**Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations**

Willoughby Branch has begun delivering Meals on Wheels to seniors in their homes. The Individuals have enjoyed this immensely as they find great pleasure in making new friends. There currently is a waiting list of Individuals who have stated they wanted to become involved in this terrific opportunity.

Willoughby Branch has teamed with the Groovy Garfoose and Deepwood Foundation to start a “Girls Just Want to Have Fun Club”. The club meets every Friday and is an excellent time for some pampering, music and fun with friends.

All of VGC enjoyed a bus ride, a lunch, and afternoon of beautiful weather and friendship at Fairport Harbor Beach. We had a Cowboy Picnic event to enjoy one of the last cookouts (BBQ Chicken!) of the season as well as Square Dance Demo from Broken Wheels Square Dancers, where many staff and individuals were able to enjoy learning/refreshing their square dancing skills. Each month we also enjoy seeing fresh faces in our building with our Guest Reader to share some stories with us.

**Departmental Program Enhancements/Updates**

Broadmoor School’s Annual Open House was held on Tuesday, October 1st, in coordination with their Scholastic Book Fair (October 1-4). This year’s theme was “Arctic Adventure – Snow Much to Read!”

Broadmoor’s tryouts for the Bobcat basketball team and the cheerleading squads were held on Friday, September 13th. The season started on October 4th, challenging Lake Erie College, with another game on October 18th, challenging Mentor Fire Department, and closing out October with the Homecoming Game and Dance versus Mentor High School on October 25th.

The JCR Imagine Program is keeping busy throughout the last weeks of summer! On Mondays, a small group enjoys swimming at the Broadmoor pool. Tuesdays is Groovy Garfoose Music Therapy and 10 individuals enjoy participating in this weekly activity. We are continuing to volunteer at Lake Farmpark on Thursdays, through the end of October.

The Imagine Program has also been busy this past month promoting their dog treats, Pieces of Imagination. We sold treats on Sept 4th and Sept 25th at Osborne Park Market, at Woofstock on Sept 15th in Moreland Hills, and treats were made for the Steve Guard Golf Outing on September 13th. We also started selling our dog treats at the Unique Like Me store in Painesville again, so
they are available in the store at this time. Two individuals participated in job shadowing at Laketran on September 18th and they really enjoyed seeing what this job consisted of.

On September 20th, individuals from the Imagine Program enjoyed an afternoon at Eddy’s Fruit Farm for apple picking and then enjoying donuts afterwards.

With the help of the habilitation manager at Broadening Abilities and the social worker at the Willoughby Branch, Willoughby has started a group program for seniors with dementia. Currently, there are 12 participants who are greatly enjoying current events, local happenings and maybe even a senior lunch outing.

**Special Events**
On September 20th, the Preschool Program held its annual, enabling family to get acquainted with each other, picnic.

On October 2nd, a musical performance was held for Broadmoor students by David Smeltz and Chris DiSantis in the school gym.

On October 17th, all Preschoolers participated in a Patterson’s Fruit Farm field trip.

On October 31st, Broadmoor students will participate in a Halloween Parade around Broadmoor hallways/classrooms and Broadening Abilities Units.

National DSP Recognition Week: The Residential Management Team along with the Individuals planned a week of activities and events to recognize and thank the DSPs (Direct Service Professionals which we call RWs). The week kicked off on Monday, September 9th with two beautiful canvas paintings recognizing National DSP week, along with sheet cakes. Thanks to the donation of materials, time and talent of artist, Tamara Zupancic of Concord. The theme of the week was “Thank you for your helping hands”. Individuals signed a hand-made greeting card which was mailed to each DSP’s home address. We celebrated Taco Tuesday with the management staff preparing lunch for the DSPs. Wednesday was “Goodie Bag” Day. All DSPs received a LCBDD bag filled with trinkets and goodies. Third shift employees were surprised with a late night dinner of subs and potato salad. On Thursday, management staff prepared and cooked breakfast for the DSPs. Managers made waffles to order served with a donation of REAL Geauga County Maple Syrup! On Friday, all DSPs were given a pack of Extra brand chewing gum letting them know that they are extra special. The celebration of DSPs concluded with 4 raffles on Saturday for those who work 3rd shift, 1st shift, and 2nd shift and for those who work as subs. The four winners will receive a LCBDD fleece jacket (ordered to size!).

Willoughby Branch held their first Health Fair this month. A variety of service providers were represented from seven different agencies featuring heart health, department on aging, Forbes house and more. Healthy food and eating habits were the focus of the day, with a wonderful fruit salad prepared and featured by Willoughby’s own in-house wellness committee.

Willoughby Branch hosted a “Day of Silence” presentation to honor first responders and those that lost their lives during the 9/11/01 attacks. Willoughby police and fire were both present, a
wonderful presentation was made and refreshments were shared by Willoughby individuals and the first responders. Many friendships were made during this event.

The VGC Habilitation Groups have enjoyed lunch in the updated VGC Courtyard, as well as a play day in the courtyard with the many large motor activities. We also took advantage of the last warm days of summer to have a blast with water day squirting and using other sensory water toys.

VGC had a dance off in the cafeteria this month. We also look forward each week to picking the NFL game winners as we wait to see who the grand winner will be at the end of the season. VGC is having fun getting prepared for the upcoming holidays.

Broadening Abilities enjoyed the last few weeks of September getting out in the community and visiting places that we enjoy. Metro parks, shoe shopping, the barber shop, the Humane Society, the Halloween store, Patterson’s, the new Hobby Lobby, and the Great Lakes Mall were a few places that we visited. We also enjoyed the Broadmoor Pool, the stories from our friend Pete, and the first Bobcats basketball game, wearing our tie dye green shirts, while rooting for the Bobcats. In addition, National Cheeseburger Day was celebrated with delicious cheeseburgers from Wendy’s. We even made a cheeseburger craft to decorate the walls.

Broadening Abilities started our first club meetings in October. The clubs are a way to foster a sense of belonging, share common interests, and engage with friends while learning and having fun. Every individual is in a unique and fun club. For example, the Cheerleading Club got their kicks shaking pom poms and listening to fight songs. The Bowling Club went to the gym and bowled, using the bowling ramp, and had a blast doing it. The Farmers Club talked about farm animals and the different purposes for each animal. The Cooking Club made delicious Frankenstein treats for all to eat. Each month our clubs will come up with fun and exciting activities for learning and growing in a unique and friendly way.

Agency Resources
In addition to the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus (Mentor Chapter) who donated $1,152, the Madison – Geneva Chapter donated $1,520 from their Measure up Campaign to Broadmoor School.

Featured Success Stories
Julie C., of the Willoughby Branch, received the Employee of the Quarter Award from Deepwood Industries. Julie is known for her hard work, ability to complete many different jobs, flexibility and especially her kindness to others. Great job and Congratulations to Julie!

Staff Development/Training
The ICF Director facilitated via DODD “Options Counseling and Discharge Planning” Training for persons holding the title of QIDP. The trainings were held on September 12th in Stark County, and on September 24th in Dayton. These are day long trainings from 9am-noon and 1pm to 4pm.
On October 11th, Broadmoor Staff participated in an all-day Inservice Day focusing on CPI Refresher Training and Transition from School to Work through Provider visits. The Early Intervention and Preschool staff attended a training on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

On September 23, as a part of the Transition Innovation Project, Two School-to-Work Transition SSAs provided the first of a four-part training series to all teachers with students 14 years and older on school to work transition issues.

From the ICF, three QIDPs and the Habilitation Coordinator attended the “Option Counseling and Discharge Planning” training at Big Creek in Cuyahoga County.

The Human Resources Department has just completed agency wide TB Testing for those employees that are required to maintain. LakeHealth was onsite to administer 122 TB tests in September.

3 Members of the HR Team attended the 2019 Ohio Society of Human Resources Management Conference in Columbus, from 9/18/19 to 9/20/19.