Dean Fadel elected president

At its annual organizational meeting on January 26th, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities chose its leadership team for 2012.

Dean Fadel was elected President, succeeding Helen Ninos in that position.

Other officers chosen were Jean Williams, Vice President, and Renée Stein, Secretary.

Mr. Fadel was initially appointed to the board in March, 2007, to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Raymond Horn who had passed away. Mr. Fadel served as Vice President and Chairman of the Finance Committee last year. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Association of County Boards Serving People with Developmental Disabilities.

Mr. Fadel is a principal with the consulting firm, Public Affairs Advocates, and serves as Vice President for Government Relations of the Ohio Insurance Institute.

Mr. Fadel’s brother, Jeffrey Fadel, receives services through FCBDD.

The new Vice President, Mrs. Williams, served as Secretary in 2011. She is a sculptor and owner of an art studio. Her son, Tom, attends ARC Industries North. Mrs. Williams serves as board liaison to the ARC Industries Board of Trustees and has been an active volunteer at ARC Industries North for many years.

The new Secretary, Mrs. Stein, has been a member of the board since 2009. She works in business planning and management for American Express Business Travel. Her 9 year-old son attends Oakstone Academy. Mrs. Stein will chair the Finance Committee in 2012.

Two board members begin service

Two new members of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities took their seats on the panel for the first time on the evening of January 26th.

John Bickley was appointed by the County Commissioners, while Beth Savage was appointed by Probate Judge Robert Montgomery.

Mr. Bickley retired at the end of December as CEO of the YMCA of Central Ohio. He had spent 12 years in the post.

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Beginning on Monday, February 13th there will be a number of transportation changes that will be taking place. For many, this will mean revised schedules and staff.

Goodwill Columbus and Columbus Developmental Center will be providing transportation to and from day programs for most of their participants. Route information for individuals at these locations will be provided by Goodwill Columbus or Columbus Developmental Center.

Those who attend our ARC Industries Workshops, Living Skills Centers, Young Adult Services (Hamilton and College Ave.), FCBDD Schools and Pre-schools, Nisonger, Dahlberg, Christ Lutheran AM and Easter Seals will continue to receive transportation in our agency buses.

Because so many are affected by these changes, we are in the process of redesigning all of the remaining routes. Once the routes are redesigned, Bus Drivers and Assistants will bid on the routes they prefer, based on their seniority.

This selection process may affect you because it is possible there will be changes to the bus staff, pick up and drop off times and bus numbers, etc.

On or about February 1st, we will begin the process of assigning our staff to the redesigned routes. Following the assignment process (approximately February 7th), drivers will attempt to contact each rider or family on their new routes to introduce themselves, and to provide the bus number and new estimated pick up and drop off times.

As we implement these changes, we will appreciate your cooperation and patience. Please feel free to call if questions.

A 23-year veteran of Board service, Betty Trapp lost her battle with cancer on November 27, 2011.

According to ARC Industries West Director Jan Montgomery, “Betty fought her illness with grace and dignity. In doing so, she became a role model.”

Betty started her FCBDD career at the Functional Living Skills Center in 1988. The following year, she moved to ARC Industries West where she worked as a Training Specialist. Skilled in the use of sign language, Betty provided special help for several consumers with hearing impairments.

Betty was survived by her sister, Ann, brothers, Steve and Joseph, and many friends at FCBDD.
Insights on autism provided by Rick Schostek

Former FCBDD board member, Rick Schostek, has published a book offering his perspective on raising a son with autism.

Titled What Happens Next?, the book is a touching story of a family’s “23-year journey of ups and downs with a remarkable young man.” The book combines humor, facts and many of the real-life challenges a child and family experience as they navigate a world with the additional challenges of autism. It also provides a perspective as to what comes next as they begin to look at the adult years and services available.


Wildlife classes held at ARC East

Consumers at ARC Industries East are getting an education on Ohio’s wildlife, thanks to Training Specialist Chizuko Miller. Chizuko has coordinated with Carrie Keller from Sharon Woods Metro Park to provide classes covering the topics of Birds of Prey, Mammals of Ohio, and Reptiles and Amphibians.

Highlighting the most recent session were several live reptiles including a toad, salamander, painted turtle and fox snake. Several consumers overcame their fears to touch the snake. Participants have enjoyed these classes, asked questions, and learned a lot.

Need a pet sitter?

Stacia Billings has been an employee of ARC Industries West since November, 2010, and is currently participating in the Employment First Initiative. Amy Johnson is Stacia’s Job Developer and is seeking to assist Stacia with her employment goal of growing her small business.

In 2006, Stacia found herself between jobs and in need of something to do. Having done pet sitting for friends and family for several years, Stacia decided to turn this into a small business. Along with dog and cat sitting, Stacia babysits, and watches and cleans homes for vacationers. She also does odd jobs and errands. Stacia is hoping to grow her business and become more independent. Feel free to contact ARC West at 267-1207 if you should find a need for Stacia’s services.

Hague Living Skills Center - Blood Drive

Tuesday, February 7th 2012
7:30 AM - 1:30 PM

To schedule an appointment, please contact:
Beverly Mann R.N. at 614-342-5209 or beverly.mann@fcbdd.org
Bowling event a success

Superintendent Jed Morison rolled a strike on the ceremonial first ball to open the seventh annual “For the FUN of It” event held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace on Saturday, January 21st.

Over a hundred bowlers took part in the event. Proceeds benefited Franklin County Special Olympics as well as the Citizens Committee, but the greatest benefit was the fun and camaraderie for all FCBDD staff involved.

Everyone who attended was a winner, but trophy recipients were: High Series, Male - Harold Mills (Transportation); High Series, Female - Kari Thompson (Service Coordination); High Series, Team - Timothy Edwards, Harold Mills, Jackie Wilson, MeMe Livsey (Transportation); and Low Series, Team - Meaghen Wilson, Marcia Backus, Dee Finnell, Signe Anderson (Early Childhood).

Full results for all participants will be published on the FCBDD Home Page Bulletin Board.

Dancing with our stars

The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO) will be holding a unique fundraising event on Saturday evening, February 25th.

Dancing with our Stars will be an opportunity to meet and mingle, dance, learn salsa, tango and other dances from professional instructors, and shop at a silent auction. The event will be held at the Country Club at Muirfield Village.

Tickets are available for $75 each. Please call 263-6020 for information. Advance reservations are required.

Honoring R. J. Umberger, left wing for the Columbus Blue Jackets.

ARC South hosts marching band

The Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band paid a visit to ARC Industries South on January 19th.

The band played several inspiring numbers, including Sweet Georgia Brown and the Buckeye favorite, Across the Field. A medley of Let it Be, Hey Jude and Dynamite prompted the appreciative audience to clap, sing and dance to the music.

Perhaps best known for its memorable appearance in the 2010 Rose Bowl Parade, the band was the subject of a story by ESPN.com’s Rick Reilly on September 15, 2011.

ARC Industries South Director Kurt Smith summed up the reaction of those in the crowd: “We very much enjoyed the performance. They are a very talented and dedicated group.”

Photo and article by Kris Potridge
Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

Founded in 1988, the Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE) is a highly respected organization focused on employment and career advancement for individuals with disabilities. John Johnson, a longtime Employment Specialist with FCBDD, has been elected to a 3-year term on the board of the Ohio division of this national organization. Congratulations, John!

The Ohio Departments of Education and Job and Family Services are jointly undertaking the task of revising and adding to current state standards for early learning and development. In this connection, they have selected FCBDD’s Rebecca Love to serve on the Approaches to Learning writing team. Congratulations, Becky!

The YMCA in Gahanna is now called the Gahanna John E. Bickley YMCA in honor of their recently retired leader. Mr. Bickley retired after spending 12 years as CEO of the YMCA of Central Ohio. He is also a newly appointed member of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the father of a service recipient.

A big thank you goes out to Jack Brownley, Cindy Massenelli and Ryan Phillips for their excellent work in organizing the For the FUN of It bowling event held at Columbus Square Bowling Palace on Saturday, January 21st. This event brought together over 100 staff members for a fun-filled afternoon.

This past December, a group from FCBDD’s Recreation Program gathered together to support the Salvation Army’s Angel Tree Program. Using a wish list provided by the Salvation Army, they went shopping for six gifts for children residing in Franklin County. Afterward the group enjoyed a hot drink at Starbucks.

Photo by Becky Niles

Career Milestones

30 years
Shirley Jordan

25 years
Rose Dexter
William Meier
Donna Robbins
Debra Viney

20 years
Charbeth Cooke

15 years
Cristy Scott
Josephine Thomison

10 years
Alma Austin
Denise Hamilton

5 years
Martin Albertus
Barbara Brown
Aneesa Bush
Gary Debord
Heather Drummond
Jennifer Numbers
Deborah Powell
Linda Rooker
Vicki Ulry
Tammy Wright

Photo by Becky Niles
The green spot
by Cindy Massenelli

As 2011 came to an end, the Green Committee reported that all FCBDD locations were 100% onboard in recycling. This included recycling of aluminum, plastic, paper, glass, metal, corrugated cardboard, shredded documents, batteries, toner cartridges, and Styrofoam. The Transportation Department went a step further and included metals, waste oil, antifreeze, parts cleaner, alternators, starters, engines, and transmission parts, in their recycling efforts.

Agency-wide recycling efforts yielded 225,461 pounds of recycled materials and 3,940 gallons of recycled fluids from January through December, 2011.

In 2012, FCBDD will continue to strive for a “greener earth” by purchasing recycled materials, both paper and cleaning products, Energy Star rated appliances, and replacing old and outdated lighting fixtures with more energy efficient products, with a target date of completion, July, 2012.

FCBDD will become a member of the 2 by 2012, a cutting-edge, comprehensive bicycle commuting program customized for our agency, which includes a website to track and accumulate mileage for both work and play: 2by2012@considerbiking.org.

Please continue to do your part to save the environment at work and home.

Calendar

February, 2012

2 Groundhog Day

14 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.

14 Happy Valentine's Day!

15 Family Support (formerly Parent League), 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.

20 Presidents’ Day - all county facilities closed.

23 FCBDD Human Resources and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.

23 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.

27 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.

“Quotables quote”

“It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all, in which case you have failed by default.”

-- J.K. Rowling