



Board Talk

Spring
2012

A Pickaway County Board of Developmental Disabilities Newsletter

What's New

Superintendent's Corner

March is recognized as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. What is the importance of raising awareness? Prior to the mid 1900s, people with disabilities were excluded from society. Then, in 1967, community-based programs and services became a reality when a group of parents advocated for the creation of what is now referred to as county boards of developmental disabilities. Since then, there has been significant progress in providing individuals with disabilities a better quality of life, access to services and supports, and community inclusion.

As a society, we have gained the knowledge and understanding to unlock a person's potential. As awareness of people with developmental disabilities increases, ignorance and misinformation decreases.

To this end, we encourage everyone to join us for our awareness activities scheduled this March. We will be hosting two community basketball games. March 8th, at Circleville High School, community members and PCBDD will pair off with district rivals: Teays Valley vs. Circleville at 5:30 PM and Logan Elm vs. Westfall at 7:00 PM. March 15th, is the Special Olympics Community Game at the Ohio Christian Union.

In addition, PCBDD will be partnering with the Circleville Library to sponsor "I Can..." Storytimes on March 3rd at 11:00 AM, March 7th at 6:30 PM, and March 19th at 6:30 PM. Open to the community, this will be a book sharing event to support, encourage and celebrate the abilities of all children.

We hope that everyone attending these events will gain a deeper understanding of people with unique abilities, and

recognize that "Our community is better together!"

Sincerely,

Michael Pelcic
Superintendent



-PCBDD would like to welcome Person Centered Services (PCS) to Pickaway County. PCS will be offering day habilitation services, and their program will be located at 200 E. High Street in Circleville. In addition, PCS will be operating a "recreation" program, funded through the County Board. This program will offer community activities to interested and eligible individuals. PCS introduced themselves to the Pickaway County community by hosting a Valentine's dance at the PCBDD High Street offices on February 11, 2012. All who attended reported having a wonderful time!



From left to right: Bobby Gifford, Michelle Gifford, Tad Justice

-PCBDD is partnering with Pickaway Ross Career and Technology Center to begin the process of "rebranding." This will include updating the County Board's website to a more "user friendly" format, and considering the creation of a new County Board logo.

-Want a change of pace? The Pickaway County YMCA is hosting a monthly swim event for any child eligible for Early Intervention Services. Upcoming swim dates will be held on March 20th and April 17th, from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM. Cost for participation is \$1.50 per person.

-Brooks-Yates School will be hosting its first annual Art Show and Silent Auction. Both community and student art will be featured. The event will be held May 19th, 2012, from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM.

-The Logan Elm girls' and boys' varsity basketball teams recently visited Brooks-Yates School to volunteer and scrimmage with students. This visit has become an annual tradition that all of the students greatly enjoy!

Resource Information

Pickaway County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

www.dodd.ohio.gov

Find us on [Facebook](#) at:

Pickaway County Developmental Disabilities

Board Members

Jessica Mullins (President)
Cathy Leatherwood (Vice President)
Denise Kuhnheim (Secretary)
Greg Miller
Annisa Dudas
Barry Burns
Gwen Wolford

Upcoming Events

Annual Awareness Basketball Game
Circleville High School
March 8th
5:30 PM and 7:00 PM

Special Olympics/ Community Basketball Game
Ohio Christian Union Gymnasium
March 15th
6:30 PM

"I Can..." Storytimes
Pickaway County Library
1160 N. Court St. Circleville
March 3rd: 11:00 AM
March 7th: 6:30 PM
March 19: 6:30 PM

Brooks-Yates Art Show and Silent Auction
May 19th: 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM
Brooks-Yates School
1005 S. Pickaway St. Circleville

Early Intervention Swim
Pickaway County YMCA
March 20th and April 17th
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

For more information on upcoming events, including Early Intervention playgroups, visit the PCBDD website.

SUCCESS!

Chances are, if you've shopped at Walmart in Circleville, you've seen Matthew Betts. PCBDD has had the privilege of serving Matt for only eight short months, but in this time his kind heart and hard work have not gone unnoticed. Shortly after graduating from Circleville High School, Matt began working at Big Bear. When the store closed, Matt continued employment at a position at Goodwill Industries in Chillicothe. Matt worked there only a short time before moving on to his current position at the Circleville Walmart.

Matt has been employed with Walmart since 2005 as a stockman and sales floor assistance. Matt's job duties include keeping the parking lot clean and assisting customers and staff as necessary. Matt's supervisor, Jeanne, says that Matt is a hard worker who is always willing to help anyone. Matt says he loves his job because he gets to help others and he gets to spend time working outside. He also admits to liking the opportunity to exercise so much throughout the day, as he walks all the way around the building and parking lot several times during his shift.

Due to Matt's hard work and employment record, PCBDD has assisted him in obtaining supplemental Social Security benefits and money management. Matt's SSA is further assisting him to find a home where he can live independently. Matt's goals in life are realistic and feasible...he



hopes to have a good job, reside in a small home, and be debt free...the true American dream! Matt reports that working with his SSA has been very beneficial, and he is excited but nervous to make the transition to living on his own.

In addition to his employment at Walmart, Matt greatly enjoys martial arts movies, scary movies, collecting guitars, and meeting famous people. As a once-in-a-lifetime splurge, Matt would like to save up for a trip to California to attend an actors' convention.

Congrats, Matt, on your success!

Left: Matt, on the job at Walmart

Tyler Mayle has become a popular guy with the staff at PCBDD. Tyler works with the Goodwill Industries janitorial crew four days a week, and is always quick to joke around with everyone as he goes about the PCBDD building. Tyler attends Teays Valley High School, and is also employed at the new school coffee shop, Victor's Café. When Tyler isn't hard at work, he likes to spend time watching movies and playing on his Wii or PS2. Tyler reports that he likes funny movies, like *Happy Gilmore*, and video games with racing. Tyler currently lives with his mother, father, brother, and his dog named Casey. When Tyler finishes with school, he hopes to become either a police officer, like his father, or a mechanic. In the meantime, the staff at the High Street offices will keep looking forward to visiting with Tyler!

Checkin' In With...



Tyler Mayle!!!

To submit story ideas, news releases, or suggestions, please contact:

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