

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities Superintendent's Report



October 2018

Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

October is Fire Prevention Month.

Chardon High School participated as part of their school's community service requirement.

Perry Service Learning Students began their school's community service field hours in the Broadmoor preschool classrooms. Four students are participating from September to May this school year.

The Cleveland Sight Center provided vision screenings for all Broadmoor preschoolers.

Director of Public Relations attended the Lake Communicators MarComm to learn more about marketing and social media from area experts as well as network with community partners. Director of Public Relations and Professional Services attended Synergy 2018 which is an Ohio conference open to self-advocates, professionals and families. All sessions offered information that is important to each demographic. Director of Public Relations and Professional Services provided an art experience for attendees on Thursday night of the event, which was well attended.

Director of Public Relations and Marketing Manager attended the Regional PR meeting with OACB to discuss trends and common needs with area county board representatives.

LCBDD/Deepwood had a table at the Fall Hearts and Hands community day at the Great Lakes Mall on September 22nd. Agency staff provided information about volunteering, employment and eligibility for anyone who stopped by the table.

On September 26th, the Director of Public Relations and Professional Services spoke to WRJSL Provisional Class about LCBDD/Deepwood. The presentation offered general information as well as an overview of volunteer opportunities for Deepwood Foundation and LCBDD/Deepwood.

On September 28th, 5 volunteers from University Hospitals and an intern from the Mentor Police Department spent the day making cards for soldiers and playing games in the gym at Broadening Abilities. The University Hospitals volunteers purchased and served Longo's pizza, pasta, meatballs, chicken and salad for all individuals and staff.

Individuals at VGC continue to enjoy trips to the library, area parks and restaurants as well as a little shopping at the mall and other stores in the area. We look forward to the activities the fall season will bring.

A big box of Lifesavers was donated by individuals, families and staff at Broadening Abilities, in remembrance of 9/11. The candies were then taken to Lake West Emergency Department to be shared among the “life savers” who save lives.

The University IT Department spent the day with Broadening Abilities and spent one-on-one time with individuals making cards, conversing, and shooting hoops. A delicious lunch was provided by Longos consisting of pasta, chicken, meatballs, salad, pizza, cookies, and a drink. Shortly after, each room wrote a thank you note to the volunteers expressing their appreciation.

Departmental Program Enhancements/Updates

On October 2nd, Broadmoor School held its annual Open House and Parent Information Fair, in coordination with their Scholastic Book Fair (October 1-5). The theme of the book fair is: “The Enchanted Forest”.

Broadmoor tryouts for the Bobcat basketball team and cheerleading squads were held on September 28th. The season will kick off on October 19th challenging Lake Erie College. You can view the final schedule on our agency’s website.

The Imagine Program attended a community outing with the Recreation Department to Eddy’s Fruit Farm on Friday, September 28th. The weather was perfect for eating lunch outside, walking around the orchard and picking apples. There was also time for shopping inside the store and afterwards, everyone enjoyed donuts at Biagios.

Individuals at the Imagine Program are enjoying participating in a yoga class on Wednesdays.

The ICF had an interesting month as they held the first “Night at the Wood” at ARC where all of the residents at ARC donned fancy evening clothes and danced the night away. Special thanks to all of the staff for organizing, decorating, coordinating outfits and putting together a wonderful evening that was the first of its kind and hopefully will become a regular event.

The ICF has also taken part in tons of different outings like Karaoke night at Toth’s (this month was the Halloween Party), movies and dinner trips.

Sadly the ICF said goodbye to a long-time resident and friend. Known to the entire agency and campus, Pete resided on 2-CD at ARC since 1981. Karaoke, Rock n Roll, cookouts, and parties were just some of the wonderful things that he shared. Truly an icon of the program, he will be missed.

Special Events

Broadmoor held the following Special Events:

- October 2 - Mentor Grotto school picnic
- October 10 - Positive School Climate Tailgate Lunch
- October 16 - Preschool Field Trip to Patterson’s
- October 18 - Moms and Muffins
- October 26 - Homecoming Game/Dance with Mentor High School
- October 31 - School Halloween Parade

On September 21, The LCARC Dances resumed at Broadmoor, every 3rd Friday from 6:30 – 8:30 from September through May. The dance was very well attended with some new faces!

September brought the beginning of fall crafts/decorations in various areas of the VGC. Eikefest was a hit with individuals enjoying a music performance at the VGC as well as traveling to the other buildings for additional performances and to share some time with old friends. Recently, we began working on a Memorial Rock Garden as a remembrance to honor our friends that have passed away. Individuals and staff alike have enjoyed expressing their sympathy through creatively painting rocks to add to the garden. We also enjoyed various movie days, Scooby Doo Day, I Love Chocolate Day and Coffee Day, where individuals sampled various kinds of chocolate and the many different flavors and preparations of coffee. As always, we continue with our Walking Laps program where individuals have been very successful in increasing laps walked each month! Way to go!

The Eikefest at Broadening Abilities was a great musical experience for all. Ken Eiker, Don Young, Ron Shissler and many other fine musicians showcased their musical talents in the gymnasium at Broadmoor School. Individuals even had their own homemade instruments to shake and create their own sound. T-shirts were worn by the majority of the crowd for the 11th annual Road Trip Tour of 2018. Thanks to all these talented staff for filling our day with music!

Groovy Garfoose has started their fall music program which is our largest group ever at Broadening Abilities. We have 23 individuals participating in music therapy and enjoying every minute of it.

Hab 2 at Broadening Abilities created a colorful fall tree with notes of appreciation and gratitude added to celebrate World Gratitude Day. It was a day of reflection and hope for the future.

Agency Resources

Broadmoor School received \$1,598.60 from the Knights of Columbus (Geneva Chapter) and \$917.60 from the Knights of Columbus (Mentor Chapter) raised in their Measure up Campaign's for educational material, therapeutic equipment and assistive technology for students.

Broadmoor School passed its annual inspection from the Mentor Fire Department and the Lake County General Health District.

Employment First Initiative Update

All Broadmoor students 14 years and older completed various pre-vocational assessments for their individual school to work students portfolio.

SSA News

Note from Jodi Travers, Community Outreach Director and Michael Null, SSA Director:

We are writing to let you know of some changes that took place effective the week of 10/8/18. I (Jodi) have accepted a different position within the Lake County Board of DD/Deepwood and am now the new Community Outreach Director. Those of you who know me, know that I have been with SSA since the inception in January 2003, having had the privilege of leading a wonderful group of professionals over the almost 15 years, both as Assistant Director and then Director of SSA.

You will be happy to know that the SSA Department has been left in good hands with Michael Null who has stepped up from the Assistant Director position into the Director role. Michael has been part of the SSA Department since the very beginning having been one of the first SSA hires. He has fully been a part of the growth and development of the SSA Department through all the many changes.

You can now reach me at a new number (440) 350-5032 and Michael at (440) 350-5142. Thank you and we both look forward to working with all of you in our different capacities!

Featured Success Stories

On September 7th at the Mentor City Hall, two LEEP students, Dylan and Chloe, were awarded third place in the mixed media category for their pencil sketch of two hand shaking hands in collaboration by the City of Mentor Arts Commission and the Family of Dorothy McNamara Maloney Family's Unveiled Lake County Art Contest.

A LEEP student, Rocky, was selected as the Madison High School Homecoming Queen.

Staff Development/Training

On October 12, Broadmoor staff participated in their Fall Inservice Day. The Early Intervention Program received training by OACLI on Evidenced Based practices in Early Intervention for Autism Spectrum Disorder. The Preschool, School Age and LEEP Teachers participated in ODE Compliance Training. All Instructor Assistants and LCESC aides participated in room organization, cleaning, educational material preparation and assistive technology.

On September 21, all Preschool staff participated in (SUTQ) Step up to Quality Trainings on the Creative Curriculum at the Mentor Library, as a part of a three-part series.

On September 28, the Early Intervention speech therapists attended a live Webinar: "Changing Developmental Trajectories of Toddlers with ASD".