

Ohio Shared-Living ~ a good option for some!

There has been considerable discussion around the state and in Franklin County lately, about a service method that has come to be known as Ohio Shared living (formerly called Adult Foster Care). Though not new, it has been poorly understood and under-utilized.

Simply stated, it is a residential service possibility, available through the Individual Options Waiver, which allows an individual to receive continuous care and support while living in the home of a carefully selected family in a typical neighborhood.

While this type of arrangement may not be desirable for everyone, for a person who wishes to live in a small, nurturing, family environment, there are numerous advantages. Chief among them is stability. Often people express concern about frequent turnover of staff in typical residential settings. Shared Living offers the potential of a long term stable relationship with the host family. It also offers a small inclusive setting in which to experience the natural rhythm of family life as well as community activities, which is consistent with recent federal directives on the provision of residential services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Additionally, this type of arrangement can be provided in a cost efficient manner and such sustainability has become even more important in these economically challenging times.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities is currently promoting this model and in Franklin County, our Service Coordination staff have been in discussion with state officials, representatives from The Ohio Association of County Boards Serving People with Developmental Disabilities, representatives from the Ohio Provider Resource Association and several provider companies to determine how we can better supply information about this opportunity to individuals and families as well as assist in making the necessary arrangements for those who want to live in this family type setting. To this end, expanded training is being scheduled for all Service Coordinators. We are also fortunate to have a number of provider agencies in Franklin County that can give information about Shared Living and can later assist with recruiting/matching host families with interested individuals and provide necessary ongoing monitoring, training, and support to the host families.

As this service has begun to expand in Ohio, there have been many exciting testimonials which have appeared in various newsletters from folks who are happy with the changes in their lives since choosing to utilize this family model. To be eligible, you need to be already enrolled for services through an Individual Options Medicaid Waiver and have an interest in living in a small family environment. To learn more you can speak with an assigned Service Coordinator or call Jack Beatty, Director at 342-5519.

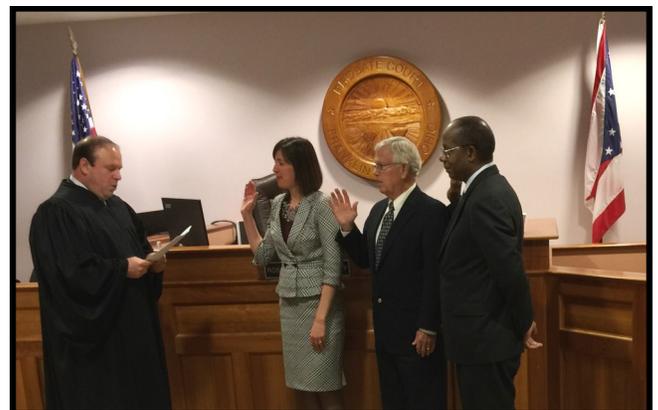
Guardianship Board begins

The Franklin County Guardianship Services Board has officially met for the first time.

While services are not expected to begin until offices are located, staff is hired and governance policies are established, the Board will begin to outline a process of getting services established.

Probate Judge Robert Montgomery held a swearing in ceremony on December 10th. The original three Board members are Larry James, a partner with Crabbe, Brown and James; Jane Higgins Marx, partner with Carlile, Patchen and Murphy; and William W. Wilkins, former CEO of Ohio Health and former President of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

This Board was created by the Ohio General Assembly to ensure the care and treatment of vulnerable people in Franklin County. Senator Jim Hughes sponsored the legislation to establish this pilot project. The ADAMH and Developmental Disabilities Boards have committed to provide funding assistance. (See December *Dateline* for further details.)



Judge Robert Montgomery provides the oath of office to the charter Board members of the Franklin County Guardianship Services Board, from left to right: Jane Higgins Marx, William W. Wilkins and Larry James.

Bonnie Ford appointed principal

Bonnie Ford, former Assistant Principal at Northeast School has taken on the role of Principal following the retirement of Carol Rantala.

According to Jack Brownley, Director of Schools and Special Programs, "Bonnie is an excellent administrator and will continue to provide outstanding leadership at the school."



Bonnie Ford

Bonnie began her career with the Board in 2002, following over thirteen years of service with the Delaware, Marion and Union County Boards of Developmental Disabilities as a teacher and music therapist. She received her undergraduate degree from Ohio University and a Master's degree in education from Ashland University.

About her appointment to the position, Bonnie praised the staff and students, indicating she is "proud to work with such a competent staff and so many wonderful students and their families. I am honored to have this opportunity and look forward to continuing to support the excellent educational opportunities provided in our schools."

The Assistant Principal at Northeast School will not be filled, however, Michael Ross, Assistant Principal at West Central will now split time between Northeast and West Central.

According to Jack Brownley, Mike will focus on certain administrative and operational functions such as technology, building maintenance, cafeteria and busing support.

Bonnie will focus on student and educational programming, parent communications and she will also supervise the classes located in Reynoldsburg school district buildings.

Legislative Advocacy Day planned

The Self Advocate Advisory Council of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is planning a legislative advocacy day for April 17, 2015.

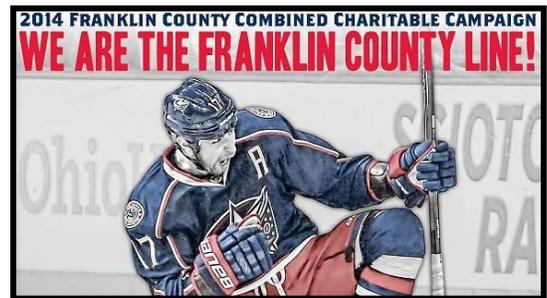
This will be the second legislative advocacy day, timed so that self-advocates can share their perspectives while legislators are considering the 2016-2017 biennium budget. With all the issues happening with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services it is expected that the budget will include budget initiatives that will impact services for years to come.

The event will be held at the Bixby Living Skills Center. More details will be provided as planning continues.

Combined Charities results

Thanks to the generous contributions of staff, over \$93,000 has been raised for Combined Charities.

Dan Darling, Director of Human Resources and this year's Combined Charities Chair, said "we had an excellent group of coordinators communicating the good work of the many charitable organizations. We are proud of our staff, who contribute more than any other Franklin County government agency."



Special thanks to the 2014 coordinators who were: **Logan Burnside, Megan Christy, Randy Cuenot, Bonnie Ford, Karen Gasaway, Cathy Gordon, Debbie Guyton, Lyn Herron, JoAnn Howard, Julie Kaber, Jim Leake, Pam Lenahan, Larry Macintosh, Cindy Massenelli, Jonathan Mayton, Barbara Michael-Jones, Jan Montgomery, Susan Nagy, Kris Potridge, Jennifer Schueneman, Greg Sorenson, and Gretchen Uhl.**

The 2015 Combined Charities Chair will be Dr. Angela Ray, Director of Psychology Services for FCBDD.

Avnet Lifecycle Solutions present ARC Industries with Partnership Award by Andy Cole

On October 15th, Avnet had their grand opening of its largest IT services facility worldwide, located in the Columbus, Ohio area.

The CenterPoint Value-Added Services Center is a 580,000 square foot, state of the art facility that provides complete IT lifecycle services in one location. Unique within the industry, the all-in-one services model brings together engineering, integration, installation, logistics, fulfillment, repair, recycling, remarketing, call center, and maintenance services.

ARC Industries Employment Services Department currently has 32 ARC Associates working in several areas of their facility. The Employment Services Department started their journey with Avnet in October 2012 with 4 employees, and has been an exciting venture so far.

ARC was presented with a partnership award from Avnet's Global Practice Leader, TJ Harper.



ARC Industries Associates at Avnet Lifecycle Solutions

FCBDD partners with CVS

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities has entered into an agreement with CVS stores in Central Ohio to support continued employment for individuals with developmental disabilities.

According to Bob Gaston, Director of FCBDD Adult Services, "CVS has a corporate goal of hiring individuals with disabilities into 7% of their overall workforce. CVS has reached out to us with this disability initiative in which we will provide candidates for consideration for hire."

This agreement will make their stores available for community-based assessments. Once the assessment is completed, FCBDD will work with CVS to identify candidates for their consideration to hire. FCBDD will provide job coaching and a wage during the approximate two-week assessment.

Bob Gaston indicated we are "excited about this new partnership as we continue to explore employment first initiatives."



Workshop consolidation complete

Thanks to the good work of ARC South, all FCBDD Adult locations and our Transportation staff, the consolidation from four to three workshops has been completed.

The last individuals to move from ARC South transferred the last week in November. Kurt Smith, Director of ARC South, credited individuals served at South, their families and the staff for their "tremendous cooperation this past year. I also give a lot of credit to the other Directors and all of the staff at the other FCBDD Adult locations for their support of this transition and for welcoming everyone so graciously."

The transition process began a year ago when the Board approved the consolidation after several months of study. With so many private provider options, some enrollment in adult services options has shifted from workshops to other community providers.

Superintendent Morison stated that "we have a wonderful array of services in Franklin County, from our FCBDD operated services to the many private providers offering varied options to meet the diverse needs of the people we serve. Allowing for free choice of provider is consistent with the new rules of CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services). As the Board has stated previously, FCBDD believes that a good mix of public and private options is best."

Special thanks to Kurt Smith for coordinating this major consolidation. Much work remains at the ARC South building as plans are considered to sell or repurpose this building.

Executive development training

Congratulations to the FCBDD staff who recently participated in an executive development program sponsored by the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB).

The yearlong program is for managers and staff interested in management for County Boards of Developmental Disabilities throughout Ohio. Ten Franklin County staff were selected and participated in monthly sessions on topics such as leadership, history, levies, finance, Medicaid, self-advocacy, and human resources.

As some stated, the networking opportunities with staff from other counties also provided valuable insights.

This Executive Development program is expected to again be offered in 2016.



Back row from l to r: Kris Potridge and Jeff Marinko-Shrivers. Middle row from l to r: Jonathan Zuhosky, Teresa Johnson, Debbie New, Lynn Rutledge, Todd Lilley, and Travis Sherick. Front row from l to r: Karen Mills and Mandy Holland.

10th Anniversary for bowling fundraiser

January 10, 2015, will mark the 10th anniversary of the "For the Fun of It" bowling fundraiser for Special Olympics.

Over \$20,000 has been raised over the past 10 years thanks to the efforts of Jack Brownley and Cindy Massenelli who began the event ten years ago.

Staff who volunteer to participate donate money to Special Olympics for their teams to bowl. Several hundred staff have volunteered in the past, representing all FCBDD departments. Superintendent Morison, stated, "Some of us, myself included, need a lot of work on our bowling skills, while some staff are real pros."

According to Jack Brownley, "we started the event with the idea of having a fun event in the middle of the winter, while raising funds for a good cause." Ryan Phillips, Director of Special Olympics and County Recreation, serves as the Master of Ceremonies and announces prizes throughout the event.

For details or to sign up, contact Jack Brownley or Cindy Massenelli at 342-5954. All bowlers are staff members of FCBDD.



In memoriam

Bob McCarthy

We are sorry to report that Bob McCarthy, former OJT Specialist for FCBDD passed away on November 24, 2014 after a long battle with cancer.

Bob provided excellent services for the Board for over 30 years beginning in February, 1981. As a teacher and training specialist, he supported hundreds of children and adults. As a job coach, many individuals with disabilities are successfully employed today because of Bob. He was also well known in the community as an outstanding drummer with many bands and he had a sharp wit about him that brought joy to many lives.

According to Superintendent Morison, "Bob was a terrific guy - not only a great staff member for many years, but also a good friend to many." A memorial service was held for Bob on December 13th.



Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Congratulations to **Becky Love**, Director of Early Childhood Education for being appointed to the Board of **Action for Children**.



Congratulations **Transportation staff** for the terrific job adjusting routes to accommodate the consolidation from four to three workshops.



Special thanks to **ARC South staff** and all **Adult Services staff** at FCBDD locations for completing the consolidation from four to three workshops so well.

Thanks to **Dan Darling** and all the Combined Charities Coordinators for another successful campaign. Special thanks to all the staff who contribute to the many charitable organizations.

Congratulations to **Nisonger Dental Staff, Dot Yeager** and **Rebecca Love** for recent collaboration resulting in a third dental chair in the clinic located in the Early Childhood Education and Family Center.

Special thanks to **ARC of Ohio**, for again, sponsoring a project that resulted in hundreds of holiday gifts for children in the **FCBDD Early Childhood Program**. Pictured is **Dave Lewis**, presenting gifts to some of the children.



Dave Lewis, ARC of Ohio presenting gifts at FCBDD's Early Childhood Program.

Hundreds attend Provider Fair

It was a great day for individuals to meet providers and discuss options at the 'World's Largest Provider Fair' held in November.

Over 150 agency and independent providers and an estimated 1000 individuals and family members attended the event held at the Rhodes Center at the Ohio State Fairgrounds. Providers of home and community based services, funded by Medicaid waivers, were able to set up their own displays to market their services.

Due to the number of Providers and interest in this event, the Provider Fair had to be relocated to the Fairgrounds. This is expected to be an annual event.



Pictured from left to right are: Alex Corwin, Larry Macintosh, Joni Sparks, Anne Watson, Bethanee Coleman, Anne Russell, Susan Kuertz and Lilian Beck (FCBDD) and Ann Kelley (Life Builders).

Career Milestones

30 years

Rick Inskeep
Douglas Meier
Pamela Panning
Carmen Salas

25 years

Ronna Norman
Laurie Shkolnik
Eileen Steele

20 years

Laurie Mamula

15 years

Annette Ammerman
Jeffrey Rock
Carrie Schatz

10 years

Brian Baldrige
Stephanie Miller

5 years

Valerie Messmer
Katelyn Rosenberry
Susan Sittler

Jobs website

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, in partnership with OhioMeansJobs, the state's electronic job placement system, has launched a new website designed to help people with physical and developmental disabilities find work.

The site functions as a job board for those looking for work and a resource for employers with job openings. It also is a tool for service providers who need to pair people served with employment opportunities.

The website can be accessed at www.ohiomeansaccessibility.com.



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.

The following staff contribute to the monthly *Dateline*:

Carl Scott **Linda Fleming**
Amy Magginis **Jennifer Cunningham**

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

Jed Morison
2879 Johnstown Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219
(614) 475-6440 FAX (614) 342-5001
e-mail: jed.morison@fcbdd.org

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

www.fcbdd.org

Calendar

January, 2015

- 1 New Year's celebrated -- all county facilities closed. HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 1 Allstate Sugar Bowl - Alabama vs. Ohio State Buckeyes. GO BUCKS!
- 2 FCBDD adult programs resume.
- 5 FCBDD early childhood and schools resume.
- 10 10th Annual "For the Fun of It" bowling event, Columbus Square Bowling Palace, 5707 Forest Hills Blvd. 1:30 p.m.
- 13 Franklin County Residential Services Board of Trustees meeting, 11 a.m. Please call 844-3800 for location.
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed -- all county facilities closed.
- 21 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m.
- 22 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 22 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 26 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.

Check here for closings

For information concerning the emergency closing of FCBDD facilities, please tune in to the following radio and TV stations after 5:30 a.m.:

Radio AM	Radio FM	Television
WBNS (1460)	WCOL (92.3)	WCMH (4)
WMNI (920)	WCVO (104.9)	WSYX (6)
WOSU (820)	WNCI (97.9)	WBNS (10)
WTVN (610)	WSNY (Sunny95)	WOSU (34)

