

State budget cuts to affect FCBDD

The proposed state budget, if approved by the General Assembly, will adversely affect FCBDD. The proposal would slash the state's subsidy to county boards of developmental disabilities by over 30 percent for the two-year period beginning July 1st.

FCBDD estimates a loss of nearly \$5 million during the biennium as a result of the subsidy cuts.

Additionally, between 2011 and 2017, FCBDD stands to lose approximately \$20 million in state funding intended as reimbursement for the elimination of the state's tangible personal-property tax in 2005. Under the proposed budget, these reimbursements are expected to end in 2013 rather than 2017 as originally planned.

"The news is not good," said FCBDD Superintendent Jed Morison. "We will need to begin planning for the long term today."

In a meeting with senior management staff on April 19th, the Superintendent directed department heads to recommend how best to cut 5 percent of their budgets. "This situation requires ownership by all of us. I would rather make gradual reductions beginning now than wait until we have a crisis."

"Of course, cuts cannot be made without affecting services," he added. He cited longer waiting lists and higher ratios as possible effects of spending adjustments.

In response to a question, Superintendent Morison said that the 3.5 mill replacement levy expected to go before voters in November would not be increased to make up for the lost state support.

"In the current climate, it is unrealistic to think that we can do anything more than a straight replacement levy."

He expressed confidence that FCBDD can meet the challenge. "We have a culture of fiscal discipline." He noted that, over the past ten years, the agency's operating costs increased at an average annual rate of 3.6 percent while the number of people served increased by an annual average of 4.4 percent.

Sherry Gow is Canada bound

Having led FCBDD's Intake Department since 1989, Sherry Gow retired at the end of April. She plans to relocate to Winlaw, British Columbia, where her son and three of her six grandchildren make their home.

A 1972 graduate of Ohio State, Sherry began her FCBDD career in 1973 as a teacher at old Holy Family School. After six years, she moved to Maine. Four years later, she returned to teach in the Early Childhood Department.

Sherry went on to become one of FCBDD's original fifteen case managers. After a stint in that position, she assumed the helm at the Intake Department.

Intake is often a family's first point of contact with FCBDD. Department staff determine eligibility for agency services based on state rules. Last year, just under 2,000 applications for services were received.

Sherry estimates the number of applications for services has increased tenfold during her tenure. She feels this is the biggest change she has witnessed over the years.

Commenting on Sherry's service, Jack Beatty, Director of Service Coordination, said, "Of all Sherry's many attributes, the two which stand out the most are her complete fairness in her approach to eligibility determinations, and her deep concern for those we serve."

photo by Martin Kerscher



According to Superintendent Jed Morison, "Sherry is a truly able professional. Her knowledge and dedication are exceptional. She will be greatly missed."

We wish Sherry much happiness in her well-deserved retirement!

DSCACO conference to focus on wellness

The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO) will present an Adult Wellness Conference on Saturday, May 7th.

The event will feature two nationally acclaimed authors, Brian Chicoine, M.D., and Dennis McGuire, Ph.D. Dr. Chicoine is medical director of the Adult Down Syndrome Center of Lutheran General Hospital, Chicago. Dr. McGuire directs psychosocial services for the center.

The presentations will begin at 9 a.m. and run through 3:15 p.m. The location is the Quest Conference Center at 8405 Pulsar Place.

For registration or more information, please contact Marge Barnheiser at 363-6020 or mbarnheiser@dsaco.net.

Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio

Presents an
ADULT WELLNESS CONFERENCE
featuring
Nationally acclaimed experts and authors



Brian Chicoine, M.D. *Dennis McGuire, Ph.D.*

Saturday, May 7
9:00am - 3:30pm

Quest Conference Center
8405 Pulsar Place
Columbus, OH 43240



Research Speech Safety Advocacy Employment Behavior

Star award nominations open

FCBDD's Community Star Awards Committee is asking you to suggest the community's most deserving candidates for recognition this year.

The committee is accepting nominations in 14 categories through May 27th. A nomination form is enclosed with this issue of Dateline. The form lists the award categories.

Established in 2003, the Community Star Awards honor persons and organizations who, through outstanding work and dedication, support FCBDD's mission.

"If you think an individual or organization deserves consideration, please let us know," said Superintendent Jed Morison.

The 2011 awards will be presented at a banquet to be held Wednesday evening, October 5th.

For further information, please call Linda Fleming at 342-5950.

County boards to hold conference

The Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities (OACBDD) will hold its 2011 Spring Conference on May 19-20th at the Hilton at Polaris at 8700 Lyra Drive.

The event will feature updates on budgetary and program issues facing

Ohio's developmental disabilities system. Professional continuing education sessions will be provided in a variety of areas.

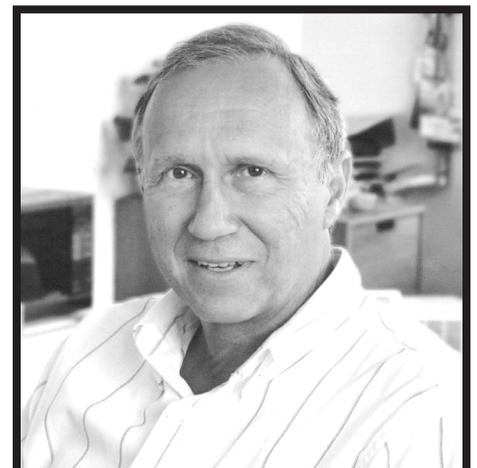
Details regarding the conference may be obtained by visiting www.oacbdd.org, or calling 431-0616.

FAAC to meet June 7

Family Advocates for Adult Children (FAAC) will meet at 2879 Johnstown Road on Tuesday, June 7th, at 11 a.m.

Special guest at the meeting will be David Zwyer, a representative of the Ohio pooled trust program, Community Fund Management Foundation. Dave served as the Executive Director of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council for 12 years, and in an Of Counsel position with the law firm Kincaid, Randall and Craine in Columbus. He is responsible for drafting provisions of Ohio law dealing with supplemental needs trusts and the personal liability of guardians.

For more details, please call Elaine Bechant at 939-0992.



Someone you should know

by Joan Krause

I'm writing this story for a couple of reasons. First, I think, my brother, Robert Rockwell Krause, is 'someone you should know.' Second, I want you to be made aware of the good work of FCBDD.

My 58 year old brother, Rocky, as I call him, is a survivor in many ways. He has been a client of FCBDD for over 30 years. As an 11 year old, he was diagnosed with high functioning mental retardation. At the time, not a lot of services were available. Fortunately he was able to graduate from high school. But then what?

Rick Grawemeyer, who is still employed with FCBDD, stepped in as his first social worker, and these many years later is still a family friend. After some starts and stops, Rocky landed a job with Amerisource Bergen and stayed with them for over 30 years. He would have stayed longer but his job was combined with another, and was no longer available to him.



With help from FCBDD, Rocky landed a new job immediately and stayed for 9 months. Then the recession hit and a layoff occurred. Again, Rocky got a lot of guidance and support from Jason Justice, his FCBDD job coach. We finally decided Rocky had "paid his dues" and he qualified for SSI. He is proud to call it "retirement."

A little side story -- while Rocky was unemployed and still job searching, he would travel with my 87 year old dad,

Bob Krause, to Target at Easton, to discuss sports for an hour or so every Wednesday with a Next Chapter Book Club group. This particular group includes a bunch of guys from ARC Industries North. My father eventually decided to pursue other interests and passed the torch to Rocky. Every Wednesday morning, Rocky gets on a bus and goes out to Target to talk sports. He loves it and is dedicated.

So Rocky's life has been shaped by the guidance and constant assistance from FCBDD. With their help, he developed a work ethic, communication skills, courage and now he's a volunteer. As a retiree, he's learned how to shape his day by watching sports, taking walks, attending church and, of course, volunteering. He has learned to advocate for himself.

His former job coach closed Rocky's case recently but didn't hesitate to say, "If you ever need anything, call." Rocky was able to receive services from the county and now he's giving back.

Social Work placement offered

by Kevin Yuhas

FCBDD has started a new Social Work educational opportunity. It is a two-year field placement experience with FCBDD's Service Coordination Department aimed at students pursuing their Masters degrees in Social Work at Ohio State.

The program is co-sponsored by FCBDD, Ohio State's School of Social Work, and the Nisonger Center. The graduates who complete this program will receive their licenses from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and be prepared to take the License Independent Social Work (LISW) exam. They will also gain hands-on exposure to people with developmental disabilities and mental health issues.

Two students have joined the program to date. They are Chih Yu (Jay) Hsiao and Jana Van Hooser.



New program at Goodwill taking shape

Goodwill Columbus is beginning a new program entitled New Generation Work and Activity Services, according to Karen Waltermeyer, senior director of Developmental Disabilities Programs at Goodwill Columbus. The program will be located at Goodwill's headquarters on Edgehill Road and will be fully operational by June. The program will serve adults, ages 18 to 44, who have an interest in work as well as participating in art, health and wellness, and community activities at Goodwill. The addition of the work option in this new program differentiates it from Goodwill's Young Adult Services program.

New Generation Work and Activity Services will serve a maximum of 30 participants and will be under the direction of Goodwill's Kathy Ramey, program director of Sage Senior Services. Helping run the program will be Kevin Krotzer, former director of programs at United Cerebral Palsy of Central Ohio.

Siebold applications due May 10

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship from the John J. Siebold Memorial Scholarship Program, you must complete and submit your application to ARC Industries by Tuesday, May 10th.

To be eligible, an applicant must be employed by FCBDD for a minimum of one year, have a high school degree or equivalent, be pursuing a college degree (any level) in a field related to developmental disabilities and be either a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

John J. Siebold was a 27-year employee of FCBDD who died unexpectedly in June, 2003, at which time he was ARC Industries Operations Director. In his memory, ARC's Board of Trustees created the scholarship program.

Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,500 annually at the discretion of the scholarship committee. Since 2004, 50 scholarships have been awarded for a total of \$71,000.

To obtain more information, including an application, please call 475-7007.

Jim Oyer, longtime job developer, retires



FCBDD's most senior job developer retired at the end of April. After nearly 32 years on the job, Jim Oyer says, "I've enjoyed it very much, but it is time to 'kick back' a little."

Jim joined the agency in 1979. At that time, he was one of only two job development staff members. The situation changed in 1983 when FCBDD established a department devoted to community employment.

His proudest accomplishment has been helping persuade companies to hire employees with disabilities. "Some of our biggest and most successful employers were initially resistant," he explained.

Jim attributes some of his success to having a disability himself -- he is blind. "When others saw that I have a disability, it seemed to be a plus."

Commenting on Jim's contribution to the agency, John Mitchem, Director of Adult Services, said "I've always been impressed with his excellent dedication to his clients. Jim has provided an example for many staff."

In retirement, Jim plans to be busy. He will continue serving as president of the Northwest Kiwanis Club, as well as heading up the annual rose sale for the Tri-Village Lions Club.

He will do some advocacy work with the American Council of the Blind.

We wish Jim the very best!

Good For You

Notable Achievements in the FCBDD community

Career Milestones

ARC Industries, Inc., has received an achievement award from the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation and the Capital Area Safety Council for decreasing the rate of employee injuries by 25% from the previous year. Not to be outdone, Franklin County Residential Services received recognition for having the lowest rate of employee injuries in their employer category. Congratulations to John Mitchem of ARC and Ed Harper of FCRS on their fine work in the area of employee safety.

Staff of ARC Industries staged a highly successful garage sale on April 8th, raising more than \$550. Special thanks to Amanda Carroll, Amy Hixenbaugh, Greg Sorenson, Jodi Zill, Don Katner, Susan Stoney, Beth Cimprich, John Wick, Jeff Rizzo, Katie Hopper, Cathy Hutzal, Trish Potenza and Shella Ross for their enormous help with the event!

Staff members Mary Martin (ext. 5801) and Carl Scott (ext. 5974) are coordinating another blood drive on May 23rd for the benefit of the Red Cross. This drive, which will be held at Administration, is dedicated to the late Roger May, a much loved FCBDD staff member and a strong believer in giving blood. Please contact Mary or Carl to schedule your appointment.

John Clarkson, the driver of FCBDD bus 100, reports that Dortha Smith, a passenger on the bus, wrote him a heartfelt note expressing her support of Operation Feed. Dortha explained that the food drive "means being able to reach out and help others who are less fortunate than we are..." Thanks Dortha, for sharing your inspiring message!

35 years

Patricia McCune

30 years

Barbara Flynn
Pamela Lenahan

25 years

Mary Brooks
Grace Fair
Janet Wilbur

20 years

Michael Armentrout
William Brauner
John Dixon
Dorothy Forrest
Cynthia Phillips
Nancy Sherfey

15 years

Linda Fleming

10 years

Adenike Alli
Jacqueline Scalf

5 years

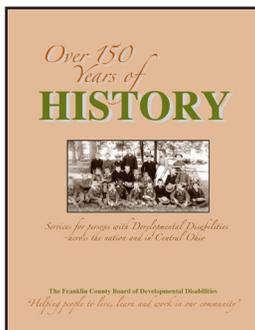
Sean Banks
Jessica Bush
Annette Griffin
Lamont Mosley
David Nadolny
Bob Patrick
Ida Petrosky
Karla Poindexter
Shella Ross
Rhonda Rostorfer
Crystal Schneider
John Taylor

History book updated

FCBDD has published an updated booklet titled *Over 150 years of History*.

The 13-page publication provides an historical overview of services for persons with developmental disabilities over the years.

To obtain a copy, please call Linda Fleming at 342-5950.



Operation Feed a success

Thanks to all who participated in this year's campaign.

The FCBDD totals are \$25,285 and 5,140 pounds of food. Last year's totals were \$24,461 and 3,994 pounds of food.

Special congratulations to staff, students and parents at the Early Childhood Education and Family Center for the largest contribution; to the Bixby Living Skills Center for winning the Iron Skillet; and to the folks at the East Transportation Compound who win the Golden Crockpot.

"This was the best year we have ever had and it's certainly the one during which there has been the most need," said Mike Davis, campaign coordinator.



The green spot by Carrie Vamos

As part of our Green Team efforts, the Hague Living Skills Center (HLSC) staff participated in cleaning up litter around our property and along our service road in honor of Earth Day. We filled our cart with plenty of trash. Staff were on their way to building a car with some of the items that we found -- tires, a piece of bumper, tubing, an alternator and a license plate!

HLSC continues its efforts with the Rumpke recycling program, including aluminum can recycling, collecting plastic bottle caps and aluminum tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. We continue to look for ways to expand our green efforts.

In my own efforts at home, I have set up a separate trash can to collect recyclables. We have cut our waste in half. With the help of my kids and husband, we deliver these recyclables to our community recycling center. I plan to use some advice from Brenda Toney about coffee grounds this spring and summer: "Use coffee grounds in the garden. They help to make the soil more acidic. They help to repel ants, snails, and slugs."

Please continue to consider ways to increase your efforts to recycle at work and home.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Helen Ninos, President
Dean Fadel, Vice President
Jean Williams, Secretary
Linda Craig
Lito Ramirez
Leah Reibel
Renee Stein

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.

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Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

is always available on the internet at:

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

May, 2011

- 3 Election Day - remember to vote!
- 8 Mother's Day
- 10 Deadline for applications for John S. Siebold Scholarship program. For more details, please call Cathy Hutzal at 342-5743.
- 10 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 1021 Checkrein Ave., 11 a.m.
- 19 FCBDD Human Resources and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 19 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 19,20 OACB 2011 Spring Conference. Hilton at Polaris, 8700 Lyra Dr., Call 341-0616 for details.
- 23 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Fawcett Center, 11:30 a.m.
- 25 Family Support (formerly Parent League), 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 30 Memorial Day - all county facilities closed.
- 31 Graduation Ceremony, West Central School, 1451 W. Town St., 7 p.m.

June

- 1 Graduation Ceremony, Northeast School, 500 N. Hamilton Rd., 7 p.m.



Rosanna Beougher will be one of the graduates at West Central School.

"Quotable quotes"

"One cannot too soon forget his errors and misdemeanors; for to dwell upon them is to add to the offense."

-- Henry David Thoreau

"What is exciting about life is that every morning offers a new day with unlimited possibilities. Yesterday's mistakes and regrets belong to yesterday."

-- Sir Winston Churchill