April 1 is Census Day!!

It is no April Fool, that April 1 is National Census Day and all are encouraged to be counted if they haven’t already responded.

Every 10 years, the United State Census Bureau does an official count of all people in the United States. Children and adults of all ages in every household are counted and all information is maintained confidentially by the Census Bureau.

The more people are counted, the more federal dollars will flow to our state. Many individuals who have developmental disabilities are served in Franklin County and Ohio and much of the support for services is from federal funds through the Medicaid waiver or ICF (Intermediate Care Facilities) programs. Census numbers also influence Ohio’s number of Representatives in Congress.

Reminders have already been sent to each household with a request to fill out the census questions online. There are only 9 questions per person and each household is expected to report on everyone living in that household. If people do not respond, the Census Bureau will ask Census takes to go to the homes.

Census information will also be available at the 2020 Provider Fair on April 8, 2020 at the Lausche Building at the Ohio State Fairgrounds. The Provider Fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison, Chair of the Census Disability Sub-Committee for Columbus and Franklin County encourages everyone to respond so "we can get our fair share of the federal funds. I much rather the funds go to Ohio than other states."

Behavioral Health Pavilion dedicated

The Big Lots Nationwide Children’s Hospital Behavioral Health Pavilion was officially dedicated on February 28 and opened in March.

The Pavilion is America’s Largest center dedicated exclusively to child and adolescent behavioral and mental health on a pediatric medical campus. The building was made possible with a $50 million gift from Big Lots and Big Lots Foundation.

The dedication ceremony included presentations from Governor Mike DeWine, Coach Ryan Day, Big Lots CEO Bruce Thorn and Children’s Hospital CEO Tim Robinson. Others in attendance included former Governor John Kasich, Mayor Andy Ginther and close to 700 friends and partners.

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is one of many Central Ohio Partners, which also includes the ADAMH Board, Boundless, Franklin County Children’s Services and the Family and Children First Council, among others.

The theme of the event was to break the stigma and silence of mental health. One of the speakers stated that if one shares that a family member has cancer or a heart disease, they may get a hug. On the other hand if they say the family member has schizophrenia or some other mental illness, they may get silence. We need to break the stigma and recognize that mental illness can be treated just like physical diseases can be treated.

On Our Sleeves is a movement to give children a voice. One in five children is living with mental illness. Kids don’t wear their thoughts on their sleeves, so it is time to give them a voice. For details, visit OnOurSleeves.org.

The Big Lots Behavioral Health Pavilion is located on Livingston Avenue on the Nationwide Children’s Hospital campus. The building stands nine stories tall and includes a youth crisis stabilization unit, psychiatric crisis department with extended observation suite, inpatient units, Center for Suicide Prevention, a gym, a Ronald McDonald Family Room and more.

For information on the Big Lots Behavioral Health Pavilion, visit NationwideChildrens.org/Pavilion.
Focus on Psychology Department

Editor's note: The Psychology Department of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities does excellent work supporting children and adults who have developmental disabilities. We thought our readers would be interested in more detail on this good work so we asked Dr. Angela Ray, Director of the Psychology Department to answer the following questions.

What are the staff positions in the Psychology Department and who are the staff?
The FCBDD psychology department consists of a team of 13 staff:
- Psychologists: Jeff Marinko-Shrivers and Angela Ray
- Psychology assistants: Anne Thomas, Karen Smith, Laura Novak, Patti Aellig, and Randy Cuenot
- Licensed professional clinical counselors: Patrick Keenist and Nichole Redic
- Behavioral specialists: Carol Owens and Rick Robertson
- Administrative Assistant: Lindsay Smith
- Account Clerk: Karen Reynolds

What are the primary functions of the Psychology Department?
The clinical team provides therapy (individual and small group); evaluations of various types; and behavioral support for persons served by the Board. Referrals come from service coordinators, teachers, parents, &/or other team members. Assessments might be for waiver applications, mental health, transition age services, guardianship, and/or behavioral needs. Therapy may address emotional regulation, distress tolerance, social skills training, and/or building resilience. All efforts are to improve the mental health and quality of life for persons served and those who support them.

Indirect services provided by psychology staff include:
- Training, i.e., Responding to a Person in Crisis; dual diagnosis (mental illness & I/DD); trauma-informed care
- Oversight of restrictive behavioral supports via Human Rights Committees (HRC)
- Trauma-informed biographical timeline consultations
- Building capacity of other mental health providers to serve persons with I/DD
- Linking to community mental health services/information
- Screening referrals from Service Coordination to the Nisonger Center Dual Diagnosis Clinic

What is the Human Rights Committee (HRC) and what does HRC do?
HRC is a group of individuals who safeguard individuals’ rights and protect individuals from physical, emotional, and psychological harm. FCBDD has 4 HRC teams, each composed of equal representation from individuals served, parents/guardians, providers, and county board staff. Each team meets once a month to discuss cases where restrictive behavioral strategies have been recommended to support a person whose behaviors are dangerous to self/others and/or put the person at risk for legal sanction.

Does Psychology partner with others?
Psychology staff are assigned to FCBDD Early Childhood Education (ECE) program, school-age program, and Intake. Psychology staff who serve adults partner with service coordinators and providers of day and/or residential services. Consultation services are provided to local, regional, and state providers, work groups, and collaboratives. Some long-term partners include The Ohio State University Nisonger Center, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, and Alvis.

For more information about the FCBDD psychology department and additional resources, please e-mail Dr. Angela Ray at angela.ray@fcbdd.org; call the psychology department at 614-342-5952; or see https://fcbdd.org/services/psychology/.

Governor speaks at Lifetown

Governor Mike DeWine provided the keynote address recently at an event held at Lifetown in New Albany.

Lifetown is a facility that provides students with special needs the opportunity to learn critical life skills by visiting a Simulated town where students visit stores in a realistic indoor city. Students can visit a theater, pet store, bank, Doctor’s Office or other stores to learn.

After recognizing the people who established and support Lifetown, the Governor spoke of many of his initiatives related to children. Following his address he answered questions on various topics, including drug awareness, school funding, Coronavirus, gun control and more.

Rabbi Areyah Kaltmann introduced Erica Clark Jones, CEO of ADAMH who introduced the Governor. Other elected officials present included Senator Hearcel Craig, Representative Mary Lightbody and Prosecutor Ron O’Brien.

For details on Lifetown, visit www.lifetowncolumbus.org.
Congratulations to the Franklin County Flyers who recently participated in the Special Olympics Winter Games.

The Flyers took their ski athletes to Brandywine Ski Resort where 5 skiers competed in downhill. Jennifer Cunningham, won two gold medals.

The Flyers also competed in the first ever Winter Games: Indoor Edition, where athletes participated in swimming, basketball skills, and team basketball. The Franklin County Women’s Division 1 basketball team won the silver medal and the first Unified Swim Relay took home the gold.

Swimmer and skier, Bryan Fox, attended both Winter Games and said how “getting to compete and see friends is fun. But my favorite part is cheering on my teammates.”

Career Milestones

15 years
Lilian Beck
TaRonda Curry
Lavonda McLean
Sharon Post
Carta Tsuyako

10 years
Charisse Crump
David McCluney

5 years
Bill Benner
Scott Shaffer
Janita Morris

Thank you to Anne Russell and Charisse Crump, Supervisors with the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) Service Coordination Department, for representing FCBDD at the Black History Celebration at the Court House.

Special thanks to Angie Franke, Paralegal for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities for coordinating guardian training to be held at 2879 Johnstown Road. For details, call Angie at 614-342-5972 or email at angie.franke@fcbdd.org. Future trainings for 2020 are scheduled as follows:

- April 3 (3 hour) (Cancelled)
- June 19 (6 hour) Fundamentals of Guardianship
- December 7 (3 hour) Mental Illness and Guardianship

Congratulations to Toby Paine, MUI (Major Unusual Incident) Investigator for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, who was recently featured in the Columbus Dispatch for her excellent work with the Columbus Police Department.

Daniel Wycuff’s sculpture “Cool Jay” was accepted into the Accessible Expressions Ohio juried exhibition. It will travel Ohio throughout 2020. The opening reception is at the Springfield Museum of Art on March 28th.

Congratulations to Marge Barnheiser for being reappointed to the STABLE Account Advisory Board by Governor DeWine beginning January 2020 through December 2023.

Congratulations to the Weisgarber family and the FCBDD Early Childhood Department, for being highlighted in a story in the Columbus Dispatch on gene therapy work at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

Good For You
Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

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Help prevent the spread of germs

Editor's note: As we continue to learn about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and what we all can do to prevent community spread, we are reminded of the importance of engaging in everyday preventative measures, similar to preventing the flu. Please follow the guidelines listed below from our Franklin County Health Department:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stop handshaking - use other methods of greeting.

For the most recent information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19), go to the home page of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (www.fcbdd.org) and click on the link to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Annual Report available

The 2019 Annual Report for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is now available for those interested.

The report highlights accomplishments for the 2019 year with details on services and finances. The 2019 year included the transition of all Adult Services program ARC Industries in response to the federal requirement mandated for Ohio to have “conflict free case management.”

To review the report, go to the following website and select Annual Report: https://fcbdd.org/publications/printcommunications/ or for a copy, contact Amy Magginis at amy.magginis@fcbdd.org or at 614-342-5950.

Calendar

April 2020

1 Census Day!

8 Postponed: Franklin County Provider Fair at the Ohio State Fairgrounds Lausche Building on 17th Avenue, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

10 Staff Development Day for West Central School and Early Childhood Education

13-17 Spring Recess for West Central School and FCBDD preschool programs. Classes resume on April 20th

22 Family Support, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m.

23 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Human Resources, Ethics and Finance Committee meetings, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.

23 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.

Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Beth Savage, President
Marie Crawford, Vice President
Michael Underwood, Secretary
John Bickley
Linda Craig
Renée Stein
William W. Wilkins

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.

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

www.fcbdd.org