

Privatization update

Superintendent Jed Morison recently presented to all Adult Services staff to update on the requirement to privatize adult services.

The requirement is based on regulations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) related to 'Conflict Free Case Management.' Based on these regulations, Ohio's County Boards of Developmental Disabilities cannot provide both 'case management' (service coordination) and 'home and community based' services, funded by Medicaid Waivers. Adult Services and Transportation are considered 'home and community based' services and are funded by Medicaid Waivers.

In July, 2014, the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities adopted a position paper asking state officials to advocate with federal officials to allow County Boards to continue to provide these services.

Based on input from individuals, families and County Boards, state officials requested that CMS 'grandfather' existing programs. Instead, CMS stated that County Boards have until 2024 to comply with this requirement, however, also indicated that County Boards must show progress by reducing services to only serving 30% of the

eligible individuals by 2020. Each county was required to submit a plan to show their 'benchmarks' to meet this requirement.

Plans to comply with this requirement are continuing in Franklin County. The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) has requested that ARC Industries, Inc. become the private entity that will eventually serve as the private provider and employer of FCBDD staff. ARC Industries is currently the employer of individuals who have developmental disabilities and FCBDD is currently the employer of FCBDD staff. ARC Industries has appointed an Ad Hoc committee to study this issue and make recommendations to the ARC Industries Board. A similar transition occurred over ten years ago when Franklin County Residential Services, Inc. (FCRS) was required to privatize for similar reasons.

Because transportation services are also impacted, discussions have begun related to how transportation services can be privatized. ARC Industries and other private organizations will consider taking over transportation services.

Privatization update continued on page 4

Disenrollment from Medicaid waivers

State officials have reminded Ohio's County Boards of Developmental Disabilities that people who do not use their Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver services will be disenrolled from the Level 1, IO, TDD or SELF Waiver.

If a person just uses Medicaid 'card' services for therapies, health insurance or other purposes, but does not utilize Waiver services, they will be disenrolled.

If a person is not otherwise eligible for Medicaid, loss of the Medicaid Waiver will also mean loss of Medicaid 'card' services.

Regulations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS)

and the state require that Waiver services must be used for needed services at least once each year.

Medicaid Waiver services include homemaker personal care, respite, adaptive equipment, transportation, adult habilitation or employment services and more. These services must be provided by approved Medicaid Providers who are certified by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

For additional details or to be sure one doesn't lose their Medicaid Waiver, individuals or family members are advised to contact their Service Coordinator.

Representative Boggs visits

State Representative Kristen Boggs recently visited the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities to learn more about services provided.



Representative Boggs was appointed to replace Michael Stinziano who is now a member of Columbus City Council. She was formerly employed by the Attorney General's office.

Following a meeting with Superintendent Morison, Representative Boggs toured the Early Childhood Education and Family Center with Rebecca Love, Director of ECE. She was impressed with the quality of services and commended staff on the 5 Star rating with the "Step Up to Quality" program.

Nominate a star

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2016 Community Star Awards, which will be held on Wednesday, October 5th at Villa Milano.



This will be the 14th year of the Star Awards, where individuals and organizations are recognized for extraordinary accomplishment.

Superintendent Morison stated "this is our Academy Awards, where 14 individuals served, family members, volunteers, staff and organizations are recognized for their accomplishments and the example they set for others. It is one of our favorite nights of the year."

Nomination forms are included within this issue of *Dateline* and are due by May 15th. A committee will review the nominations and select the 2016 honorees.

Over 500 are expected for the event, which will be held at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Registration details will be available closer to the event.

House Bill 158 would remove 'MR'

A bill that seeks to delete the term "mental retardation" from the state's laws has cleared the house.

The measure would replace such references in law with the term "intellectual disability." Along with other changes, the bill would specify that an intellectual disability is a form of developmental disability.

The bill passed January 26 on a 95-0 vote.

In 2009, a state law changed the name of the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities to the Department of Developmental Disabilities. The law didn't change other references to mental retardation.

The bill also would change the criteria by which a person could be determined to have a moderate level of intellectual disability and be subject to institutionalization by court order.

The legislation now is with the Senate for consideration.

Harmony Project wins Ohio Public Images Award

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was honored to nominate Harmony Project's founder and creative director David Brown for this year's Ohio Public Images media and awareness award in Category 2: individual or organization.

Mr. Brown was recognized at the March 10th award ceremony. Harmony Project's Commons at Buckingham residents have welcomed ARC Industries participants to their choir as equals, not individuals with barriers.



David Brown

ARC Industries is a proud partner of the Harmony Project and wish them continued success with their service initiatives throughout our community.

Update on CMS transition plan

Editor's note: The following story is reprinted from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities electronic newsletter titled 'Pipeline Weekly'.

In January 2014, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released new requirements for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers administered by states.

The regulations require that HCBS waiver services must be delivered in an integrated, community-based setting; states were given until 2019 to come into compliance. Ohio had requested an extension until 2024 to come into compliance with the regulations.

After many discussions with CMS, the Ohio Departments of Developmental Disabilities and Medicaid have learned that CMS is unlikely to grant an additional five years for Ohio to come into compliance with the requirement to deliver all waiver services in integrated, community-based settings. However, if Ohio is unable to achieve compliance by 2019, CMS will work with Ohio to develop an alternative compliance plan and related timeline.

All providers are encouraged to evaluate their service delivery models and to continue to make changes as soon as possible. It should be noted that Ohio did receive approval from CMS and has until 2024 to come into compliance with the conflict-free case management requirement.

Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Congratulations to **Dewey Scarberry**, who was awarded Employee of the Month at **Genco Dell** in January 2016. Dewey has worked at Genco Dell since March 2015 as a Warehouse Associate. According to Dewey's Job Trainer Jeff Smiley, "Dewey goes above and beyond what is expected of him. Dewey is also a team player and gets along well with his coworkers." According to Dewey's supervisor, **Tony Stephens**, Dewey's positive attitude, attendance and the support of his teammates were all factors in this recognition.



Dewey Scarberry (left) and Tony Stephens (right)

Sunapple Studio recently joined **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery** in support of "One Billion Rising," a global movement to end violence against girls and women. Public artwork, demonstrating 'Hearts United' was exhibited by Second Sight Studio. Sunapple artists experimented with a technique fusing plastic bags and wildly patterned clear plastic hearts.



Congratulations to **TyKiah Wright**, founder and CEO of Wright Choice and leader in disability related initiatives, for being honored as one of six YWCA Women of Achievement.



TyKiah Wright

Congratulations to **Adam Helbling**, Self-Advocate from Central Ohio, for being elected as President of the Ohio Self-Determination Association (OSDA). OSDA creates change and empowers people with disabilities and their families to direct lives.

Career Milestones

30 years

Deborah Chenault
Michael Japack

25 years

Mary Beth Benish

20 years

Charles Lamb

10 years

Kimberly Davis-Hetrick
Tara Chumley

5 years

Porschea Mitchell
Stephen Snyder

Jennifer Rash, Sunapple Artist at ARC West, has been recognized by VSA (Very Special Arts) Ohio by having her painting selected for the Accessible Expressions Ohio touring exhibition. Her painting will travel all of Ohio. Congratulations, Jennifer.



Tammie Brauner retires by John Wick

Congratulations to Tamara Brauner, Training Specialist for the FCBDD Adult Services Department, who retired at the end of March.

Tammie worked as a Training Specialist at ARC West for all 30 years of her career. She worked in the Habilitation Rooms for 18 years and in the Vocational Work areas the other 12 years. She participated on the Emergency Medical Team, Crisis Team, Try Another Way Trainers and as a Train the Trainer.

Tammie has bonded with the participants that she works with and says "They have given me some of the best memories of my life." She "loves her 'guys'" and knows she will miss them terribly.

She met her husband at ARC West and they raised "two beautiful children together." Tammie recalls seeing the move from recording time and data with pencils and paper to a fully computerized system.



Tammie Brauner

Best wishes to Tamara Brauner.

Calendar

April, 2016

- 1 Happy April Fool's Day
- 4 Classes resume for ECE and School Programs.
- 8-10 Annual Siblings Retreat. Call (614) 685-8723 for details.
- 18 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.
- 20 Family Support, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m.
- 28-30 People First of Ohio Conference. For more information call (740) 397-6100.
- 28 FCBDD Board In-Service at Bixby Center, 4200 Bixby Road, Groveport, Ohio, 43125, Noon.
- 28 FCBDD Board meeting at Bixby Center, 4200 Bixby Rd., Groveport, Ohio, 43125, 1 p.m.

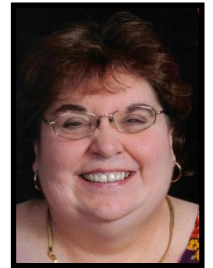
In Memoriam

Colleen Ziemba

We are sorry to report that Colleen Ziemba, Training Specialist at ARC West, passed away suddenly on February 15th.

Colleen worked for FCBDD for 25 years. She was loved by staff and the individuals she worked with daily.

Colleen is survived by her husband, Rick and her children, Sara, Brian, Julie and Anna.



SIBS retreat

"SIBS Looking Forward" is the name of the Annual Siblings retreat to be held in April.

This year's retreat will focus on transition, a critical time for students with disabilities. The retreat will be held at the YMCA Camp Wilson in Bellefontaine from April 8-10. The weekend event is for transition age (17-22 years old) students with disabilities and their siblings (ages 15 to 25) and will include a variety of discussion topics and recreational activities.

Attendance is free, however donations are appreciated. For additional details, contact Dr. Tom Fish at thomas.fish@osumc.edu or call (614) 685-8723.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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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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www.fcbdd.org

Privatization update...

continued from page 1

Because the FCBDD Transportation Department serves both children and adults, it may not be possible to separate the services, meaning that all transportation could eventually go to a private provider.

Some counties in Ohio have already privatized, some are in process and some are still discussing options. Because Counties are required to reduce services by the year 2020, privatization could happen well before 2024, depending upon provider interest.

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) has a good track record of working with many private providers and expects this to continue. Funding for these services will continue to be provided by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities to pay the match for Medicaid Waivers and contract for services. This change is not expected to directly impact Early Childhood services, School Programs, Service Coordination or other FCBDD services.

Superintendent Morison stated "that while we would prefer not to have to make these changes, we know we must and plan to do all we can to maintain quality services and stability for individuals served, their families and staff."