

Greene County Board of
Developmental Disabilities



Board Meeting Highlights May 15, 2024

Board Actions

- Approval of the minutes from April 17th, 2024.

- Resolutions approved by the board:
 - * Board approved to create two additional staff positions (slated for SSA dept.)

 - * Board approved resolution, as presented by J. LaRock, to follow the Board of Commissioners for Greene County's recent approval of a lump sum payment equal to 2% of current annual salaries to all permanent, non-bargaining unit, classified and unclassified employees

Topics of discussion

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities

May 15, 2024 Board Report:

Division: *Community Services*

Director Reporting: *Jeanne Turner*

Updates:

- The Team continues to meet in person the 1st Thursday of every month at the Kettering Rec. Center with Voices Matter of Montgomery County DDS and zoom meetings on the 3rd Thursday of every month.
- The Team had an its Greenemont Optimist Club meeting in April and May.
- At the April meeting the team met with Chief Fiorita with any questions, they had and discussed visiting the Police Department again, in late summer. We also enjoyed celebrating the Chiefs wife Carole's Birthday who is an honorary member of the group.
- VOG did a spring craft service project for a local nursing home as well with Optimist advisors.
- April Zoom session included a presentation and question and answer session on tips about speaking up to and with your SSA. Jill Kremer an SSA from Montgomery County Board DDS discussed tips and importance of speaking up at, during and before your ISP meeting.

Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:

- **MUI:** In the month of April there were a total of 161 Incident Reports reviewed. Of these reviewed, 141 were Unusual Incidents, 8 were UIR Consultations, 0 were not served, and 12 resulted in MUI's being filed.
- **Providers on PAWs** in April: Independent – 149; Agency (of all types of service) – 71
- 1 New Provider Orientation completed
- 7 new pre-independent providers reached out in April and are regularly seeking assisting with the process to become an independent provider
- April 18th: DSP Appreciation drop off: Kandi Lane-Asberry
- 7 New Independent Providers added to our Care Choice Portal in April
- 3 New Agency Providers added to our Care Choice Portal in April

Program Information:

- Conducted training at the Juvenile Detention Center on April 24th, providing an overview of the MUI process and issues regarding Development Disabilities

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities

May 15, 2024 Board Report:

Division: Early Intervention

Director Reporting: Jennifer Frey

Updates:

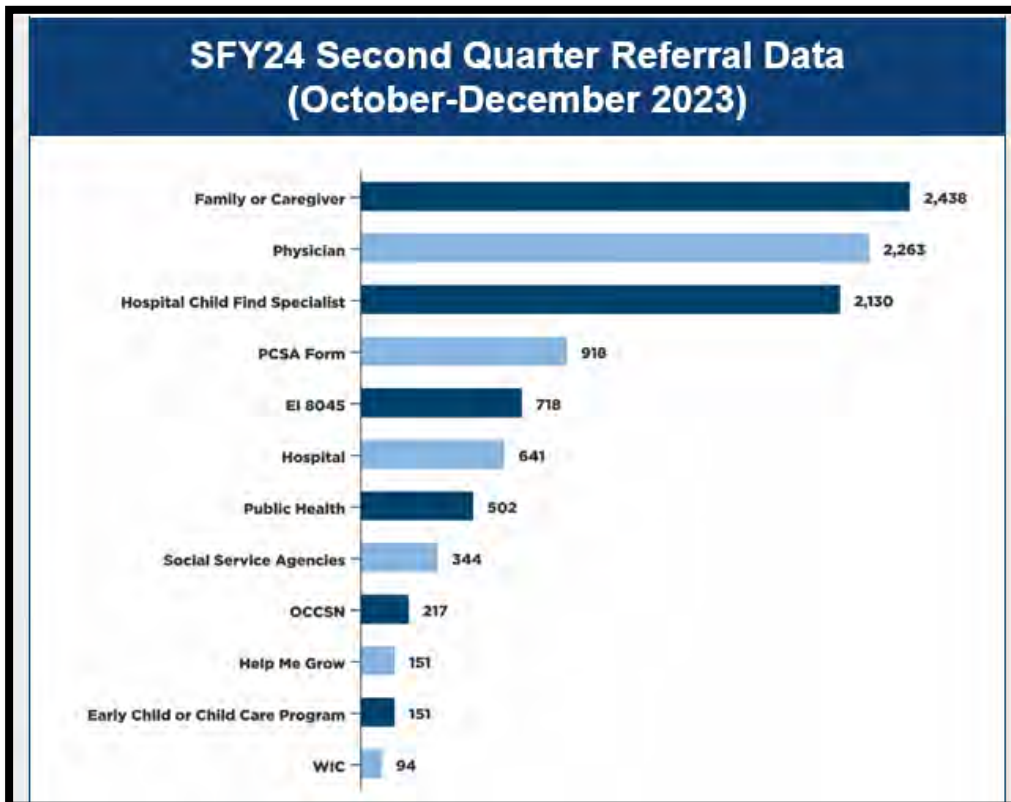
We are still searching for Physical Therapist to fill the open position on our EI Team.

<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Greene-County-Board-of-Developmental-Disabilities/jobs?jk=08ebea50f56231af&start=0>

Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:

Our Active IFSP number for April 2024 was 231, and our teams completed 22 evaluations. Many of those evaluations were completed by the Xenia region, which happens to be the team with one less team member at the moment (Physical Therapist).

Greene County EI received 44 new referrals in April (25 in February). After a small dip in referrals, they have jumped back up in recent weeks. The highest referral sources were parents, then physicians, followed by other various sources such as hospital child find specialists, Children Services, etc.



I thought I would share this referral information from the Early Intervention Central Intake Bulletin. This quarterly Bulletin is provided by The Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Help Me Grow Early Intervention. As you can see, Ohio's overall referral sources align with Greene County's (Family/Caregiver being the highest, then Physicians, and so on).

Central Intake and Referral (CIR) processed 10,567 system referrals for Early Intervention (EI) in the second quarter of SFY24. Of those system referrals, 8,194 program referrals were assigned to local EI providers across the state.

From the Ohio Department of Health, CIR received 469 referrals for children with elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) and 12 referrals for children diagnosed with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS)*.

**The NAS referrals referenced here are referrals CIR receives from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). These referrals are only for children whose NAS diagnosis has been verified through ODH's Ohio Connections for Children with Special Needs (OCCSN) system and constitute a small subset of the overall number of children diagnosed with NAS.*

First Quarter: Central Intake and Referral (CIR) processed 11,281 system referrals for EI in the first quarter of SFY24. Of those system referrals, 8,735 program referrals were assigned to local EI providers across the state.

For access to all of the Past Early Intervention Provider Newsletters please visit:

<https://www.helpmegrow.org/providers>

Special Events/Activities:

Greene County Parks & Trails will be joining Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities for New Events.

Two dates were confirmed for the Toad-ally Together events for ages 2 and up taking place at the Russ Nature Reserve on Kemp Road in Beaver Creek on Friday, June 21st from 10-12 and Friday, July 26th from 10-12. A flyer was made and shared in the EI Quarterly Newsletter. Greene County Parks and Trails will do their own advertising. Closer to the events, we will be sure to share the flyer on Facebook. Registration will be available on GCPT website. Thank you to Julie Snider (DS), Kora Combs (DS), Andrea Geiger (EI Program Manager), and Linda Martin (OT) for helping with this collaboration and giving their expert input in the planning process for these new events for all abilities. Thank you also to Josh Welhener for connecting us so that this was all possible, and for helping in the planning as well.

Please see attached flyer



Greene County Parks & Trails

1d · 🌐

Our Backyard is for EVERYONE!

Toad-ally Together is a new program partnered by Greene County Parks & Trails and [Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities](#) to bring kids and families of all abilities together to have fun in our backyard — geared towards children ages 2 & up and of all abilities.

These are drop-in programs; you do not have to stay for the full 2 hours. An adult or guardian is required to stay during the program.

This is a FREE event, registration requested but not required, walk-ins welcome.

If you would like to join the fun, please see details, and register, here:

https://greencountyoh.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=29955



Our **Autism Diagnostic Education Program (ADEP) Team** have evaluations set up in the months of **May, June, and waiting on confirmation for a July evaluation.** Our ADEP Team includes Raleita Furlow, MEd (DS and ADEP Coordinator), Gina Tulamarie, MA, CCC/SLP, Anne Marie Cardilino, MS, CCC/SLP, Jennifer Montague, MS (DS and PLAY Consultant), and Robin Stewart (DS and PLAY Consultant). Our medical partner is Dr. Boreman, MD, FAAP, Medical Director of the Autism Center and Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician at Dayton Children’s Hospital. The ADOS’s Regional Team Meeting is coming up in May and our team plans to attend.

P.L.A.Y. Project (Play and Language for Autistic Youngsters Project) – parent implemented, intensive early intervention program for young children with autism that is evidence-based.

Our P.L.A.Y. Team includes Jennifer Montague (PLAY Coordinator, DS, and PLAY Consultant), Beth Brennaman (DS and PLAY Consultant), and Tina Snyder (OT and PLAY Consultant).

*****The team is currently serving 8 families, but has served 11 total this year so far.**

Parent/Provider/Staff Feedback:

ECP Exit Surveys –February 2024 – Four Oaks received 6 responses.

Please see below parent comments from 4/1/24 – 4/30/24

What I appreciated most about Four Oaks was.....

- Always being sweet and kind
- Their knowledge of reaching milestones what to look out for & sharing exercises/ activity ideas. Very comfortable & welcoming with meeting baby, our child felt comfortable which is always important.
- Angela was always very kind to us- over the last year I had another child and spent a lot of that year flying by the seat of my pants and she always worked with me wherever I was and gave me lots of ideas and strategies to try. She remembered what my daughter liked and used those things- like the brown bear book- to connect with her.
- I truly appreciated the time, effort and all suggestions Nicole and her colleagues gave us. They have been extremely supportive in our time with them and have helped us through some difficult times.
- In working with this program, they not only benefited my son, but also taught me how to be more educated and advocate for my son. They were such a huge support system to my family when I needed them the most.
- Respondent skipped this question

If Four Oaks could improve one thing, I recommend:

- N/A
- Respondent skipped this question
- Respondent skipped this question
- They work with you past the age of 3
- Respondent skipped this question
- Respondent skipped this question

Other comments

- Respondent skipped this question
- Respondent skipped this question
- Angela worked with my older daughter as well so she's been familiar with my family for about 3 years at this point and we're going to miss her! Thank you Angela!!!!
- Nicole has been amazing! I loved that I could contact her with any issues I may have had. She was very knowledgeable and helpful in every way. And I truly appreciate everyone for helping us get the items we needed for my daughter to be comfortable in our home.
- The only bad thing I can say about this program is I wish it didn't stop at 3! I am so sad to be parting ways, but I am also confident that their teachings and support will help guide me the rest of the way in my son's care! Thank you for everything!



Toad-ally Together

Partnership between GCBDD and
Greene County Parks & Trails

Toad-ally Together is a new program partnered by Greene County Parks & Trails and Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities to bring kids and families of all abilities together to have fun in our backyard! Geared towards children ages 2 & up and of all abilities.

Location:

Russ Nature Reserve
2380 Kemp Road
Beavercreek, OH 45431

*There are
TWO events
planned!*

Trolls Adventure

Friday, June 21st 2024

10:00 AM—12:00 PM



Dino Exploration

Friday, July 26th 2024

10:00 AM—12:00 PM



These are FREE events, registration requested but not required, walk-ins welcome.

You will find information and registration on the Greene County Parks & Trails website.

<https://greenecountyoh.myrec.com/info/activities/>

Search under “Youth Programming”, click on “Toad-ally Together”

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities

May 15, 2024 Board Report:

Division: SSA

Division Director Reporting: Denise Summerville

Updates:

Summer Transition Program: Referrals are in full swing and currently being assigned SSAs to assist families with scheduling tours, completing intakes, developing an ISP and then monitoring services over the summer. As of May 8, 2024, twenty-six individuals have signed up with another seven referrals who are in the process of selecting their program site. Five of the fourteen agencies available for summer program have not yet had any participants sign up.

Stillwater Respite: No executed contract for locally funded services yet. We are waiting on their response to changes in the contract requested by our Prosecutor's office.

Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:

April TCM productivity: 56.5%

Eligibility Referral and Linkage contacts: 61

Ohio Assessment for Immediate and Current Needs: 5

Program Information:

Extraordinary Care/Parent as Provider of Minor Children:

People with developmental disabilities and their families often struggle to find and keep direct support professionals to provide critical support. Families and parents with minor children are often forced to quit their jobs to care for their children. To help address these workforce challenges which were exacerbated during the pandemic, Appendix K allowed parents to be paid providers for their minor children. Families viewed as this allowance as extremely helpful and DODD changed administrative rules to allow this to continue after Appendix K officially ended.

Within this allowance, there are many regulations we as the County Board must follow. The child must be eligible for county board services. The family along with the SSA must identify a need to enroll on a waiver. If there is a need that cannot be met with alternative resources (Examples: Family Supports Services, Medicaid state plan services, respite programs, etc.), our Eligibility

Coordinators, Vanessa Emanoff and Carrie Keller, complete an Ohio Assessment for Immediate or Current Needs.

If/when a child is enrolled on a waiver, it is the County Board's responsibility to assure there is no other willing and able providers for the child before moving forward with the Extraordinary Care Tool. This is completed through a provider search. If the search identifies providers who are willing and able to work with the child, the SSA/team develop the service plan with the provider of choice delivering the identified needed services.

If there is no willing and able provider, our Eligibility Coordinators complete an Extraordinary Care Assessment (copy attached for reference). If they meet the Extraordinary Care requirements, the parent may become a provider for their child. The SSA/team then develops a service plan based on only the extraordinary needs of the child identified in the Extraordinary Care Instrument. The exact number of hours is based on the needs of the child as determined by the ISP team. The parent is subject to the same administrative rules that govern other providers (i.e. UI and MUI reporting, documentation, etc.)

The Greene County Board has designated 2 SSAs to take the lead on any family who has requested to be the Extraordinary Care/Parent Providers. Cassandra Musslewhite and Brittany Long have taken on the extra duties that are required when a parent is a paid provider. Cassandra and Brittany have a strict 30-day check in, required in rule, with any parent that is paid as a provider to their child. Every 60 days, there is a mandatory in-person meeting at the home where the care is being provided. Cassandra and Brittany are also required to assure that there are no willing and able providers available which is done by a regularly scheduled provider search.

To date we have had two different families who have gone through the complete process and have begun working as a paid provider for their minor child. Both families have been extremely compliant with all of the check ins and visits that are required of the SSA. We will be completing provider searches early summer to see if we can identify any willing and able providers to assist these families.

Extraordinary Care has been a lot to learn and to institute a plan of action moving forward. With the excellence and dedication of Vanessa, Carrie, Brittany and Cassandra to assure things are being done as written in rule, with the same guidelines to any and all families requesting Extraordinary Care, we have this process up and running to assist families in need.

Special Events/Activities: SSAs had a special guest at one of our weekly SSA meetings. Sheila Bloom from the Medicaid department came to assist the SSAs by discussing best practices when completing funding requests.

Greene County SSA Department hosted the OACB Statewide SSA Director's quarterly meeting on April 24, 2024 at the Jobs and Family Services conference room. Participants heard from APSI regarding their new centralized intake process as well as updates from several DODD staff members in their respective areas.

OHIO EXTRAORDINARY CARE INSTRUMENT

Individual's Name		Assessor's Name	
Date of Birth	Age At Assessment	Date Completed	

Instructions

Using the Rating Scale, the assessing agency will assign one value that indicates the greatest level of support required by the individual to meet each need. All needs must be assessed and may be completed in any order. Medical documentation is not required to meet the standard of Extraordinary Care for any of the needs below. Please note that there is an age range presumed as not applicable for some needs. For those needs, score as a **(0)**.

Refer to *Ohio Extraordinary Care Instrument — Definitions for additional instructions*.

Rating Scale

Independent or N/A (0) Sometimes Requires Physical/Verbal Support (2)	Requires Assistive Device (1) Always Requires Physical/Verbal Support (3)
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Need	Score	Need	Score
Feeding Assistance		Seizure Protocol	
Respiratory/Pulmonary Care		Catheter or Ostomy Care	
Turning/Positioning <i>Enter (0) for ages 8 months and younger</i>		Ambulation <i>Enter (0) for ages 17 months and younger</i>	
Transfer Assistance <i>Enter (0) for ages 17 months and younger</i>		Oral Hygiene <i>Enter (0) for ages 4 years and younger</i>	
Dressing <i>Enter (0) for ages 4 years and younger</i>		Toileting <i>Enter (0) for ages 4 years and younger</i>	
Behavioral Support <i>Enter (0) for ages 4 years and younger</i>		Bathing <i>Enter (0) for ages 6 years and younger</i>	
Hair, Nail, and/or Skin Care <i>Enter (0) for ages 9 years and younger</i>		Communication <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>	
Basic Purchases <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>		Basic Meal Preparation <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>	
Basic Household Chores <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>		Laundry <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>	
Accessing Transportation <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>		Accessing Personal Funds <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>	
Cognition/Decision Making <i>Enter (0) for ages 15 years and younger</i>		Medication Administration <i>Enter (0) for ages 17 years and younger</i>	

Ohio Extraordinary Care Instrument Results

If the individual scores a (3) in at least three of the items above, then the individual meets the standard of extraordinary care as defined by OAC 5160-44-32.			
Are there at least three ratings of (3) for the items listed above?		Does the individual meet the standard of extraordinary care as defined by OAC 5160-44-32?	

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities

May 15, 2024 Board Report:

Division: Finance and Administration

Director Reporting: Tom Schaeffer

Updates:

10 Year Projection

Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:

MAC	\$194,743
TCM	\$144,392
TITLE XX	\$9,429
COST REPORT SETTLEMENT	<u>\$1,101,086</u>
	\$1,449,649

Financials:

Beginning Cash Balance 1-01-2024	\$25,944,242
YTD Revenue	\$8,646,117
YTD Expense	(\$6,285,323)
Ending Cash Balance	\$28,305,036
Budget Stabilization Fund	\$5,462,166
Medicaid Reserve Fund	\$372,463
	\$34,139,665

Detailed Report Attached

Enrollment and Service Data

Program Areas	Enrolled On	Enrolled On
	3/31/2024	4/30/2024
Unduplicated Count Receiving Services	1195	1193
Early Childhood Eligibility Birth 0-3	16	22
0-3 early Childhood Enrollment	243	231
Play Project Enrolled	8	8
Board Eligibility	12	15
Service and Support	562	566
Recreation Events	5	5
Behavioral Support	35	42
Restrictive Measures	4	3
Unusual Incidents	130	161
Major Unusual Incidents	10	12
Providers-Independent	164	149
Provider-Agencies	69	71
Waiver Recipients	394	394
Medicaid Waiver Services	316	322
Family Support Services Enrolled	91	131
Individuals Residing in Homecroft Homes	77	77

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities

May 15, 2024 Board Report:

Division: Community Relations

Director Reporting: Delana Zapata

Updates:

Attended 1st grade book reading for two classes at Tecumseh on May 15th. Gabe, Kayleigh and Dezeray, students from Xenia High School, read about inclusion & acceptance from a book called "Meeting Mimi", to a few Tecumseh Elementary classes. Kathy Kleiser, brought Pepe, a therapy dog, to also educate students about service dogs.

DSP recognition: Kandi Lane Asberry, for her excellent work and dedication to those she supports! Ms. Asberry is a DSP with Allen & Carmen's Caring Hands.

Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:

Facebook Page Reach:

Post Reach: 3654

Post Engagement: 912

New Followers: 8

Program Information:

Attended an AHI "Game Night" held at the Valley Office. All enjoyed the event!

A Text Message Josh received regarding Dungeon & Dragons group:

"Hey josh I just wanted to give a shout out to the DD players tonight...

On the way there, Morgan got a call that ultimately, halted her driving instruction... and is moving her to OT and Vision therapy to assist with her driving. It was a pretty big blow to her goals, and she was very upset. She chose to go into the group anyway - they rallied around her giving her all the support possible. Morgan said she wasn't up to being the dungeon master, they didn't care, and they understood. They all were cool & were flexible to just play a game - so they played apples to apples for the time they had. Morgan thanked them, of course. On the way out Gage, even said Morgan is always great to rally us and lead us, we can definitely support her when she needs it.

Feel free to use it as a success if you'd like by it I think this is part of the community that you wanted to build. So thank you!! "

Special Events/Activities:

Community Outreach (Josh Welhener)

April Events:

4/1: WPAFB Autism Walk: Josh attended the Wright Patterson Air Force Base EFMP Autism Walk to share information with base families about All Hands In and County Board services.

4/3, 4/17: D&D: The D&D crew only met on 4/3 because there were not enough players and no dungeon master on 4/17. Overall though the group continues to grow and requires less and less assistance from All Hands In.

4/10: Coffee Talk: Coffee Talk continues to meet in the Towards Independence lobby. Attendance averages between 20-30 and is usually comprised of 1-2 day programs and individuals that show up independently.

4/16: Board Game Night: Board Game night was a reasonable success for a non-regular event. Approximately 30 individuals attended. Several group homes joined us. We have developed a regular following from several Grace Works and Towards Independence homes.

4/24: Karaoke: As usual Karaoke was a huge success. Tons of individuals and group homes attended. Attendance was around 65. Kathy Kleiser served as our special celebrity karaoke DJ.

4/30: Diner's Club: Diner's Club was held at Los Mariachis in Xenia and like karaoke, it is a fan favorite and always well attended. Approximately 50 attended.

Upcoming and Noteworthy Events:

Frequent Flyer Program

Beginning in June, All Hands In Participants will be given a "Frequent Flyer" punch card. Participants that attend at least one event per month will receive a punch on their card. 12 punches will earn them a major award at the end of the year. Probably a t-shirt and some other All Hands In Swag.

3rd Annual Challenging Perceptions Adaptive Trail Race:

Josh's anxiety continues to build as people are not registering for the race. As of 5/8 only 41 people are registered. Three of those are wheelchair participants and we have room for 5 more. The target number is 100 total from the All Hands In Community. Guilt trip side note: Last year Montgomery County Board of DD sent a team of 20 people from their staff which was far more than the GCBDD. I hope GCBDD doesn't get shown up like that again!!

YouTube Content Creation:

In May, All Hands In will begin partnering with the Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of this project is to allow our All Hands In Members that are interested in video editing/content creation to use the Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce's studio and resources. We might even get to help the chamber with their content creation.

All Hands In Online Gaming:

Beginning in June, All Hands In will begin hosting online Game Nights for our video gamers. This is a lot time project/goal that is finally coming to life. A new independent provider in our system will be hosting the sessions. We anticipate this being very popular.

Recreation (Megan Goettemoeller):

April Recreation events:

Spring Fling, approximately 170 in attendance for the dance.

Kettering Ice Skating, approximately 22 for ice skating. (*The weather outside was awesome that day...which was not awesome for our event ha-ha!*)

New "News":

Special events promoted:

AHI's New Coffee Talk

Discussion on "Supporting Healthy Relationships & Sexual Health for People with Developmental Disabilities"

3rd Annual Challenging Perceptions Adaptive Trail Race

Greene Co. Children Services Child Abuse Prevention Month & Blue Pin Wheels

Pictures and Facebook posts from attendees of the Spring Fling Dance

AHI Game Night

Tecumseh 1st Grade Book Reading event

Pam Dean's (EI) Retirement

Upcoming Bike events with AHI

DSP recognition

Ice Skating with GCBDD

AHI Karaoke Night

AHI & GCP&T Nerf Night

Respite Option Flyer

[All Hands In Network - GCBDD](#) April Newsletter

The Parent Support and Advisory Council's meeting (May)

Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities

May 15, 2024 Board Report:

Division: Administration

Superintendent Reporting:

Updates: The Board of Commissioners for Greene County recently approved a lump sum payment of 2% to all permanent, non-bargaining unit, classified and unclassified employees of the county under their jurisdiction. In that same resolution they indicated they will provide the equivalent of a 2% lump sum payment to each elected official to distribute to their respective employees.

The Auditor's office has asked if the Board was going to participate, recognizing the Board would be responsible for the 2%.

I asked Tom and Shelia to calculate the cost of doing so, where the funds would come from, and the current financial position of our 5- and 10-year forecast.

Based on the information they provided I am recommending the Board participate with the county and follow the stipulations contained in Commissioners resolution number 24-5-2-7.

The economy has been tough for so many people a small bonus such as this one provides additional financial assistance to employees which in turn can engender more loyalty from employees and incentivize them to continue to do their best work for the Board. It also compliments our retention rate which at the last meeting was reported for 2023 at 97%.

New "News":

Legislation introduced regarding supported decision making.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Jerry Cirino (R-Lake and Cuyahoga County), also received in-person proponent testimony from Kristen Henry, Executive Director of Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc. (APSI Ohio) (pictured above, center) and Jen Powers Alge, Southwest Regional Director for The Arc of Ohio (pictured above, left). APSI Ohio has spearheaded advocacy efforts to pass

this legislation over the past two years with the support of OACB and many other DD stakeholder organizations.

All witnesses spoke to the benefits of supported decision-making and the need to establish the process as an alternative to guardianship in the Ohio Revised Code to ensure greater use, consistency, and acceptance of the practice throughout the state.

Sub Minimum Wages

On Wednesday, May 1, OACB hosted a legislative visit with State Senator Tim Schaffer at PerCo, Inc., a sheltered workshop located near the lawmaker's district in Perry County. The visit, designed to show how subminimum wage programs typically operate in Ohio, also provided opportunities for the legislator to hear directly from program participants about their jobs.

The visit was organized after Sen. Schaffer notified the association he is considering introducing companion legislation to HB 427, which proposes to eliminate the practice of subminimum wage employment in Ohio after five years. While touring the facility, Perry DD Superintendent David Couch and Fairfield DD Superintendent David Uhl offered insight into the history of subminimum wage programs in Ohio and shared the efforts that each of their boards have undertaken over the past decade to limit the use of subminimum wage in favor of competitive community integrated employment.

While it remains to be seen whether Sen. Schaffer will introduce a bill on this topic in the current legislative term, he indicated after the discussion that he continues to be interested in the issue overall and will be seeking additional follow-up from DD stakeholder groups in the coming weeks.

County boards developing subminimum wage resources and solutions
Recognizing that final legislative action to eliminate subminimum wage employment is likely to occur in the not-too-distant future, a workgroup of county board superintendents has begun developing resources, best practices, and potential strategic support initiatives that will likely be necessary for individuals and their service providers to successfully transition away from subminimum wage programs in the future. More information about their progress will be shared with members as these efforts continue to evolve.

Replacement Levies

On Tuesday, April 30, the House Ways and Means Committee held its final hearing for HB 344, sponsored by Representatives Adam Matthews (R-Warren County) and Thomas Hall (R-Butler County). Among other property tax issues contained in the bill, HB 344 would permanently eliminate the ability of local property taxing authorities to put replacement levies on the ballot for approval by voters after October 2024.

The bill passed out of committee along party lines by a vote of 11 to 5 and now awaits consideration by the full House of Representatives. It is currently unclear when the bill could receive a full House vote, as the GOP majority continues to be deeply divided and most significant legislative action has ground to a halt.

If passed by the House, HB 344 would then move to the Senate, where it would restart the consideration process from the beginning in the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Based on conversations thus far with key lawmakers in that chamber, OACB expects the replacement levy provisions to face significant opposition. Nevertheless, the association will remain engaged on the bill throughout the process to ensure county board voices are heard.

***The next regular GCBDD Board meeting is scheduled for
June 26th, at noon, at Valley Rd with Virtual option.***

***Note: All reports above, are merely a summary of the board meeting and reports
submitted.***