



Board Talk

Spring
2014

A Pickaway County Board of Developmental Disabilities Newsletter

What's New

Awareness Month

"Ability at Work" is the theme for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2014. The phrase "Ability at Work" encourages people to consider that when individuals with disabilities are welcomed into local neighborhoods, workplaces, places of worship, and schools, this inclusion strengthens the community as a whole. Statewide and across the nation, organizations devoted to serving people with developmental disabilities planned special events to raise public awareness of the many abilities people have, regardless of disability. PCBDD organized a number of awareness events, including the annual March Madness basketball game and the "I Can" library story time events. PCBDD also assisted in orchestrating a special multi-county basketball clinic. As Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month comes to a close, PCBDD encourages people to remember that awareness of and appreciation for our developmental disabilities community is not limited to a single month of the year. Celebration of the talents and unique contributions of those with disabilities is a year-long event. Everyone is encouraged to learn more about the over 360 people served by PCBDD, and to recognize that everyone has talents and abilities that contribute to the diversity that makes Pickaway County a wonderful place to live.



-Early Intervention once again organized a series of "I Can" story-times, hosted by the Pickaway County Public Library. These events



which were open to the public, welcomed any child with a disability or their sibling, to read a favorite book to show off their abilities. The library staff and Early Intervention teams also included singing, dancing and crafts as part of the story-time experience. Story-times were held in both Circleville and Ashville to include the entire county. Pictured to left, teacher Hilda Winner enjoys reading with several of her preschool students.

-Strategic Planning for Brooks-Yates School moves forward, with the committee planning to hold three more meetings before the process concludes. The team is currently identifying strategic issues related to fundamental policy questions, and will use the analysis of these core concerns to determine the trajectory of the school program.

-The Pickaway County People First chapter returned from a informative three-day conference in Wilmington, where members of the self-advocacy group learned how to better speak for themselves. Chapter President Joey Lovensheimer said he had a wonderful time, and is looking forward to additional trainings.



Resource Information

Pickaway County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

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Find us on [Facebook](#) at:
Pickaway County Developmental Disabilities

Board Members

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

Upcoming Events

Special Olympics Track Volunteer Meeting and Info Session

April 9, 2014
6:00 PM
Brooks-Yates School

Special Olympics Track Sign-Ups and Info Session

April 23, 2014
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Brooks-Yates School

Special Olympics Golf Scramble

September 14, 2014
Pickaway Country Club

PCBDD Board Meetings

March 27th, 2014, 6:30 PM
Pickaway County Library -Younkin Branch

April 15, 2014, 6:30 PM
Pickaway County Visitor Center

May 21, 2014 5:30 PM
Brooks-Yates School

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

Multi-County Basketball Clinic

As part of awareness efforts, PCBDD helped organize a basketball clinic for people with developmental disabilities, open to a number of counties in the area. The event was coordinated with Ohio Christian Union, who hosted the NCCAA basketball tournament this year. Players participating in the tournament are required to become involved in a service project, so organizers of the event connected with PCBDD, Pickaway County Special Olympics, Easter Seals, In-abled LLC, Berger Health System, and the Pickaway County YMCA to create the basketball workshop, run by student athletes, that taught participants the fundamentals of basketball, as well as other health-related skills. Invitations were extended to schools and day programs in Pickaway and surrounding counties, and over 150 people participated. Pictured to the right, learning ball-handling skills from an athlete, are Brad Cook, Sherrie MacFadden, and Phillip Savage from Pickaway Diversified, Inc.



March Madness Basketball

The SSA department held its annual March Madness basketball awareness event on March 20th at the new Circleville High School gym. Students of all ages from all four school districts participated in the game, either as basketball players or cheerleaders. Pickaway County Special Olympics also played an important role in the event, selling concessions and t-shirts to raise money for new program. Westfall narrowly defeated Logan Elm in the first game, and Circleville beat Teays Valley in the second. The spirit of the evening was in keeping with this year's awareness theme, demonstrating the abilities of everyone, and highlighting that our community is only strengthened when children with disabilities are included.



Student athlete Rece Puckett brought an entire Teays Valley cheering section to root for his team. Rece's fans could be heard in the stands yelling, "Rece Puckett, make a bucket!"

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

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