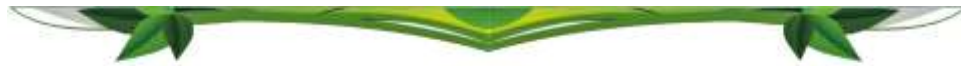


# Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities Superintendent's Report



## September 2018

### Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, Kiley Ritt, Lynnmarie Phillips and David Miller of the Lake County Board of DD/Deepwood presented information/tips to 26 law enforcement cadets, officers and dispatchers. This was part of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) put on by the Community Alliance of Law Enforcement and Mental Health Services (CALMHS). Deepwood is a partner agency of CALMHS.

Wickliffe Public Schools will again be involving some of their senior students in volunteering experiences at the Willoughby Branch. School is back in session and we look forward to meeting our next group of volunteers!

VGC individuals enjoyed the last of the summer session of music therapy with the Groovy Garfoose. There were visits to many parks and stores in the area and to the local library. VGC individuals also participated in creating cards and donating items that will be added to care packages for our soldiers who are overseas.

Director of Public Relations provided training to 150 non-medical and school transportation employees as part of their annual training at Hogan Transportation on August 3. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> year of our collaboration with this private transportation company working to ensure passenger safety and compliance.

Directors of Public Relations and Marketing interviewed over 70 students at the Perry Service Learning volunteer fair. Each student identified organizations with whom they would like to volunteer. Students practiced resume writing and interview skills. Students followed up with thank you letters to their favorite organizations.

Director of Marketing participated in the Back to School Bash at Harvey High School, providing valuable agency and employment information to the nearly 1000 families who circulated through the event. It was also a great opportunity to network with the other local organizations.

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, Director of Public Relations held a booth at the NE Ohio Buddy Walk at the Metro Parks Zoo. This was a great opportunity to connect with families from all over NE Ohio. Information about Miracle League was also provided to interested participants.

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, Directors of Marketing and Public Relations participated in the Lake Humane Society Mutt Strut at Lake FarmPark. While selling Imagine Dog Biscuits, we were able to connect with participants and share employment opportunities as well as volunteer

information. This was also an opportunity to share information about Waitlist Wednesdays, our social media and general agency information.

Broadening Abilities' community trips included visits to various local grocery stores, several area parks, including Wildwood Cultural Center and Rockefeller Greenhouse. Outings also included dining at Long John Silvers, Panera Bread, and Kuhar's.

The Mentor Rotary Woodworking and Partners with Paws have resumed their schedules at Broadmoor School for the 2018 – 2019 school year.

### Departmental Program Enhancements/Updates

The puzzle and Sci-Fi clubs continue to be big hits at the Willoughby Branch. The Sci-Fi club sponsored a special showing of "Star Wars", complete with popcorn this month. It was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

Individuals from the Imagine Program experienced an outing to Fairport Harbor Beach and enjoyed getting some ice cream on August 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, a small group of Individuals from Imagine will be participating in a once-a-week yoga class by The Loving Hands Group.

New lifts were installed in the ladies' and men's bathrooms at Broadening Abilities, along with the expertise of Safe Care Lifts. Additionally, MH 2 received a state of the art Victor 2600 Sure Hands Lift, courtesy of LCARC. It works beautifully and provides a safe and smooth transition for individuals in MH. Thank you LCARC for this wonderful addition to our MH room.

All preschool students will be participating in vision and hearing screening on September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

School photographs will be taken for all Broadmoor students on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Preschool Program held its Welcome Back Picnic for all preschool students and their families.

### Special Events

At VGC, Individuals began the month enjoying root beer floats. We cooled off with Water Fun Day that lifted everyone's spirits, and bringing many smiles, laughter, and exercise with opportunities to water down individuals and staff alike with squirters, sponges, and even a sprinkler! As always, we had our monthly lunch cookout/staff potluck, lap walkers where everyone improved from last month, and individuals participated in making many wonderful crafts throughout the month.

At Broadening Abilities, National Creamsicle Day and National S'mores Day eased the hot summer afternoon with delicious treats. National Cheese Pizza Day brought cheese pizzas from Mama Roberto's. Story time with Pete, walks outside, playing on the playground, karaoke, and getting out in the community made the days go by quickly at Broadening Abilities.

Save the Date: Broadmoor Open House, Parent Information Fair and Scholastic Book Sale is scheduled for Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

### Agency Resources

Broadmoor School's CCIP (Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan) Grant which includes Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and Special Education (IDEA-B) has been approved by the Ohio Department of Education.

### Employment First Initiative Update

Willoughby Branch finished up their community employment opportunities with CES at the Captain's Stadium. All went extremely well and we plan on returning next season.

The LEEP Program will be participating in a collaborative, innovative project with several Lake County School Districts by adding the Unique Like Me Store to their pre-vocational jobsites. The site will provide integrated, community exposure and experience. The students will promote our Agency's mission to EMPOWER our student to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives' and contribute to the community.

### SSA News

One of the Workgroups on which Lake County Board of DD is represented is the Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) workgroup. This workgroup is facilitated by the Ohio Department of Medicaid and some of the County Boards that are more active at the State level were invited to participate in the beginning of 2018.

EVV is part of the 21st Century Cures Act. It is a federal requirement for all states to verify certain things about all waiver-funded personal care services and all home health services. More specifically it is a requirement for all states to verify when provider visits occur and document the precise time services begin and end. The purpose is to deter Medicaid fraud and unintentional overspending of Medicaid dollars through a more efficient system that will verify the accuracy of claims submitted by Providers.

EVV was first initiated in January of 2018 for Medicaid State Plan Home Health services (i.e. Private Duty Nursing, Home Health Nursing, Home Health Personal Care Aide) and the Ohio Home Care Waiver (HCW) services (i.e. HCW Nursing and Home Care Attendant). ODM is planning for phase 2 that will involve use of EVV for DD Waivers which is slated for May of 2019 despite legislation signed by the President on July 30, 2018 giving Medicaid Programs more time to comply with the requirements by delaying fines that states would pay, until January 2020.

For purposes of DD Waivers, EVV will only apply to those Homemaker Personal Care services that are billed in 15 minute units and IO Waiver Nursing. EVV will not apply to daily rate services, shared living, or Adult Day Array Services. The next workgroup meeting scheduled for 9/19/18 will focus on issues directly related to DD and EVV. It will be held at the Ohio Department of DD and Lake County will be represented.

### Featured Success Stories

Congratulations to Davis P. at the Willoughby Branch for receiving the "Employee of the Quarter" award from Deepwood Industries. Davis was nominated for this prestigious award by his peers on the Willoughby Advocacy Committee. David received this award for his excellent

skills, his ability to be kind to all and for always being willing to assist his peers when need be. Congratulations David.

VGC had a bowling tournament where we found many talented bowlers, some of which will be first to enter the “VGC Strike Club” – David, Johnetta and Barb. Congratulations to the VGC Bowling Tournament winning team – the “Outlaws” – Roy, Barb, Emmalynn, Alvin, Jim, Bruce, and Charlie. We will continue bowling with the start of a VGC Bowling League in the upcoming months.

### Staff Development/Training

Broadmoor School’s Opening Day Inservice offered training on Service and Leadership with Dr. Paul Vanek, Effective Communication with Families and Team (EI Staff), IEP New Form Training by SST Region #4 (Instructors) and Supporting Student Communication, Behavior Supports and Social Stories (Instructor Assistants).

On September 4, The SST Region #4 provided Transition Training on the new IEP Forms for Instructors working with students 14 years and older.