

Review of Services

Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities
2879 Johnstown Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219
614-475-6440 — www.fcbdd.org



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

Our Vision

Eligible persons with developmental disabilities will live, learn, and work in our community, to the extent of their abilities, in a safe and healthy manner.

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities will be a well managed, financially responsible and stable, public organization providing cost-effective, quality services in partnership with families, through a committed and respected staff.

The Franklin County community will be well informed about developmental disabilities, including causes and preventive measures, and will be accepting of individuals who have developmental disabilities.

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Review of Services

This Review of Services brochure was revised July, 2018.
Artwork is used with permission of the artist, Martha Perske.

Directory

Children's Services	Address (Columbus, OH)	Phone
Early Childhood Center	2879 Johnstown Rd., 43219	475-0564
Early Childhood Learning Community	1414 Rudy Rd., 43214	451-6418
West Central School	1481 W. Town St., 43223	276-8231
Other Services		
Intake Department	1650 Watermark Dr., 43215	342-5490
Service Coordination (24 hours)	1600 Watermark Dr., 43215	464-2743
Special Olympics/Recreation	2879 Johnstown Rd., 43219	475-6440
Transportation East Compound	2879 Johnstown Rd., 43219	475-5910
Administration	2879 Johnstown Rd., 43219	475-6440
All Other Departments	2879 Johnstown Rd., 43219	475-6440

Contract Services

In addition to the services provided directly, the Board also collaborates/contracts with many community organizations which support children, adults and their families.

Nondiscrimination Pledge

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, age or disability.

Definition of Developmental Disability

A developmental disability is defined as a severe, chronic disability that is characterized by all of the following:

1. Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments, other than a mental or physical impairment solely caused by mental illness.
2. Is manifested before the person attains age 22.
3. Is likely to continue indefinitely.

Results in one of the following:

- a) In the case of a person under age three, at least one developmental delay.
 - b) In the case of a person at least age three but under age six, at least two developmental delays.
 - c) In the case of a person age six or older, a substantial functional limitation in at least three of the following areas of major life activity, as appropriate for one's age: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living and, if the person is age 16 or older, capacity for economic self-sufficiency.
4. Causes the person to need a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary, or other type of care, treatment or provision of services for an extended period of time that is individually planned and coordinated for the person.

To determine if one is eligible for services, background information may be requested and, if required, an assessment called the Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument (OEDI) is conducted by the Intake Office. Developmental disabilities may result from a number of conditions, such as intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, head injury, epilepsy or autism.

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is dedicated to minimizing the effects of developmental disabilities through early diagnosis, special individualized programming, and training for people of all ages.

Overview

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities operates a county agency providing direct and contracted services on a daily basis for citizens of Franklin County who have developmental disabilities. This brochure provides basic information on these services and on eligibility requirements.

For more information call 614-475-6440.

History

Before 1950, children and adults with intellectual disabilities or other developmental disabilities had little opportunity to become educated or trained for jobs. Public school systems and local businesses excluded them. In the early 1950's, in concert with a national thrust to improve the lives of these persons, a citizen's group called the Franklin County Council for Retarded Children was formed by several parents of children with intellectual disabilities. This was the first hope for many to remain outside institutions and still receive services.



The Council founded the "Franklin County Program for the Mentally Retarded" by creating school and adult programs. The programs were funded by donations, tuitions, and some public money. Throughout the social changes of the 1960's, more and more public money became available. At that time, the Program became a part of the Franklin County Child Welfare Board.

Community-based services for persons with intellectual disabilities and other developmental disabilities were placed on more solid ground with the passage of Senate Bill 169 in 1967. This Bill created the Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation. The name was changed to the Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities as a result of Amended Senate Bill 160, which became effective in 1980. The name was again changed to the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities as a result of Senate Bill 79, passed on July 7, 2009.

Board

The Board is comprised of seven members who are appointed by the Franklin County Commissioners or the Probate Judge. The law requires that at least three of the Board members are family members of individuals who either receive, or are eligible to receive, services from the Board. All Board members serve on a voluntary basis with no compensation for their services.

Funding

- ◆ Revenue for the operation of programs is generated from Local, State and Federal sources.
- ◆ Local funds are generated primarily by local tax levies and these funds represent the largest source of income.
- ◆ State funds are primarily reimbursements from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Ohio Department of Education.
- ◆ Federal funds are generated from various grants, the National School Lunch Program and Medicaid.

Staff

The Board's professional staff is a highly dedicated and specially trained group of people representing many professions. Staff must meet certification standards set by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and/or the Ohio Department of Education. Each professional also meets standards in their own particular field.

Mission

The mission of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to provide programs, services and supports to eligible children, adults, and their families; so that individuals with developmental disabilities can live, work, learn and participate in the community. Simply put, the Board is: [Helping people to live, learn and work in our community.](#) The Board assumes that individuals with developmental disabilities have rights and responsibilities similar to other citizens of the community. These include the right to be informed and to utilize services available in the community; the right to take reasonable risks; the right to be protected from exploitation, abuse and degrading treatment; the right to be treated with dignity and respect, the right to participate in decisions affecting their lives and the responsibility to respect the rights of others.

Special Services

Special services are provided throughout all levels of programming and are designed to meet the individual needs of the children and adults enrolled. Therapists, nurses and specialists provide support for eligible individuals, many of whom have physical, sensory, behavioral and/or speech disabilities. Adult recreational services are provided in the evenings and on weekends and many children and adults participate in the Special Olympics, physical education and aquatics programs.



Door-to-door transportation services are provided from home to and from the facilities and community sites. Some vehicles are equipped with wheelchair lifts to accommodate individuals with physical disabilities.

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Eligibility

Services are provided to children and adults of all ages who have developmental disabilities and who qualify under standards established by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Services are provided without regard to race, color, sex, religion or national origin.

To make a referral for services, individuals may call the Intake Office of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities at 614-342-5490. While procedures to enroll in different programs vary, the Intake Office can provide step by step instructions.

Service Coordination

Service Coordination is provided to link individuals to needed supports and to coordinate services. Service Coordinators assess individual needs, arrange or advocate for services and monitor the provision of those services.

Additionally, the Service Coordination Department receives reports of major unusual incidents involving individuals who have developmental disabilities. Service Coordinators participate in investigations and monitor individuals to minimize or prevent further incidents. The Service Coordination Department has a twenty-four hour, on-call system to facilitate response to emergency situations.

Residential Supports



Residential supports for persons with developmental disabilities are supported by the Board. Individuals are encouraged to be involved in the choice of where and with whom they live and who will provide their support services. Living options include supported living, Medicaid funded facilities, apartments or houses. Support services may be provided up to twenty-four hours per day, depending upon an individual's needs.

Family Resources

Family Resources are provided to support families who choose to keep their family member who has a developmental disability at home. Respite services or short-term residential care, are provided for families in their home or at an approved respite facility. Generally, respite care is provided for anywhere from four hours up to two weeks at a time. Family Resource services also include counseling, parent training, and financial assistance for adaptive equipment such as wheelchair ramps.

Services

Services are provided or supported for individuals of all ages. Early Childhood Education, Home Based, School, Adult, Supported Living, Family Resources, Service Coordination and Special Services are provided to children, adults and their families. Most services are provided on a daily basis and are designed to help Individuals with developmental disabilities to live, learn and work in our community.

Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Education services are provided for children under the age of six who have developmental delays or disabilities. Professionals and families work together in an early intervention or preschool environment to individualize age and developmentally appropriate experiences for young children.



Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP) or Individualized Education Plans (IEP) are developed for each child with the family. Classes are held in the morning or afternoon for anywhere from one to five days per week. Home based services may also be provided to compliment the classroom experience. Learning opportunities are designed to enhance children's creativity, expand problem solving strategies, challenge gross and fine motor skills, broaden social experiences, expand communication and play skills, increase independence and build self confidence. Classroom options range from self-contained to inclusive settings, where preschoolers with special needs experience learning with their typically developing peers of the same age.

Home Based Services

Home Based services are provided to children ranging in age from birth to age six. These services function as a stepping stone for children entering early childhood education services and they are provided as an alternative or supplement to classroom services. Home Based or Early Intervention Specialists visit the homes regularly providing parents with special techniques and activities they can do to help their children become more independent. Specialists also assist in coordinating services and provide support and advocacy advice to the families.

School-Age Services



Services for school-age children are provided for students who have multiple disabilities, ranging in age from six through twenty-one. The Board provides these services in collaboration with all of the Franklin County School Districts, meeting standards of the Ohio Department of Education.

The objective of the school services is to provide students with skills which will help them to be more independent and more involved members of their community. Skills in academics, communication, self-care, socialization, housekeeping, vocational and leisure areas are taught on an individualized basis to best meet student needs.

Focus is placed on instruction in community settings, which students and their families routinely utilize. Collaborative efforts with the school districts also include summer programming, vocational services, shared staff development programs and services provided for students in regular school district facilities.

Each student will experience a process of "discovery" identifying strengths and interests. These personal strengths will be used to schedule experiences in career and community activities, leading to transition into adult life options.

Adult Services

Adult Services are provided to individuals to increase their independence, self-sufficiency and productivity, to minimize the effects of disabling conditions and to assist people in attaining a better quality of life. Services are provided to adults of all ages, including young adults and senior citizens.

Adult Services Providers offer vocational training and supported employment opportunities. Some subcontract with industry to provide work for individuals throughout the community. Individuals also receive assistance in securing and maintaining jobs in the community.

In addition to vocational support, habilitation services are provided to assist individuals in acquiring skills that promote increased independent functioning. Evaluation, speech, mobility training, psychological, therapy and other services are provided based on an individual's specific needs. Providers work with the individuals and their families/guardians to design and implement programs that will best meet these needs.

Services are also provided for senior citizens who have developmental disabilities. Vocational, social and leisure opportunities are provided to promote maximum independence through the least restrictive measures needed to enhance personal growth and self-esteem.

