

# Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities

## Superintendent's Report - March 2025

### Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

Broadmoor LEEP students have begun preparing bags for End 68 Hours of Hunger in their Vocational Skills Lab. They have been asked to double bag boxes of 1,000 bags that volunteers will then use for food distribution in the community.

We are assisting one of the DI employees, Lani E., in submitting some of her artwork (photographs) to the OPRA 2025 Great Provider Summit, and if selected, her artwork will be featured on the conference program cover. Go Lani!

On March 13, we were fortunate to again partner with Mentor Memorial and Shore Middle Schools and welcomed 19 eighth graders to VGC, Broadmoor School, and the Willoughby Branch for their annual "Make a Difference Day". The students learned about the County Board and participated in a variety of fun activities with the individuals we serve. It was an enriching day for all involved and certainly made a difference!

Engagement on social media is at an all-time high during the month of February leaving us just shy of **6,000** followers on Facebook and steady growth across all of our social media platforms. **Twelve** posts that far exceeded expectations, hitting **10K or more** (a record in a four-week period), an additional **21** posts surpassed **5K** (yes, another all-time record), and a new record for an all-time level of engagement – a post that surpassed **60K** (see below)!



LCBDD hosted a Job and Resource Fair and Hiring Event on March 4 at the Mentor Paradigm. There were close to 100 job seekers and their supports in attendance. Two businesses held a total of 15 on-site interviews, and a handful more businesses met with all job seekers during a meet and greet. At least two job offers were made with additional follow-ups with a few more individuals.

LCBDD is partnering with United Way of Lake County, Lake County Volunteer Network, Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library, and Mentor Public Library to host a Volunteer Fair on April 30 at Lakeland Community College. Volunteering is an excellent way to learn new skills and interests while giving back to the community.

Chris Trombley, Community Employment Development Manager, provided Disability Awareness Training to close to 200 drivers in three separate sessions of LakeTran Drivers. This training is mandatory for drivers of Dial-A-Ride Buses.

### Special Events

The Early Childhood Department/Recreation Department held their Silly Fun Saturday event, where children got the opportunity to go sledding at the Recreation Department.

The Preschool Program enjoyed getting to see Jungle Terry, and also learning about the weather with the Lake Metroparks.

Ohio's Alternate Assessment for Students with the most Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD) began on February 2 and will run through March 28. There are 18 students currently being tested in the areas of Science, Social Studies, English, and Math by their Intervention Specialists.

LEEP held its annual Creative Arts Fair on Thursday, February 27, to show off the students latest art projects. Many came from other classes at Broadmoor as well as from around the Agency to hear a few of the artists discuss their pieces and celebrate their pride in their work. Thank you to everyone who came to check it out!

LEEP assisted with a Fat Tuesday Parade through the school on Tuesday, March 4, students and staff enjoyed the celebration.

The Imagine Program will be hosting an Open House on April 10 from 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Willoughby Branch (WB) had several events in February: a Superbowl celebration with some football food type snacks. The Willoughby Basketball team, the Hot Shots, took on the Broadmoor Bobcats, but the Bobcats still pulled out a victory. Of course, we cannot forget our Annual Agency Chili Cook-Off that took place at the end of February. WB had five community judges on the panel for tasting and there were 12 chili's competing. And the winner was.....Micki W. from A Building! Tied in second place were Alandra T., and Mary P., with Lori R. coming in third place. WB also had a yummy bake sale. Thank you to all who joined in the fun and contributed to WB's fundraiser. WB really appreciates all the support!

VGC continues to keep busy with their routine calendar activities. VGC held their second session of Music Therapy with the Fine Arts Association concentrating on music by David Bowie. VGC also celebrated with Super Bowl and Valentine's Day parties. VGC is eager for spring to arrive, so that they can get out and about.

### Agency Resources

During the month of February, 18 children were evaluated and 17 qualified for Early Intervention Services.

### **Featured Success Stories**

Several DI individuals have been participating in the Earners and Learners Program at WB – facilitated by CIP staff Lori R. They are doing so well in their CES experiences that we now have a regular cleaning gig at Ballentine's (created for us by Julie O'Neil and the CES Department). Individuals will now have a consistent opportunity to receive training and pay while strengthening their custodial skills. Thank you to the CES staff for creating this wonderful opportunity!

### **Staff Development/Training**

The SSAs, QIDPs, and team leaders are attending DODD's office hours regarding the new OhioISP trainings which has a focus with an online program, WEB MD, and technology support for each domain of the OISP.

On February 26, LCBDD hosted a training conducted by Milestone and DODD which offered training for ICF QIDPs on the OISP. Milestone has chosen LCBDD to be recorded and posted both on Milestone's and DODD's website for future trainings.