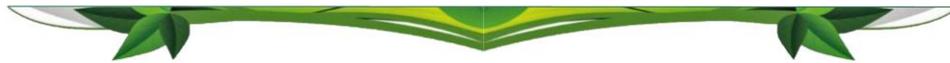


Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities Superintendent's Report



August 2018

Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

The New Avenues to Independence Summer Program at Broadmoor concluded its 5-week camp serving 151 youth with disabilities from mostly Lake County; however, Cuyahoga and Geauga Counties, Thirty-eight Broadmoor students attended. NAI also provided two community opportunities: Community Engagement Group (which ran an extra two weeks) and CAVS-Community, Academic, Vocational and Social Group which was a new collaboration with Lakeland College.

As a part of Day of Caring, the Mentor Rotary built two cabinets for a Broadmoor classroom and the Lake Catholic football team weeded and mulched beds around the school.

In July, VGC enjoyed the beginning of the summer session of Music Therapy with the Groovy Garfoose who performed alongside our ice cream social event for all of individuals at VGC where we were able to also celebrate birthdays of a few individuals and staff as well.

In sadness and in support for our Mentor Police and fallen Officer Mazany, the staff at VGC worked together with our individuals to create signs and bake cookies to pay their respects at the memorial site and to thank the police department for all they do for us.

Individuals at Broadening Abilities took time out to really enjoy the summer by visiting many beautiful scenic parks. Favorite park visits include Welsh Park, Orchard Hills, Gullybrook, Chapin Forest, Penitentiary Glen, Headlands Beach, Mentor Lagoons, Garfield Park, the Veteran's Park, Hidden Valley, Fairport Harbor, and Geneva on the Lake. Lunch at Eddie's Grille in Geneva and a tour at the Lighthouse museum in Fairport Harbor were especially fun.

Trips to the local Mentor library along with trying out instruments at Arrowhead Music Center made the day especially awesome for book lovers and music lovers at Broadening Abilities.

At the Willoughby Branch, all employees have now finished their new WOIO training and are working hard at our site!

Willoughby Branch participated in the Day of Caring for the 10th year! Each Adult Services Program sent individuals and staff to participate. Another great success story of community involvement and collaboration.

Departmental Program Enhancements/Updates

School Age and LEEP students will begin their 2018-2019 school year on Tuesday, August 21st.

Preschool orientation will be held on Tuesday, August 21st and Wednesday, August 22nd.

The first day for preschoolers will be Thursday, August 23rd.

Special Events

The JCR Imagine Program went on an outing to Lake Farm Park on July 27th with the Recreation Department. The trip was very successful and an enjoyable outing for all, with great weather as well.

On July 23rd two individuals from the Imagine Program shadowed with CES at a laundry job and on the 30th, two individuals shadowed with CES at the Lake County Captains Stadium.

A group of individuals in the Imagine Program are enjoying the Music Therapy summer session.

The month of June brought a bus ride to Fairport Beach where all of our individuals at VGC enjoyed a picnic lunch; cheering on the Torch Run participants as they arrived at VGC to end their route; and the release of the finally ready baby ducks whose mama made their home in our courtyard. It is an exciting time for everyone to watch them grow here at VGC. We have continued our cookouts/staff potlucks each month which are very popular and anticipated events for both individuals and staff. The weather has cooperated allowing us to enjoy some of our outdoor activities such as the parachute and cornhole games.

Fairy gardens came to life at Broadening Abilities with a friendly competition among the staff. Fairy Garden houses made out of bird houses and flower pots were on display.

MH staff went as far as to create A fairy garden tiki bar, a fairy garden swimming pool, and a wishing well. The Fairy gardens depict the idea of a magical world where anyone can dream while being one with nature.

Broadening Abilities had an event filled picnic with entertainment by Tom Todd, the “Thriller” car, courtesy of Mr. Zgrabik, and delicious turkey wraps from Pizza Booyah.

World Snake Day was a great opportunity for team work at Broadening Abilities. Each individual created their own piece of the snake on construction paper. When it all came together, it was magnificent with many patterns, colors, and textures.

Employment First Initiative Update

Three Broadmoor students participated in OOD vocational program with private provider during the summer.

Two Broadmoor students were competitively employed in the community at minimum wage.

Willoughby Branch and CES are now working together on a new collaborative, sending individuals to assist with cleaning the Lake County Captain’s Stadium, making minimum wage.

SSA News

As you know, the New Wait List Rule will be effective as of September 1, 2018. The SSA Department has been engaging in information sessions, better known as Wait List Wednesdays throughout July and August. Wait List Wednesdays have been conducted in an “open house” type format where families and individuals have the opportunity to hear about the changes to the Rule in small groups settings with members of the SSA Team leading those discussions so that individual specific questions and/or concerns can be addressed more effectively.

As well, in order to prepare for the implementation of the new Wait List Rule, SSAs were trained on administering the Wait List Assessment along with the procedure for Supervisor review and

approval upon completion of those assessments. Caseload SSAs will be responsible to administer the Wait List Assessment for individuals on their caseload who are enrolled on Level I and SELF Waivers.

Finally, an additional SSA position had been approved by the Board in June. This allowed for necessary restructuring in the SSA Department so that our current Wait List SSA can take the lead on completing Wait List Assessments for those people on the current Wait List who are not currently enrolled on a Level I or SELF Waiver and, therefore, do not have a caseload SSA.

Featured Success Stories

Congratulations to Bryan F. who has been hired by a restaurant in Willoughby and will no longer be attending the Willoughby Branch. We will miss him but wish him the very best in his new employment.