

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities



Superintendent's Report - February 2024

Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

Broadmoor's Building Leadership Team met with representatives from SST4 to begin planning for the 2024-2025 school year's rollout of the Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) framework.

Thirty children qualified for Early Intervention services. Providers in the EI Department have begun learning about the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment. This assessment was purchased, and will be utilized to target the social-emotional needs within the birth to three years old population. Several providers have taken additional trainings on the following topics: Parent/child attachment and Autism Screening.

The preschool staff completed the four-part Challenging Behavior Series this month hosted by Nationwide Children's Hospital.

Every three years, the Preschool Program receives a full Step-Up to Quality (SUTQ) review/inspection which rates the quality of a program on a five-star scale (five being the highest quality). The Broadmoor Preschool Program received its review in January, and our preschool continues to be rated a Five-Star Preschool Program!

Six individuals from the JCR Imagine Program volunteered at End 68 Hours of Hunger on January 29. They packed bags with food that will be sent to local schools to provide students in need with food for over the weekend. The JCR Imagine Program has volunteered with this organization for several years, by double bagging the lunch bags. It was nice that the individuals were able to participate in a different part of the process that day by packing bags with food. They did a great job!

On January 18, 2024, LCBDD/Deepwood collaborated with the Auburn Career Center for their Pathways to Careers Open House from 4 pm - 6 pm. The goal of this partnership is to improve post-secondary education options for students who have developmental disabilities. During the Open House, individuals and their families can learn about free classes offered at the Auburn Career Center. Some of the offerings include manufacturing fundamentals, culinary, customer service, hand tool identification, and safety certified production technician, and safety and welding. The next Pathways to Career Open House is at Auburn Career Center on March 7, 2024, from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm.

LCBDD/Deepwood joined Leadership Lake County's Community Resource Fair/Health & Human Services Scavenger Hunt on Wednesday, January 24, from 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm at Hope Ridge United Methodist Church. Leadership Lake County Signature Class participants were divided into 11 groups and were assigned to different real-life inspired scenarios. Then they visited the different organizations at the fair to see who might be able to provide them help. The LCBDD/Deepwood table was very busy, and many of the participants were inspired and amazed by all of the services LCBDD/Deepwood offers to their community.

DI Willoughby Branch Community Integration Professionals collaborated with the Willoughby Hills Library to decorate their display cases for the first quarter of 2024. Individuals from the Willoughby

Branch joined in to transform the library display cases into a winter wonderland complete with Olaf from Frozen (made out of a stack of books)—and it did not disappoint! The case was a hit and the library loved the creativity of the individuals from WB. Please be sure to see their Valentine themed display case for the month of February as well.



The LCBDD/Deepwood Branch of the Kiwanis Aktion Club held their monthly meeting on Wednesday January 31, 2024. This was the first meeting of 2024, so the Aktion Club members and advisors had a meet and greet for any new members and their families. Aktion Club members went over the 2024 calendar and planned the entire year for meeting dates and volunteer activities. Aktion Club Advisors reported all of the items The Aktion Club collected for The Sub-Zero Mission in Fall of 2023, which consisted of 44 hats, 90 pairs of socks, 11 pairs of boots, one tent, two sleeping bags, 61 coats, and 23 sweatshirts. We are so proud of our Deepwood Aktion Club with their commitment to the community, and their chosen focus of helping veterans in the upcoming year. The next Aktion Club meeting is February 28, 2024, from 6 pm - 7 pm in the SSA Conference Room at VGC.

The Community Craft Club was held at Deepwood Industries' Willoughby Branch on January 17, 2024. Individuals who attend the program had Polaroid photos taken of them for this special craft. The crafters began constructing frames out of colored Popsicle sticks and decorated them with stickers, glitter, and paint in their own unique ways. We had many wonderful volunteers attend this crafting event, and we cannot thank them enough for all of the help and joy they provide to this crafting group! We talked about our plans for the New Year and how we are excited to make this a great year by taking care of the #1 person in our lives---ourselves! When we are feeling blue, we can look back at our framed photo of ourselves and smile at how great we truly are!

The first 2024 Youth Empowerment Meeting was held on January 11, 2024. Led by the SSA Team specializing in transition aged-youth services, this group meets on a monthly basis to share tools and information from The Charting the Life Course Framework, a system that helps people with developmental disabilities and their families to articulate what they want and need in their lives. At this meeting, students and family members had a welcome back session to introduce themselves and talk about their goals and aspirations for the upcoming year. Students completed a person-centered description all about them to start the New Year. This one page description included information about what is important to that person, how they learn best, what supports help most, what is important to them, and many more important details to help these students advocate for themselves. VGC continues to keep busy with their routine activities. VGC just started up music therapy again with the Fine Arts Association.

One of our CES employees, Nick B., is being recognized by Ohio Living Breckenridge Village for five years of employment. Two of the staff will go to the celebration luncheon on Monday, February 19, 2024. We are very proud of Nick and this impressive accomplishment!

Special Events

Willoughby Branch (WB) did their welcome back/Happy New Year by having a building assembly. Everyone got to talk about their holiday, and what they look forward to doing in the coming months.

Willoughby was trying to endure the cold weather we've been having with a Hot Chocolate Day (complete with marshmallows). It's like having a warm hug in a mug ☺.

We all participated in Agency "Hat Day" and sent several pictures of individuals wearing hats so folks could see the fun hat choices.

The Annual Chili Cook-Off that is held at WB will be on February 28. WB usually schedules this event in March during DD Awareness Month, but decided to schedule it a bit earlier this year so all other program areas will have their chili cook-offs in early February, and the FINAL competition will be at Willoughby on February 28. We hope to have some of our community judges once again.

The Recreation Department and the EI/preschool departments held their monthly Silly Fun Saturday Event at Cleveland Children's Museum; 10 families attended this event.