FCBMRDD staff members have pledged $75,821 to the 2006 Combined Charitable Campaign, surpassing last year’s record total of $73,404.

For the past 4 years, FCBMRDD has led all county agencies in total support for the campaign. At press time, it appeared likely that FCBMRDD would again earn this honor.

Bixby Living Skills Center led all departments and facilities in improved participation level, with a 66% increase over last year.

Superintendent Jed Morison lauded the staff’s generosity. “I never cease to be amazed at the staff’s support of this campaign. Once again, they have come through in a big way.”

Campaign coordinator Dot Yeager thanked all who contributed as well as the volunteer coordinators who helped lead the effort. She particularly recognized Anna Dickson of Administration for “going above and beyond” in supporting the campaign.

Dr. Gove was key MRDD leader

Dr. Roger M. Gove, a psychiatrist, and long-time leader in the field of services for persons with disabilities, died November 12th at age 91.

In the 1960’s, Dr. Gove directed Ohio’s MRDD programs as Commissioner of the Division of Mental Retardation. Before that, he served as Superintendent of Columbus State School (now Columbus Developmental Center).

In 1951, he helped form the Council for Retarded Children (as it was then called), a not-for-profit organization that, for years, operated community-based classes for children excluded from public schools due to disabilities.

Dr. Gove served on the Franklin County Board of MRDD from 1981 to 1986. Superintendent Jed Morison recalls him as “a very special man.”

“Roger’s professional background, experience in the field, and helpful, humble nature allowed him to be extremely effective in providing leadership, and responding to the needs of our consumers,” he said.

Dr. Gove was survived by his wife of 68 years, Eleanor Jane, his son Jon D. Gove, M.D., of Grants Pass, Oregon, daughter Janet Dye of Mechanicsburg, daughter Judy Gove of Grove City, 9 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren.
Art displayed at tower

Artwork created by persons with developmental disabilities was featured in an art exhibit at the lobby gallery of the Rhodes State Office Tower from October 30th through November 17th.

The Images Seen exhibit, sponsored jointly by the Ohio Department of MRDD and the Ohio Association of County Boards of MRDD, offered a statewide venue for showcasing the creative talents of persons with developmental disabilities.

Creations from these Franklin County artists were included in the exhibition: Joel Carter, Bobby Lee Cook, Jr., Melinda Dillon, Rashia Douthitt, Larry Doerpers, Jilly Kauffman, Jeff Killinger, Scottie Lee Kirklin, Tim Krauss, Marybeth McCrate, Jimmy Matties, John Moffo, Joe Mullet, Tim Prenzlin, Carol Quartman, Mary Stark, Michael Von Hock, Mark Von Wagner, and Art Williams.

Studio 35 to feature free films

During the holiday break, many FCBMRDD consumers will be looking for something fun to do. Studio 35, the Clintonville area movie theater, is offering a great way for consumers to spend some leisure time, and best of all, it’s free!

Beginning December 22nd, Studio 35 will provide free admission to any person served by FCBMRDD. The week-long offer will coincide with the showing of 2 holiday-oriented films, A Christmas Story and Bad Santa.

Studio 35 owner Damon Dalrymple decided to make the free admission offer after touring ARC Industries East recently with Service Coordinator Tim Knapp.

“I was so impressed with everyone that I wanted to do something to help the MRDD community,” he said.

Made in 1983, A Christmas Story stars Peter Billingsley as 9 year-old Ralphie Parker, who longs for a Red Ryder BB gun. A 2003 comedy, Bad Santa, features Billy Bob Thornton as a con man who poses as Santa to rob stores, but runs into problems after befriending a troubled kid.

To obtain free admission, consumers need only tell ticket booth staff that they are served by FCBMRDD. Seating will be limited to theater capacity.

Studio 35 is located at 3055 Indianola Avenue. For show times, please call 261-1581 or visit studio35.com.
Creative Housing gets another grant

For the 4th year in a row, Creative Housing has received funding in the highly competitive HUD 811 Program, which supports housing for persons with disabilities.

The grant, in the amount of $857,000, is earmarked for the proposed “Apartments at Stoneridge” project in Gahanna. Creative’s 4-year total in committed federal funds is over 4 million dollars.

Meanwhile work is continuing at the South James and Scottwood location.

Parking for Special Olympics

Franklin County’s Special Olympics volunteers wrapped up a successful football season at the ARC Industries West location. The busiest day was the OSU/Michigan game. The crew of workers stand proudly behind the “lot full” sign after parking and moving over 700 cars.

This season is the most successful yet for raising funds. Since all workers are volunteers, 100% of the money goes to support FCBMRDD Special Olympics athletes and events.

A very special thank you to Jerry Prichard, Tom Summerford and Eric Kinney at the West Transportation Compound for moving buses prior to each home game to give the volunteers more room to park cars. Thanks also to Jan Montgomery and staff for allowing the use of the parking lot.

Dateline now online

Thanks to recent upgrades in FCBMRDD’s web site, the Dateline may now be viewed on line.

To do so, go to www.fcbmrdd.org and click, “To view our newsletter.” You may view the current issue as well as past issues going back to June, 2006.

You may also subscribe electronically by entering your e-mail address.

Removing an obstacle from the path of persons with disabilities who desire to work is the aim of legislation introduced in the Ohio General Assembly recently.

Senate Bill 369 and House Bill 664 would establish the Medicaid Buy-In Program in Ohio. The program would allow individuals receiving Medicaid to earn more income through employment and still retain Medicaid health care coverage by paying a premium.

The Senate bill was introduced by Senator Steve Stivers, the House bill by Representative Jon Peterson. The measure would: increase the asset limit for Medicaid eligibility from $1,500 to $10,000; increase the maximum income level for Medicaid eligibility to 250% of the poverty index, and exclude the first $20,000 of earned income; replace the “spend down” formula with a sliding-scale premium structure.

Experts estimate that, if enacted, the program would allow approximately 7,000 Ohioans with disabilities to work without the threat of losing their Medicaid coverage.

“This program will help individuals on Medicaid earn a decent living and become less dependent on other services,” said Senator Stivers.

FCBMRDD staff conducted its annual Combined Charitable Campaign over this past month. The theme of the campaign was, “It’s about all of us.” The amount raised was still being tabulated at press time.

Dot Yeager, FCBMRDD’s Chief Financial Officer, spearheaded the effort.

“She added that “special thanks” should go to the staff volunteers who coordinated the campaign at the building and department levels.

In past years, FCBMRDD staff have led all Franklin County agencies in the total amount of contributions. Donors may choose from nearly 500 organizations involved in a wide range of charitable activities.

Ohio would be the 35th state to implement a Medicaid Buy-In program. “We greatly appreciate the leadership of Senator Stivers and Representative Peterson with this important legislation” said Superintendent Jed Morison.
More than 800 persons attended FCBMRDD’s 3rd Annual Community Star Awards banquet on the evening of November 1st. The event, which was held at Villa Milano party house, celebrated the achievements of 14 award winners, including 12 individuals and 2 organizations.

The Community Star Awards honor those who, through outstanding efforts, have advanced FCBMRDD’s mission to help people live, learn and work in the community.

Kicking off the festivities with the singing of the National Anthem was the popular group, Vocal Impact. That was followed by a slide presentation and narrative presented by Awards Chairman Frank New, who served as emcee. As each award winner was announced, his or her visual image was displayed.

In remarks, County Commissioner Mary Jo Kilroy congratulated the award winners and praised the work of FCBMRDD. County Commissioner Dewey Stokes and Superintendent Jed Morison jointly presented the awards.

Special recognition was given to Kenneth Ritchey, Director of the Ohio Department of MRDD, for his 8 years of leadership at the state level. “Ken has been a steady voice of reason, always working with one goal in mind - - improved services for individuals,” said Superintendent Jed Morison.

All attending were treated to a delicious dinner of lasagna, salad and desert. Superintendent Morison closed the evening with thanks and best wishes to all for their support of FCBMRDD.
Don Wire received Parent/Family Member honors from Superintendent Morison.

Jed Morison and Dewey Stokes present to Mark Haberman of the Ohio Building Authority.

Bill Gibson accepted the award on behalf of (A.D.D.) the Association for the Developmentally Disabled.

Karen Laub, Ph.D. is honored by Dewey Stokes for Support Service Staff Member.

Jed Morison and Dewey Stokes present to Mark Haberman of the Ohio Building Authority.

Bill Gibson accepted the award on behalf of (A.D.D.) the Association for the Developmentally Disabled.

Karen Laub, Ph.D. is honored by Dewey Stokes for Support Service Staff Member.

Vocal Impact provided the National Anthem as well as a program of inspired vocal standards.

Dave Powers provided the musical accompaniment for the dinner and presentations.

Jed Morison shared a moment with Jane Jarboe, Ph. D. honoree for Management/Supervisory Staff

Terrie Abel receives the honor for Volunteer/Good Neighbor.

Delois Simpson is the Residential Staff Member honoree.

Don Wire received Parent/Family Member honors from Superintendent Morison.
Your stomach is growling as you walk past the vending machines. Lunch is still a couple of hours away. But, you know that you will end up feeling guilty if you buy something. It will be better to just wait it out, right? Wrong.

Snacking the right way can be a part of a healthy lifestyle. People who eat regular meals with nutritious snacks are less likely to overeat and gain weight. Most of us do best if there is no more than 3-4 hours between the times we eat. Skipping meals or waiting too long between them cause many to justify that extra large order of fries when a smaller one would otherwise do.

It is important to know the difference between a snack and a meal, however. A snack or a mini-meal should provide around 100 to 250 calories depending on the person’s needs. A snack is not non-stop grazing. For young children especially, it should be finished at least 1-2 hours before a meal so that it does not interfere with how much is eaten later.

Healthy snacks provide both carbohydrates for energy and protein to satisfy hunger for a longer period. They provide an opportunity for people who have smaller appetites, like older folks and children, to get in more nutrients throughout the day. Ones to avoid are those that are high in fat and/or sugar. Junk foods will slow you down in the long run.

Snacking can be an important part of meeting nutritional needs. But, you must make choices that count. So be ready when the temptation strikes by selecting at least one of the following ideas to add to your healthy lifestyle for the next month. Make a new habit.

Think about the Food Pyramid when planning snacks. The best ones contain at least 2 different groups. Examples include peanut butter on celery, cheese and crackers, fruit and cottage cheese, or applesauce and animal crackers.

Plan ahead for snacks as you would a meal. Have plenty of appropriate foods that can be easily grabbed by all members of the family. Pack snacks for work, school or other activities just as you would lunch.

Add variety to snacks so that they don’t become routine and boring. Any healthy food can be a nutritious snack, even leftovers.

Keep junk food out of the house to encourage more healthful choices. Save the high fat and sugary items for occasional times, not every day.

Don’t snack out of the box or bag. Instead, take out one portion and put the rest away before starting to eat. Buy only individual sized packages to limit portions.

Avoid snacking in front of the TV or in the car. This usually leads to eating more than is intended or making poorer selections.

Which will you choose?

(Note: The author is a registered dietician.)

Levies pass in 7 counties

Ohio voters approved 7 of 9 property tax levies supporting their county boards of MRDD on November 7th.

Levies passed in all counties seeking taxpayer support for MRDD services - in both counties where 2 levies were on the ballot, the smaller levy was approved.

Morrow County, which had failed to pass its past 12 levies, received voter support for its 1.5 mil replacement levy. “It’s certainly a step in the right direction,” said Superintendent Jerry Manual, “but we still have work to do.”

Help spread holiday cheer

FCBMRDD’s Recreation Department is once again trying to brighten the holiday season for those consumers living in group homes who are unable to spend the holidays with their families.

The Recreation Department will be accepting donations of baked goods (cookies, brownies, etc.), fruit baskets and popcorn tins at 2879 Johnstown Road during the week of December 18th through December 20th.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Butchko at 342-5993.

A Christmas Gift Solution

The Down Syndrome Association of central Ohio is offering their 2007 calendar, “Faces within the Community.” Calendars are $10 each or 3 for $25. They also have an “Awareness bracelet” at $30 each. More information and orders can be made at (614) 342-5757.
Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBMR/DD Community

ARC Industries North staff member Jackie Boyle served on the Steering Committee of the Images Seen exhibit which featured artwork by Ohioans with developmental disabilities. The exhibit was held at the Rhodes State Office Tower.

Tom Fish of the Nisonger Center has published an article regarding the Next Chapter Book Club in Exceptional Parent magazine. Co-written by Vicki Graff, the article is titled, “What a Novel Idea.”

Tom Fish of the Nisonger Center spoke with Chris Lopez, Service Coordination Supervisor, at the recent Community Stars banquet.

Career Milestones

25 Years
Deborah Osborne

20 Years
Harriett Eakins
Mildred Mathews

15 years
Gregg Maguire

10 Years
Barbara Michael-Jones

5 years
Donald Buckley
Courtney Kelly
James Leake

Crisis training set

Dr. Nick Boyer of FCBMRDD’s Psychology Department will conduct training sessions in crisis intervention on 4 dates next year: February 15th, May 16th, August 15th and October 17th.

The training sessions, which have been approved for 6 hours of continuing education credit by the Ohio Department of MRDD, as well as 6 hours of contact credit by the Ohio Department of Education, will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will be held at the Pleasnick Center at 2879 Johnstown Road.

For more details, please call 342-5952.

FCBMRDD’s web site has been updated and improved. If you have not visited the site recently, please take a look! Go to www.fcbmrdd.org.

Did you know?
Stay tuned for closing news

As winter approaches, please take a moment to review FCBMRDD’s emergency closing procedures.

When the decision is made to cancel transportation for the day due to inclement weather, the following message will be broadcast on local radio and television stations: “The Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation will be closed.”

When this message is broadcast, early childhood and school facilities operated by the agency will be closed for the day (and staff members will not be expected to report unless reporting has been pre-arranged in advance). Missed days will be made up, if necessary, at the end of the school year.

Administration, service coordination, and adult services will be in operation (and staff will be expected to report unless otherwise instructed).

If the situation requires altering staff schedules, supervisors will contact staff.

When the broadcast to close for the day has been made, no children should be transported to school.

Adult consumers who are COTA bus riders may report to their workshops. Parents and residential service providers may transport adults to their workshops or work locations.

Maintenance personnel are expected to report to work in all situations unless otherwise directed by their supervisors.

Recreation and Special Olympics programs for adults will be cancelled on days when transportation is cancelled.

For information concerning closing, please listen to any of the following stations between 5:30 and 7 a.m.

**Radio AM**  **Radio FM**
WBNS (1460)  WCOL (92.3)
WMNI (920)  WCVO (104.9)
WOSU (820)  WNCI (104.9)
WTVN (610)  WSNY (97.9)
QFM (96)

**TV**
WCMH (4)
WSYX (6)
WBNS (10)
FOX (28)

Calendar

**December, 2006**

12 Franklin County Residential Services, Board of Trustees meeting, 11:00 a.m. Please call 844-3800 for location.

16 Hanukkah

19 Public hearing for the annual Action Plan, 2879 Johnstown Rd., at 4:00 p.m.

20 Parents League meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.

21 Winter recess begins for ECE and schools. Classes resume January 2nd.

22 Winter begins.

25 Christmas — all county facilities closed.

26 Winter recess begins for adult services. Adult programs resume January 2nd.

“Quotable Quote”

“No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it.”

--- George Washington Carver