

Waiting list improvements proposed

Thanks to the efforts of a coalition of individuals, family members and state organizations supporting people with disabilities, changes to the current Medicaid Waiver Waiting list rules are being proposed.

According to Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, "current rules are outdated, resulting in lengthy and confusing lists. Many do not need or want services at this time, including hundreds who do not even live in Franklin County. Some are on the list, yet don't expect to need a Waiver for 20 or more years."



The new waiting list rule, which is expected to be approved and take effect on July 1, will require an assessment of every person on the current waiting list. The assessment will determine who has an "immediate" or "current" need. Current need is defined as an unmet need for a waiver funded service in the next 12 months and immediate need is defined as an unmet need for a waiver funded service in the next 30 days.

Because of the number of people on the current waiting list, assessments will be conducted over a 2½ year period or by December 31, 2020. Assessments will be provided by staff from the county board Service Coordination Department, trained by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Until a person is assessed, he/she will remain on a "transitional list" maintained by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

The coalition of organizations participating in the "Fix the List" effort include Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA), Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc. (APSI), the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, YMCA, Autism Society of Ohio, People First of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), the Ohio Association of County Boards and Superintendent's Association and Ohio Provider Resources Association (OPRA).

For more details, or to review the proposed rule and assessment, visit the Fix the List website at www.fixthelist.info.

West Central Celebration & Reunion - Friday, May 18

West Central School will celebrate 40 years of service on Friday, May 18th from 3:00-6:00 p.m.

West Central, located at 1481 West Town Street in the Franklinton area, began services in 1978, moving from Holy Family School on Grubb Street. Pauline Kitchton was the first Principal and Ann Johnson served as Curriculum Supervisor.

Since that time, services have been provided to hundreds of children referred by the sixteen school districts in Franklin County. Services have evolved from a school that served 6-22 year old children to a school that specializes in transition to adulthood for 14-22 year old children.



Dr. Maryalice Turner, Principal at West Central stated, "we want to celebrate 40 years of outstanding services and showcase all we can offer today. We are excited about our future and particularly proud of how we are able to help young adults plan and prepare for their future."

The event is expected to be a fun reunion with former staff, students and friends invited. Each classroom will feature special activities and special presentations will be made at 4:00 p.m. Mayor Andrew Ginther and County Commissioners Kevin Boyce, Marilyn Brown and John O'Grady have all been invited.

For additional details on the event, contact West Central School at (614) 342-5273.

Provider rating tool coming

A new tool, similar to "Angie's List", will soon be available for individuals to rate their providers of service for people with developmental disabilities.

The tool is called *ProviderGuidePlus*, which is an easy-to-use, online system intended to help people select a provider and to help improve services. Individuals and family members will be able to login to the system and rate their provider using a simple 5-star rating system. The rating and comments will then be posted on the site without sharing the name of the rater.

The website and listing of providers will be updated every evening with the names of providers from each county. Providers will be able to customize their information on the website and will be able to respond to comments.

Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison said, "this will be very helpful to families as they research options and it is customized to providers of services for people who have developmental disabilities. A couple years ago, thanks to input from parent Lisa Ryan, we tried this with "Angie's List", but it was hard to customize."

ProviderGuidePlus has been a joint effort of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) and the Ohio Providers Resource Association (OPRA). Special thanks to Cuyahoga, Knox and Coshocton counties for pilot testing the system.



For additional details, visit www.providerguideplus.com.

OSU Nisonger Center - Technology Summit 2018

The OSU Nisonger Center is sponsoring the 2018 Technology Summit on June 15th at the Renaissance Columbus Westerville – Polaris location at 409 Altair Parkway.

The 2018 TechSummit is a one-day event that presents an opportunity for self-advocates, professionals, and family members to learn about ways the technology is being used and may be used in the near future to promote independence for people with developmental disabilities. The event is free for the general public and \$50 for professionals.

The event features speakers from across the United States. These include experts in their field, self-advocates and family members who can share their personal testimony about the way that technology has influence their lives.

For more information, go to nisonger.osu.edu/techsummit or email Jordan Wagner at jordan.wagner@osumc.edu.

A promotional graphic for the 2018 TechSummit. It features a young boy in profile, wearing a black VR headset and looking upwards. The background is dark. Text on the left side includes: "Come and see what's possible", "2018 TechSummit", "Ohio's First Supportive Technology Conference June 15 in Columbus", "Sample devices designed to support people with developmental disabilities", "Try out tech built to assist people who want more independence", "Hear from families about the apps they use most", "Learn about supports available for accessing supportive tech at home or on the job", "Free for people with disabilities and their families", and "Register at nisonger.osu.edu/techsummit". Logos for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and The Ohio State University Nisonger Center are in the top right corner.

Come and see what's possible

2018 TechSummit
Ohio's First Supportive Technology Conference
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Sample devices designed to support people with developmental disabilities

Try out tech built to assist people who want more independence

Hear from families about the apps they use most

Learn about supports available for accessing supportive tech at home or on the job

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Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
NISONGER CENTER

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) is a new requirement of the federal government to verify certain Medicaid waiver-funded personal care services and home health services.

According to the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, the new requirement must be used for services in the IO, SELF and Level 1 waivers by January 1, 2019, however implementation may begin in the Fall of 2018 to allow for smoother transition. The system is currently required for 'state plan' services, including nursing and Ohio Home Care Waiver services.

Both employees of agencies and independent providers delivering the specified services will be required to use EVV. Providers will use an EVV device, mailed to the person's home, to log-in at the start and end of every visit. Other options include use of telephone or website to report the required information.

The Ohio Department of Medicaid has purchased the mobile devices, which include GPS as a way to verify when services are delivered. The devices do not have cameras. Each provider will have a distinct log-in.

Further details on Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) are expected as this system is implemented for the IO, SELF and Level 1 Waiver services.

Good for you

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Special thanks to Anna Oscar and all the others who assisted in coordinating agency wide health fairs for staff.

Congratulations to Jennifer Fox Cunningham for meeting Eddie George, Heisman Trophy winner and star in the musical 'Chicago.'



Thank you to Karin Crabbe, Waiver Manager for the Service Coordination Department, for representing the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities and other counties on the Waiver Waiting List proposed rules committee.

Thank you to Cuyahoga, Knox and Coshocton County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, for piloting 'ProviderGuidePlus,' a new, online resource for rating providers that will be available in Franklin County later this Spring.

Thank you to Joni Sparks and the entire Provider Fair committee for coordinating another excellent and well attended Provider Fair on April 18th.

Career Milestones

30 years

**Mary Ann Austin
Jeanette Klopfenstein**

25 years

**George Barnette
Cheryl Huntzinger**

20 years

Jason Childs

15 years

**Stacey Coriell
Theresa Hazlett**

10 years

Phillip Johnson

5 years

**Tanya Chiles
Kerrie Wise
Crystal Sexton
Sarah Thompson**

Making the experience by Marcia Duffy, ARC Industries

Making the experience a memorable one is what Josh Fishman excels at in his role as a part-time guest services ambassador at the Greater Columbus Convention Center!

Having won the November 2017 Ambassador Award, he was again selected to receive the prestigious 2017 4th quarter award resulting from both convention center staff nominations, and two guests who took the time to send letters praising Josh for their customer service experience.

Prior to his employment at the convention center, Josh spent five years in retail at Bliss in a Bottle. Eager for more opportunities to have contact with people, he considered a career as a concierge. Josh turned to Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities and worked with Employment First counselor Holly Chapman to identify job opportunities. Chapman referred him to ARC Industries for job placement.

Josh's job developer, Rachel Harper introduced him to the Community Workforce Action Team. CWAT provides an opportunity for job seekers to meet with local employers monthly. This is where he met Cassandra, hiring manager for the Columbus Convention Center. She encouraged Josh to apply for a guest services ambassador position and he received a job offer after participating in a telephone and in-person interview.

Following employment, Josh worked with ARC Industries' job coach Angela Luna to master his job duties and obtain his tourist ambassador (CTA) certification. Josh's job responsibilities include working throughout the

convention center providing directional assistance, facility and event information to convention center visitors and guests.

However, this young man goes well and above his formal job responsibilities. Josh assists guests by performing a variety of tasks including directing visitors to restaurants and local points of interest, translation services using an app on his smart phone, providing information to guests about the acclaimed "As We Are" sculpture and easing guests' anxiety about having their selfie taken for display on the sculpture, even small children.

Josh credits his success to the support he has received from ARC Employment Services' staff and his convention center supervisor and co-workers. When asked what advice he would give other job seekers, Josh replied, "Never give up and don't let a challenge get in front of you"



Josh Fishman (ctr) the 2017 4th quarter Ambassador Award winner with fellow convention center staff and job coach Angela Luna (4th from left).

Calendar

May, 2018

- 3 Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Public Hearing on the Proposed Waiting List Rule, Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 East Broad St., 10:00 a.m.
- 10-11 Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) 2015 Spring Conference. Hilton Columbus at Easton, 3900 Chagrin Drive. Call (614) 431-0616 for details.
- 16 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m.
- 17 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Human Resources and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 17 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 18 West Central 40th Anniversary Celebration & Reunion, 1481 W. Town Street, Columbus, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- 21 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.
- 28 Memorial Day observed - all county facilities closed.
- 29 Deadline for applications for John S. Siebold Scholarship program. For more details, please call 475-7007.
- 30 Graduation Ceremonies at FCBDD's West Central School, 1481 West Town Street, Columbus, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 ECE/ West Central School last day of classes.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

John Bickley, President
Beth Savage, Vice-President
Marie Crawford, Secretary
Linda Craig
Dean Fadel
Renée Stein
Michael Underwood

Superintendent/CEO **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*:

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

www.fcbdd.org

Waiting list proposed rule hearing

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities will conduct a public hearing on a proposed new rule on Medicaid Home and Community Based Waivers – Waiting List.

The hearing will be held on May 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the lobby hearing room of the Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

The proposed rule reflects work undertaken by a coalition of people with disabilities, family members and organizations representing guardians, county boards, providers and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and is intended to simplify the system and more efficiently direct supports for individuals and families who need them most.

The poster features a yellow background with a large white '5K' in the center. To the left of the '5K', the words 'DISCOVER your ABILITIES' are written in a stylized font. To the right, 'proceeds benefit FRANKLIN COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS' is written. At the bottom, there are silhouettes of three runners, one in a wheelchair. A purple box in the top right corner says 'Save the Date' and another purple box in the bottom right corner says 'September 23rd'.

John Siebold scholarship deadline

The deadline to submit applications for the John Siebold Scholarship program is May 29. The ARC Industries Board will approve selections on June 29 and the awards luncheon will be held on September 17, 2018.

John Siebold Scholarship program offers educational college scholarships for staff and individuals served by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities. For additional details or an application form, contact Kendra Thomas at kendra.thomas@fcbdd.org or call (614) 479-2500.