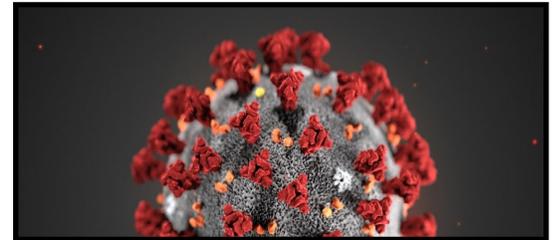


COVID-19 update

Covid-19, the Coronavirus, has brought about significant change in the way services are delivered by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Terms like social distancing, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), teleworking, teleconferencing, surge, flattening the curve, prevent the spread, N-95 masks, and many more have made it into our daily vocabulary as we work to prevent the spread of the virus and save lives.



According to Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO of the Board, "it has temporarily changed the way we interact with each other and through this experience, we see how dedicated and creative our staff are as they connect to those we serve."

The biggest change began when Ohio Health Director, Dr. Amy Acton and Governor Mike DeWine ordered that schools close on March 17 and later adopted the "Stay at Home" order for the entire state. Except for those considered "essential," all businesses closed their doors.

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, serving several thousand children and adults with developmental disabilities, remains open, however most services are provided remotely. Teachers, Specialists and other early childhood and school staff provide online support and instruction to children, shifting to a "coaching" model, whereby the staff coach parents and family members on activities they can do at home with their children.

Service Coordinators are maintaining services remotely with their caseloads utilizing technology. Those at greatest risk are a priority with frequent contacts to individuals. And, amongst the many real heroes are parents, family members and the direct service professionals who are providing direct services every day.

At the County level, the Franklin County Public Health Commissioner, the Columbus Health Commissioner, the County Commissioners, and their Administration continue to provide leadership, in addition to our Governor and State Health Commissioner. Daily, seven days a week, Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison and Chief Business Officer, Dot Yeager, participate in a teleconference with those leaders and other County Executives and Elected Officials.

According to Jed Morison, "our Health Commissioner and Commissioners continue to provide timely, thorough and outstanding leadership as we work our way through this Pandemic." As one Commissioner stated "we have no playbook for this."



At 'Dateline's' deadline, the COVID-19 pandemic was approaching the surge. School program classes and 'Stay at Home' orders were extended to May 1, with speculation that this may continue for the remainder of the school year. Individuals, family members, staff and other caregivers are encouraged to maintain safe practices, including social/physical distancing (6 feet separation from others), wash hands frequently (for at least 20 seconds), don't touch face and wear homemade masks when in public to prevent the spread of the virus.

In Memoriam

Jean Williams

We are sorry to report that Jean Williams, former Board member for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities passed away on April 8, 2020.

Jean was an active parent, a wonderful advocate, volunteer, leader and friend who impacted services in Franklin County and Ohio in very positive ways. Her wisdom, sense of humor, kindness, consistent support and encouragement of so many will be missed.

As a parent, Jean was instrumental in establishing and operating Families United for many years. Family members met regularly to consider ways to improve services and provide support. Amongst other successes, Jean and Families United helped to promote the development of four Intermediate Care Facilities, which are now operated by Boundless (formerly Franklin County Residential Services.)

Jean and husband Ted also were great supporters of ARC Industries North, where their son, Tom, attended. For many years, they stocked and supervised the "company store" at the workshop.

Jean and Ted also generously donated their Clintonville home to Creative Housing, Inc. several years ago.

Jean is survived by her husband, Ted and son, Tom. Shaw Davis Funeral home handled arrangements.



Ted and Jean Williams

Kurt Smith announces retirement

Kurt Smith, former Director of ARC Industries South (formerly ARCraft South), current Director of Special Projects for ARC Industries, has announced his retirement, effective May 1.

Kurt began his service with the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD) in November, 1980. In 2019, he transitioned to ARC Industries, when ARC Industries privatized due to the 'Conflict Free Case Management' requirement of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

According to Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO of FCBDD, "Kurt did outstanding work in so many respects, from his days providing direct support to adults, to his many years in management – and always a perfect gentleman and great spokesperson for the Board and ARC Industries."

Among his many special projects, Kurt took the lead on the transition from four workshops to three when the ARC South building in Groveport was transitioned for use by Goodwill Columbus. Kurt was also instrumental in handling the many details involved with privatization, supporting consumers, families and staff to help facilitate a smooth transition.



Kurt Smith

Bob Gaston, CEO of ARC Industries stated, "Kurt has been wonderful. Always positive and willing to take on little and big projects and such a valued representative and spokesperson for ARC Industries."

Kurt's retirement is expected to include more time with grandchildren, some travel and opportunities to improve his golf game.

Best wishes to Kurt Smith and thanks for over 40 years of quality service.

Special Olympics Summer Games cancelled

The 2020 Ohio Special Olympics Summer Games has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ryan Phillips, Special Olympics Coordinator for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities indicated that Special Olympics Ohio has also cancelled the remainder of the Spring Sports session. Ryan said, "while it is an incredibly difficult decision to make, I feel it is 100% the correct decision for our athletes, volunteers and our program in general."

Tentative plans are to resume Special Olympics activities on July 7, however decisions will require the okay of Ohio Special Olympics, Governor DeWine and Dr. Acton, Ohio Department of Health Director.



'Dateline' delivered electronically

For the first time in over 40 years, the May, 2020 issue of Dateline will almost entirely be published electronically due to COVID-19, the Coronavirus pandemic. (Some copies will be printed for special requests or for some who do not have access to the internet.)

Dateline, the monthly newsletter of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, began in 1978. Originally, only printed versions were possible. Now both printed and electronic editions are distributed every month to several thousand. The first issue of 'Dateline' was published in February, 1978. The 'Dateline' staff that started 'Dateline', were Jed Morison, Martin Trussell, Mike Davis, and Jim Aleshire. The Superintendent at that time was Stephen G. Pleasnick.

Today, those who contribute to the publication of 'Dateline' are Superintendent/ CEO Jed Morison, Amy Magginis, Carl Scott, Carolyn Earnhardt and Jennifer Cunningham. Many others have assisted over the years, including Martin Kerscher, who served as Editor for many years.



Building Sales

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Franklin County Commissioners have approved the sale of two buildings that are no longer needed by the Board.

The former Workshop and transportation Compound, located at 2201 Advance Avenue, has been sold to JB Leasing, LLC for use by Ohio Mulch. This building was originally purchased in the 1970s to provide services that were previously provided at ARcraft CSI. It was originally called ARcraft South, then retitled ARC South before it was converted to be a Transportation Compound, Scanning Operation and storage location.

The building located at 1021 Checkrein was also approved for sale to Boundless, Inc., formerly named Franklin County Residential Services, Inc. (FCRS). Boundless previously used the building for office space and training, before moving to their current location at the former Harding Hospital located in Worthington. Boundless is expected to have other uses for the building in the future. The Checkrein Building is located in the Busch Corporate Center, next door to ARC Industries North.

Horn, Walter, Burley Awards cancelled

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the annual Horn, Walter, Burley Awards scheduled for June 2020 has been cancelled.

According to Jack Brownley, President of the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities, the uncertainty of when schools will re-open and the unprecedented risk presented by the pandemic has led to this decision.



Jack Brownley

The Ohio Coalition is still accepting nominations for students and professionals and plan to recognize award winners with pictures on their web site. Winners will also receive the award statuette for display in their home.

The awards are named for Dr. Raymond Horn, Dr. Franklin Walter, and Margaret Burley. Dr. Raymond Horn is a former President of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Franklin Walter is the former State Superintendent of the Ohio Department of Education and Margaret Burley is the former Executive Director of the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities. Jack Brownley Volunteer President of the Coalition's Board is the Director of Schools and Special Services for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Fitness Fun: In-Person to At-Home by Megan Bender

At the beginning of March, Franklin County Special Olympics hosted two Fitness Fun nights per week to encourage fitness and healthy lifestyles leading up to the spring sport season. After 3 sessions, however, the Fitness Fun nights were cancelled for the protection of athletes and coaches due to the COVID-19 health concerns.

This switched the fitness instruction to online where each day was devoted to a work out provided by Special Olympics Inc. In addition to the online presence, the office mailed every athlete a workout routine to do at home.

Fan-favorite posts include "self-care tips from our Flyers" where a photo of our athletes is posted with advice like the one pictured.



FCBDD Community Star Awards Nomination Form



Do you know someone who should be recognized for extraordinary accomplishments or service supporting individuals with developmental disabilities?

If so, please take a moment to complete and return this nomination form. Nominations will be accepted until **Monday, June 15, 2020**. All nominations will be considered by an Award Committee, and winners in each category will be recognized at the FCBDD Community Star Awards Ceremony on **Tuesday, September 29, 2020**. *Please submit this nomination to: Awards Committee, c/o Amy Magginis, 2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, Ohio 43219.*

(PLEASE PRINT)

1. Name of Nominee: _____ Daytime Phone# _____

Home Address: _____

2. Please complete one nomination per form and check the category for which this person or organization is nominated. Nominees are not required to be staff members or affiliated with FCBDD.

- Adult Participant / Self-Advocate
- Child Participant
- Parent/Family Member
- Adult Services Staff
- School Staff
- Provider Organization
- Volunteer/Good Neighbor

- Transportation Staff
- Early Childhood Staff
- Residential Staff
- Management/Supervisory Staff
- Support Services/Other Staff
- Service Coordination Department Staff
- Employer

3. Why should this nominee be recognized? _____

4. Please describe any other achievements or information regarding this person or organization to support this nomination: _____

Nominated By: (Please Print) _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone # _____ Work/Daytime Phone # _____

"Helping people to live, learn and work in our community"



Good For You

Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Special thanks to Health Commissioners Joe Mazzola and Dr. Mysheika Roberts, for providing outstanding leadership during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Thank you to our County Commissioners Kevin Boyce, Marilyn Brown and John O'Grady and County Administration for leading us through this Pandemic with thorough and transparent community planning and support.

Congratulations to Dr. Marc Tassé and Dr. Susan Havercamp, from Nisonger Center at The Ohio State University Medical Center, for being recognized by "The National Historic Recognition Project 2000-2020" for significant contributions toward transforming the field of intellectual and developmental disability within the U.S. over the past 20 years.





ARC Industries Transportation staff volunteered to deliver Personal Protective Equipment and other supplies to Providers in the community. ARC Industries also led the way in re-assigning staff from Adult Day Service assignments to supporting Residential Providers when the ARC Industries Workshops and Centers closed.

In addition to his day to day duties, Keith Ogle, Storeroom Clerk, has stepped up to coordinate the delivery of supplies to Direct Service Providers. Gloves, gowns, masks, thermometers and sanitizer have been secured and delivered. Some items, like masks, have been in short supply, so distribution needs to be prioritized to those most in need.





Fiscal Office staff Kris Gundy, (left) and Jessica Taylor, (right), are keeping their safe distance while helping to take care of essential business functions during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Many Providers have called Joni Sparks their 'hero' during this unprecedented time. Joni has helped Providers with supplies, she has helped to facilitate connections for Providers looking to place or hire staff and she is helping to coordinate a pilot program to support Providers during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Thank you, Joni!



Thank you to all staff who are going the extra mile to support individuals remotely, with special focus on those who may be of greater risk.

Congratulations to Becky Sharp and the staff at Columbus Center for Human Services for excellent work during the COVID-19 Pandemic, setting an example for many others!



Special thanks to Residential Providers and Direct Support Professionals who are on the front lines supporting people in their homes during this COVID-19 Pandemic crisis.

Carla Maynard, Receptionist for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, continued to manage the calls coming in during the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Carla has been the Receptionist for the Board's Administrative Offices since June, 2016 and is one of the unsung heroes in times of crisis!



Thank you to Becky Campbell, Director of Community Living Experience and Donna Andrews, Regional Director, were the first Residential Provider in Franklin County to support a person with a developmental disability who tested positive with the COVID-19 virus. They give all the credit to the Direct Service Professionals who provided outstanding care during this time.



Special thanks to Janet Brunson, staff member with the Early Childhood Education Department, who does great work supporting services provided by all the Early Childhood staff.

Billy Evoy, Transportation Specialist, loads Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the Franklin County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) to deliver to secure storage site.



Calendar

May 2020

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, many events for May have been postponed or may be postponed. Event details will be communicated through 'NewsBits'. To sign up for 'NewsBits' go to the following web page www.fcbdd.org.

- 14 Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board Meetings, 2879 Johnstown Road, Columbus, meeting times to be announced. Call Amy Magginis at 614-342-5950 for details and call-in information if the meeting is held through teleconference due to the COVID Pandemic.
- 20 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10:00 a.m. Meeting will be held through teleconference due to COVID Pandemic. Call Amy Magginis at 614-342-5950 for call-in information.
- 25 Memorial Day observed - Early Childhood Centers, West Central School and offices of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities will be closed.

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.

The following staff contribute to the monthly publication and distribution of *Dateline*:

- Carl Scott** **Amy Magginis**
- Jennifer Cunningham** **Carolyn Earnhardt**

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

Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO
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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

Career Milestones

25 Years
Maggie Hart
Roger Ward

20 Years
Danielle Norman
Deborah Charles

5 years
Kate Taylor

Youth Forum planned

The Center for Disability Empowerment is coordinating 'The Empower Youth Leadership Forum' to be held on August 3-6, 2020 at the Airport Drive Embassy Suites.

The forum is open to 11th and 12th grade students who have a disability in Central Ohio. Applications must be turned in by June 1, 2020.

At the event, youth learn about choosing a career, learn how to overcome barriers to success, interact with professionals with disabilities as mentors and develop a social network with peers. The forum runs daily from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is no overnight stay with the event.

For further details on the event or to request an application, contact Jamie Lahrmer at 614-575-8055 or email to jlahrmer@disabilityempowerment.net or 510 E. North Broadway, 4th floor, Columbus, Ohio 43214.



Star Award nominations due

Nominations for the 2020 Community Star Awards are due by June 15, 2020.

The nomination form is included in this issue of 'Dateline,' which can be downloaded at www.fcbdd.org.

The 2020 Community Star Awards will recognize 14 extraordinary individuals or organizations. The event will be held on Tuesday evening, September 29, 2020.

