

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **January, 2018**

#### **Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations**

Director of Marketing coordinated a collection of letters, cards and candy from program areas for Camp Beurhing n Kuwait. LCBDD/Deepwood programs sent 50 cards before Thanksgiving and over 100 at Christmas.

The Director of Marketing had the pleasure of photographing many of the holiday parties and posting photos and slideshows online through social media. The holidays increased Facebook posts to over 60 for the month of December. A disc of photos from Broadmoor's Breakfast with Santa was given to the school to provide photos to families.

Heinen's of Willoughby contacted the agency to adopt a family for the holidays. The response was so great that these holiday heroes adopted three families for Christmas. They provided wrapped gifts for two families from SSA. For a family of 8 from Broadmoor they provided gifts, gift wrap and tags. After meeting the father and hearing their story, the representatives from Heinen's went back to the store and collected more donations. They provided Christmas dinner and food for the winter break at a value of over \$300.

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, thirty-five members of Junior Leadership Lake County toured the Willoughby Branch and were paired up with individuals to do a craft project.

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, twelve members of Young Leaders of United Way of Lake County and several of our agency volunteers helped with the Recreation Department's Breakfast with Santa.

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Lake County Gazette published a full page article about Deepwood Foundation's Magical Evening, plus photo inserts on inside pages as well as an article about Night to Shine.

On January 10, 2018 the agency participated in Leadership Lake County's Poverty Village and Service Village. The object of Poverty Village is for participants to develop an appreciation for individuals living in less than ideal circumstances, to learn about resources available to all Lake County citizens, and to formulate an understanding of what you can do to alleviate poverty in Lake County. Service Village is an opportunity to increase awareness about Lake County Board of DD/Deepwood, our mission, who we serve, our impact on the community and how we are funded.

December was a mix of cold and warm weather, which allowed Broadening Abilities some opportunities to get out and enjoy the sites of Lake County. The following area parks were visited the most by our individuals and staff: Garfield Park, Lake Farm Park, Penitentiary Glen, Fairport Harbor, and Painesville Township Park. The Mentor Vietnam Memorial was also viewed, as well as the holiday lights in downtown Willoughby Park. Some individuals even had an opportunity to get out to Public Square and see the big Christmas tree and lights of Cleveland. Nela Park and the Rockefeller Greenhouse were some of the favorite community outings this month at Broadening Abilities.

Toys were donated by staff, parents, and friends of Broadening Abilities to help with Asa's Angels in Lake County.

Broadmoor received letter of appreciation from Lake Metroparks for allowing them facility usage for their Adapted Jazzercise Program.

Broadmoor School collected items to donate the Friends of Recovery Program which assists individuals with drug and alcohol addiction and the Lake County Gazette featured an article about Broadmoor's Positive School Climate donation to Friends of Recovery. An article was also featured in the News Herald Community Pages.

In collaboration with Mentor United Methodist Church, Broadmoor and the LEEP students distributed 24 food baskets (including toys) to Broadmoor families.

### **Departmental Program Enhancements/Updates**

Improvements continue at VGC with the resurfacing of the floor in the area of Hab. 4 as well as the entrance areas of the building. In addition, Hab. 4 individuals and staff are enjoying the new, fresh look of their area with the near completion of the wall to offer privacy and a warmer look to the area.

Broadmoor passed its Ohio Department of Education Onsite Preschool Review in full compliance.

### **Special Events**

To assist with kicking off the holiday season, VGC was delighted to welcome the St. Bede Youth Group to share their musical talent by singing songs and playing instruments with everyone while enjoying hot cocoa.

VGC Individuals participated in a variety of activities and crafts to celebrate the holidays with the Thanksgiving Luncheon and Christmas Luncheon, a visit from Santa and endless craft opportunities.

Despite the increasingly cold weather in December, VGC was able to get all the individuals together on busses to view the Christmas lights and decorations in Downtown Willoughby. Some individuals also ventured out to enjoy a Hibachi lunch, while others enjoyed lunch at Steak 'N Shake and other area restaurants, according to their interests.

Activities within the building at VGC have provided increased opportunity for individuals to take part with their peers in other areas of the building, i.e. hosting a building movie, offering crafts in a common area for all to come and take part in, as well as weekly clubs or exercise/activities for individuals to participate with their peers, according to common interests.

Some individuals participated in singing Christmas Carols that displayed much spirit and brought joy to all throughout the Habilitation groups and in the other departments in the VGC building. In turn, SSA volunteers were kind enough to come and share their spirit of the season by treating us to their talents in Christmas Caroling for our individuals.

Our holiday Christmas party at Broadening Abilities was an extravaganza of delicious food from Mama Roberto's, as well as a musical celebration of holiday cheer with Ken Eiker and Greg Carlson playing guitar and flute. Individuals dressed in Christmas sweaters and enjoyed the calm and peacefulness of the day. Additionally, a community donor provided money for gifts for all the individuals at Broadening Abilities. Santa "Tim" Claus helped pass out gifts on our last day before shutdown. We also had a pizza luncheon that everyone enjoyed tremendously.

On December 30<sup>th</sup>, several parents of Special Olympic athletes hosted a very successful Cosmic Bowling event which netted over \$1,700 for the female athlete who will be competing at this year's National Games. There were over 100 bowlers, recreation staff members, and agency volunteers who participated.

Groovy Garfoose participants at Broadening Abilities played musical instruments for parents and friends at a performance in the cafeteria. Tambourines, triangles, and drums were the instruments of choice as individuals kept the beat to their favorite songs.

Broadmoor's School Age Program made a beautiful thank you poster for the Lake Catholic service students who volunteered at our school.

Broadmoor hosted the following events in December: Grand River Appreciation Luncheon, Breakfast with Santa, and Mentor Rotary Holiday Party at Farmpark. The Broadmoor Bobcats played the following games: South Boys and Alumni.

### **Agency Resources**

Director of Marketing began recruiting and training volunteers for Night to Shine. The event, being hosted by Painesville Baptist Church, is open to all individuals with developmental disabilities over 14 years of age. The church will provide not only the prom but a respite room for parents and caregivers to relax while their children enjoy a wonderful evening. Night to Shine is February 9, 2018 6-9pm at Painesville Baptist Church.

In November, new volunteers completed orientation and began volunteering at yarn club and with the Recreation Department.

On December 9th, twelve Deepwood Special Olympic swimmers competed at the State Aquatics Meet in Columbus and won numerous medals and participation ribbons.

The Recreation Department has been very busy in December and January attending holiday craft fairs, WWE Monday Night Raw, a performance of Christmas Carol, a Cleveland State University basketball game, touring Harry London's Chocolate Factory, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Great Lakes Science Center, as well as hosting Karaoke/Movie and Bingo nights, and work-out sessions at the Special Olympics training room.

### **Staff Development/Training**

All Broadmoor staff participated in (ETR) Evaluation Team Report, (IEP) Individual Education Plan and Transition Training, provided by the State Support Team Region #4, as a part of the ODE Onsite Review Process.