pairs are asked to donate \$50 to help offset the cost of the weekend. Additional donations are welcome.

Please contact Tom Fish at thomas.fish@osumc.edu for more information or to register.