



## Board Meeting Highlights September 17th 2025

### Board Actions

- Board motion to have brief executive meeting on 17th
- Board approved compensation plan for 2026
- Board approved MUI policy

### Topics of discussion

# **Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

## **September 17, 2025 Board Report:**

**Division:** Community Services

**Director Reporting:** Jeanne Turner

### **Updates:**

#### **Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)**

##### **Required for the following DD services**

(See attached ODM Covered Services Document for breakdown per Waiver type)

- Homemaker Personal Care (HPC)
- Participant-Directed Homemaker/Personal Care (PDHCP)
- Waiver Nursing (IO Only)
- Nursing Delegation (IO Only)
- Residential Respite – when billed in 15-minute units

NOTE: Services paid using per diem codes are not subject to EVV (Shared living and per diem residential respite are not subject to EVV)

#### **Local Support**

- Susan continues to provide lots of trouble shooting assistance to providers coming newly into the system. She has sent many warning reminders over the past year, but there are still some providers that have held out until now, knowing they will not be paid after 10/1 without complying. She and Cindy have worked with DODD this past month to again contact all non-compliant providers individually (email and phone) to remind and offer assistance.
- There are also many providers that have been in the EVV system but are running into glitches that need to be worked through prior to the October date in order to be paid all effected claims. We have access to reporting that shows many of even our established providers are at less than 50% success rate in EVV and claims reconciliation. It is unclear at this point if there are underlying ODM/Sandata systemic issues that need to be fixed, or if this is a compliance issue. We suspect a combination of both, and anticipate this will be an ongoing top provider challenge going well into the new year.

#### **Reminder from Monday Memo 8/26/25 and 9/2/25**

As a reminder, effective October 1, 2025, claims requiring Electronic Visitation Verification (EVV) without a matching EVV record will be denied.

To avoid claim denials and non-payment, please ensure that each submitted claim requiring EVV has a corresponding EVV record in our system. Denied claims will not be paid.

Providers can view information for their submitted DODD waiver claims and matching EVV records on their Provider Weekly Report in eMBS.

Providers will receive notifications bi-weekly for their claims and EVV matching rates. Currently, DODD has a 44.9% compliance rate for the claims billed in the current pay cycle, SEP25A.

Please visit the [Ohio Department of Medicaid EVV website](#) for resources and tools available. For immediate help, contact the EVV Provider Hotline at 855-805-3505.

### ***Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:***

- **Providers on PAWs** (see attached Brittco Providers on PAWs report):
  - In the month of August: Independent – 148; Agency (of all types of service) –77

### **Care Choice Service Requests Summary**

- As of the date of this report (9/10), there are 6 service requests currently posted:
  - 5 Homemaker Personal Care (HPC) – 3 IO; 1 LV1; 1 CB funded
  - 1 Non-Medical Transportation (NMT)

### ***Program Information:***

The Transition Team is completely back working within the local school districts.

1. Brenda began working with the Soin PATHWAYS program (formerly known as Project SEARCH). The name change is because the Career Center has chosen to hire their own skills trainer rather than OOD funding a provider (i.e. Goodwill). Brenda has been assisting with training the new skills trainer and working with students alongside both Ms. Cline and the new skills trainer.
2. The team has started working in the schools beginning the week of August 11th along with setting up the schedule for this school year.
3. For the month of August, the team worked with 58 students; beginning in September it will be 177 students collectively over 8 schools/programs.
4. Cindy and Brenda are also working with students and staff at community work sites from Career X, Yellow Springs, Project LIFE, Bellbrook, and Beavercreek Transition. The community sites are currently Hampton Inn (Xenia), Tom' Markets (Yellow Springs), Walgreens (Bellbrook).
5. IEPs are being scheduled, and Kathy will attend as many as she can around the school schedules.
6. The Transition Team is also coordinating with the SSA department (specifically Tricia Montanez) to ensure there is a seamless transition for students in their last year in school who have employment goals and are connected with a Navigator before they exit school. We are still working on this process.

7. The entire team is working actively to prepare for the Greene County Community Resource and Transition Expo. Josh Welhener will report on where we are at with the planning.

***Parent/Provider/Staff Feedback:***

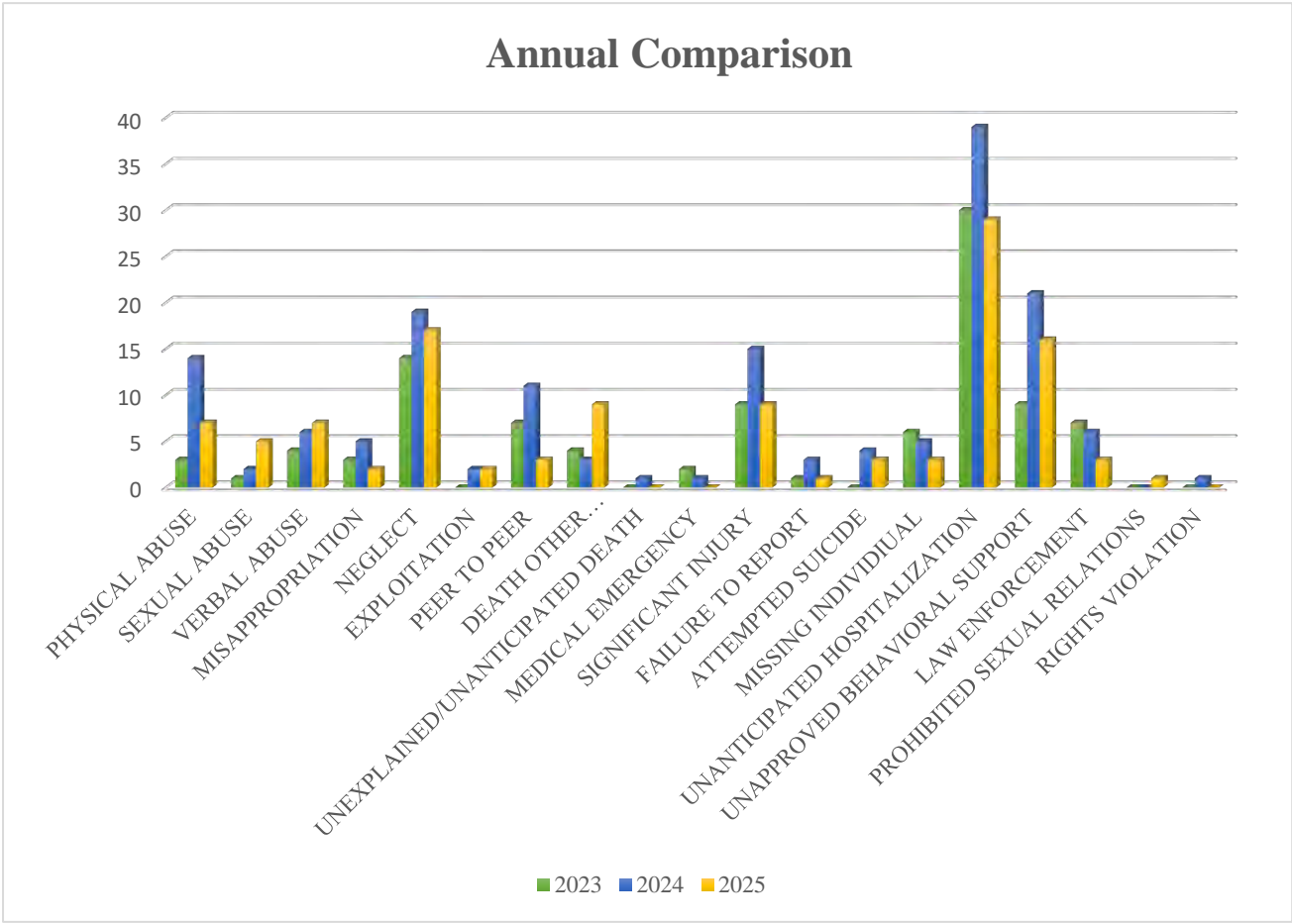
***On 9/5/25 Community Services met with Summer Respite Program Providers to retrieve feedback on the changes made regarding the process and support from the County Board. There were 6 providers for the summer program and 2 providers attended this meeting. Overall, positive feedback was given. At the beginning of the summer, there were questions surrounding transportation billing, but all that was ironed out with the help of Finance Director.***

***Items Requiring Board Approval:***

***~MUI Policy~***

September 2025

CATEGORY	2023	2024	2025
PHYSICAL ABUSE	3	14	7
SEXUAL ABUSE	1	2	5
VERBAL ABUSE	4	6	7
MISAPPROPRIATION	3	5	2
NEGLECT	14	19	17
EXPLOITATION	0	2	2
PEER TO PEER	7	11	3
DEATH OTHER UNEXPLAINED/UNANTICIPATED	4	3	9
UNEXPLAINED/UNANTICIPATED DEATH	0	1	0
MEDICAL EMERGENCY	2	1	0
SIGNIFICANT INJURY	9	15	9
FAILURE TO REPORT	1	3	1
ATTEMPTED SUICIDE	0	4	3
MISSING INDIVIDUAL	6	5	3
UNANTICIPATED HOSPITALIZATION	30	39	29
UNAPPROVED BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT	9	21	16
LAW ENFORCEMENT	7	6	3
PROHIBITED SEXUAL RELATIONS	0	0	1
RIGHTS VIOLATION	0	1	0
TOTAL	100	158	117



One individual can have multiple categories in one MUI case.

CATEGORY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
PHYSICAL ABUSE	0	0	2	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
SEXUAL ABUSE	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	1	1	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
MISAPPROPRIATION	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
NEGLECT	4	2	1	1	2	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	17
EXPLOITATION	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
PEER TO PEER	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
DEATH OTHER UNEXPLAINED/UNANTICIPATED	2	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	9
UNEXPLAINED/UNANTICIPATED DEATH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MEDICAL EMERGENCY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SIGNIFICANT INJURY	0	3	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	9
FAILURE TO REPORT	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
ATTEMPTED SUICIDE	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
MISSING INDIVIDUAL	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
UNANTICIPATED HOSPITALIZATION	5	5	6	5	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
UNAPPROVED BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT	1	2	2	4	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	16
LAW ENFORCEMENT	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
PROHIBITED SEXUAL RELATIONS	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
RIGHTS VIOLATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	15	14	20	14	8	10	18	8	0	0	0	0	117

# **Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

## **September 17,2025 Board Report:**

**Division:** SSA

**Division Director Reporting:** Denise Summerville

### ***Updates:***

SSA HIRING UPDATE: We are still looking for a candidate to fill our current open SSA position. We have three interviews scheduled for the week of September 8-12,2025 and will hopefully identify an appropriate candidate.

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT TEAM UPDATE: We have successfully assisted two individuals to secure appropriate services and providers that can effectively meet their needs. This stems from committed work of the SSAs, who have collaborated for years with the families of these individuals, Ohio Rise, DODD, IBSRAO homes, and numerous other organizations. The individuals, who exhibit significant behavioral challenges, have relocated and are thriving. Although the placements are outside of Greene County, the individuals still live within reasonable proximity to their families. In the past, some have found themselves in out of state placements as far away as Texas, Kansas, Tennessee, and various locations in Ohio. Amanda Mueller and Sarah Hang have worked closely with these families and continue to support them as they transition.

### ***Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:***

AUGUST PRODUCTIVITY: 51%

ELIGIBILITY REFERRAL AND LINKAGE: 53 contacts

NEW SSA APPLICATIONS: 12

### ***Program Information:***

Several SSAs took part in the SSA Summer Series: Meaningful Monitoring; OISP What's Ahead; Nursing Services Mythbusters; Building Community Connections.

Employment Navigation Update on cross department and interagency collaboration:

- EN team met with Transition Services on 8/6/25 to discuss the EN's role in the transition process with connecting students in Pathways (formally Project Search), Career X and Project Life, who are in their last year of school prior to separation, to employment supports and services needed to help them achieve their employment outcomes and transition into adult life.
- EN team scheduled meeting for September with teachers from Pathways, Project Life and Career X to discuss Employment Navigations role in assisting students in their last year of school to connect with employment supports and services.

Waiver Modernization Information: Director and Managers took part in the Waiver Modernization training concerning the upcoming changes to funding assessments. In the future, the InterRAI will be the standardized assessment used to determine waiver budgets. The state is of the opinion that the advantages of the InterRAI include: standardized and evidence-based approaches, a person-centered focus, an emphasis on strengths, and the ability to assess a comprehensive range of needs. The InterRAI is one aspect of the Waiver Modernization project that DODD began in February 2023. The goal of the Waiver Modernization Project is to simplify current processes related to funding, rate setting, and establishing individual budgets for Medicaid waivers. DODD wants to make these processes easier to make sure the person served is getting the services they need and want. As part of the project, DODD has met with stakeholders, conducted rate studies, and assessed leading practices in other states to identify areas for improvement in Ohio.

There are four focus areas and goals for the Waiver Modernization Project:

1. Implement a single needs-based assessment to create individual budgets;
2. Streamline and refresh the billing process for providers;
3. Create data-sharing technology;
4. Support the sustainability of the waiver program and County Board funding.

***Special Events/Activities:***

Guests at SSA meetings:

- Josh Carson and the Blue Envelope Group (see attached flyer describing the program)
- Empowered Adult Day Services



# OHIO'S BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM



- Reduces anxiety for concerned drivers/family
- Provides important information to law enforcement
- Improves communication during traffic stops/emergencies
- Available for use throughout Ohio
- Free to all Ohio County Boards to distribute to the individuals they serve



## **FREE Blue Envelope Packets include:**

**Blue Envelope** — Keep important documents needed for traffic stops together in one place

**Car Decal** — Tells law enforcement or first responders that someone in vehicle has a disability

**Wallet Card** — Carry with you to provide information quickly in emergencies

**Program Brochure** — Explains how to use items in the Blue Envelope Packet

Packets are available for free to County Boards of DD throughout Ohio. Grant funding from the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council allowed for printing of 50,000 Blue Envelope Packets. The packets will be distributed to county boards wanting to be part of the program throughout summer of 2025.

The program is voluntary and open to anyone with a disability in the state of Ohio.





## PROGRAM SPONSORS:



### ***Southern Ohio Advocacy Group***

This project is supported by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, under grant number 2401OHSCDD from the Administration of Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$2,846,720 with 96% funded by ACL/HHS and 4% funded by the State of Ohio. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

# **Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

## **September 17, 2025 Board Report:**

**Division:** Early Intervention

**Director Reporting:** Jennifer Frey

### ***Updates:***

#### **State Fiscal Year 26 Early Intervention Service Coordination Grant County Family and Children First Coordinators Allocations**

The Department of Children and Youth (DCY) has added \$7 million and \$9 million for SFY26 and SFY27, with separate allocations to the Early Intervention Service Coordination (EISC) grant agreements. The purpose of this funding is to assist the CBDDs in covering some of the costs associated with evaluations, assessments, and service coordination.

We have been meeting with GCPH Service Coordination and exploring ways to utilize these funds. Additional evaluators (with state approved licensures) are what's most needed as each evaluation/assessment requires two evaluators and the 45-day timeline from referral to Initial IFSP is often a challenge due to scheduling.

GCPH has a nurse, Donna Jenkins, that is able to fill the role as a secondary evaluator thanks to the addition of those funds. In addition to GCPH, the ESC Infant Mental Health Consultants will also be able to assist us with evaluations and assessments.

### ***Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:***

**Our Active IFSP number for August 2025 was 231, and our teams completed 20 evaluations.**

**Greene County EI received 26 new referrals August.** The highest referral sources were parents, then physicians, followed by other various sources such as hospital child find specialists, Children Services, etc.

### ***Program Information:***

**Our Autism Diagnostic Education Program (ADEP) Team has an evaluation scheduled for June.** 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.

**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 **7** families whose children in the program are all between the ages of 3 – 5. The team has served **11** families in total this year.

### ***Special Events/Activities:***

**Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities are continuing to partner with Greene County Parks & Trails for monthly events in 2026!** Early Intervention's events are part of the series of collaborated events called "Toad-ally Together" are currently being scheduled for next year. These events are meant to bring kids and families of all abilities *together*. We are looking forward to another year of partnering with GCPT and providing these fun and inclusive activities! We will share the dates and themes as soon as they are final.

### ***Parent/Provider/Staff Feedback:***

#### **ECP Exit Surveys –August 2025 – Four Oaks received 2 responses.**

**Please see below parent comments from 8/1/25 – 8/31/25. All other questions were answered with a "strongly agree" or respondent skipped question because it didn't apply.**

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

- Respondent skipped this question
- They gave me so many tips for my son to work with him. I definitely took their advice and he improved!!

**If Four Oaks could improve one thing, I recommend:**

- Respondent skipped this question
- N/a

**Other comments**

- Respondent skipped this question
- Respondent skipped this question

# **Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

## **September 17, 2025 Board Report:**

**Division: Finance and Administration**

**Director Reporting: Tom Schaeffer**

### ***Updates:***

Budget Submitted to the County

DSP Appreciation

-Independent Providers

-Agency Providers

### ***Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:***

#### **Federal Revenue**

MAC	\$381,548
TCM	\$609,658
TITLE XX	\$33,849
WAIVER RECONCILIATION	\$1,169,050
COST REPORT SETTLEMENT	
	<hr/>
	\$2,194,105

### ***Financials:***

Beginning Cash Balance 1-1-2025	\$25,619,436
YTD Revenue	\$16,052,462
YTD Expense	(\$13,182,268)
<b>Ending Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$28,489,629</b>
Budget Stabilization Fund	\$5,462,166
Medicaid Reserve Fund	\$372,463
	<b>\$34,324,258</b>

***Detailed Report Attached***

## Enrollment and Service Data

Program Areas	Enrolled On	Enrolled On
	7/31/2025	8/31/2025
Unduplicated Count Receiving Services	1308	1307
Early Childhood Eligibility Birth 0-3	36	20
0-3 early Childhood Enrollment	226	231
Play Project Enrolled	9	7
Board Eligibility	10	10
Service and Support	554	561
Recreation Events	181	358
Behavioral Support	35	34
Restrictive Measures	7	7
School Age Individuals	25	58
Unusual Incidents	180	157
Major Unusual Incidents	18	8
Providers-Independent	158	148
Provider-Agencies	75	77
Waiver Recipients	395	398
Medicaid Waiver Services	364	317
Family Support Services Enrolled	70	49
Individuals Residing in Homecroft Homes	74	73

# **Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

## **September Board Report:**

**Division:** Community Relations

**Director Reporting:** Delana Zapata

### ***Updates:***

- Greene County Community Resource Expo – Oct 2nd
- DSP Recognition:
- DSP Recognition Week (Sept 7-11)

### ***Noteworthy Monthly Data/Numbers:***

Facebook Page Reach:

Views: 9,179

Post Reach: 1432

Content Interaction: 141

New Followers: 5

### ***Program Information:***

#### ***NEW Advocacy and Resource Coordination (Josh Carson)***

- Received a total of 23 total requests for advocacy and resource support (See Chart Below) Of course to reiterate this is an extension of each of the departments so when needed the departments can request resource / advocacy support by submitting the request form.

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Number of Requests	3	7	1	1	2	3	3

Range of Ages	
0-18	3
19-30	8
31-40	4
41-50	3
51-60	0
61+	2

- (On-Going) Continuing to explore / expand the network of community resources to aid families / individuals who need additional resources and supports. Continue to reach out to various agencies to continue building a network of available resources.

- Continually working on updating the GCBDD Website Family and Individual Support Tab to include resources / support information for individuals / families to access.
- Currently working with the Voices of Greene County, a self-advocacy group that meets in Tandem with Montgomery County. We recently held a planning session where we discussed 2026 and what the advocates would like to learn more about and pursue.
- We began working on collaborating with various churches in Greene County in efforts to assist in serving and supporting those individuals in the Disability Community. This will be an on-going project and myself, and Josh W. have had several meetings scheduled with churches and pastors to see how the churches can assist in supporting the individuals we serve through various resources. We attended and will be attending the MAX (Ministry Association of Xenia) Meetings to build a strong network of support for our individuals / families in need. We will also be attending the Fairborn Ministry Association in October to share information and build support for those individuals in the developmental disability community.

### **Love in Action**

This is an opportunity for those we serve to in a way give back through acts of love and service. Josh W and I recently met with the Mayor of Xenia to identify some opportunities where individuals being served can work alongside community members in efforts to perform an act of service. This will be a work in progress as we work on identifying acts of service that are needed in the community. In July we did our 1<sup>st</sup> one at Bridges of Hope in Xenia and had a good response. Bridges were very excited about our folks coming out to serve. We were scheduled to do a second event in August at With God's Grace Food Pantry which unfortunately we had to cancel due to a lack of response from those interested in serving. We will be continuing to collaborate with various programs on opportunities for our folks to serve in the community.

### **The Blue Envelope Program / Law Enforcement Training**

- In working with our IA's Kemmes Keys and Douglas Henning, we have been collaborating with various law enforcement agencies in Greene County. This collaboration involves offering training when responding to situations that involve an individual with a developmental disability. We have had a good response from some of the law enforcement agencies and are currently working on setting up training opportunities with them. We will also be presenting at the CIT Training on September 23<sup>rd</sup> which is a training course put on by the Mental Health Recovery Board for Law Enforcement Agencies.



- We are excited about starting the Blue Envelope Program in Greene County. This is a National Program which is now being launched across Ohio. This program uses communication tools to assist individuals with developmental disabilities during interactions with law enforcement and emergency personnel. I have sent this information to several of the law enforcement agencies and will be working on presenting this to them at some point during training as well. Kelli Gothard with the Southern Ohio Council of Governments and myself have met with the SSA Department to share this information and we already have begun offering the blue envelopes to those families and individuals we serve. We will also be sharing info on the blue envelope program at the resource fair coming up in October. See the attached flyers for more information.

### ***Special Events/Activities:***

#### **Community Outreach**

#### **August Events**

8/7/2025	Coffee Talk	All Hands In	20+
8/8/2025	Toad-Ally Together with E/I	All Hands In	150+
8/14/2025	TI Golf Outing	All Hands In	8
8/14/2025	Diner's Club	All Hands In	70+
8/20/2025	Nerf Night (Clark County)	All Hands IN	70+
8/27/2025	Movie Night	All Hands In	40+

#### **Upcoming Events and other news**

1. All Hands has an exciting opportunity to work with the Cedarville Design department to revamp and freshen up the All Hands In brand and logo. This is happening in October. Stay tuned.
2. The TI golf outing was a huge success. We had 4 golfers served by the GCBDD that participated.
3. All Hands In is partnering with Greene County Special Olympics to host a mega Halloween Karaoke Party on 10/19.
4. All Hands In is partnering Scott Family McDonalds to host a Movie/McDonald's Trivia event on 10/16.

**New "News":**

**Special events promoted:**

GCBDD - Greene County Community Resource and Transition Expo!

AHI Newsletter

AHI Movie Night

Nerf Night – AHI

Greene County Special Olympics Chapter

USA Skate Center Sensory Skate

Dayton's Dragons Game (Recreation)

S.A.L.T Season schedule & individual session events

Sinclair College Tartan TOPS Virtual Open House

GCBDD Early Intervention Newsletter

Good Works Farm -Punkin' Chuckin' Palooza

PSAC Meeting

Direct Support Professional Recognition Week 2025

AHI Diners Club

Good Works Farms- Appreciation post for Jeff Diamond

Board Meeting public notice

DSP Recognition (individual)

**Contact Information:**

Kelli Gothard

Southern Ohio Council of Governments

[kgothard@socog.org](mailto:kgothard@socog.org)

740-649-0777

**Release Date:**

for immediate release

## Small Envelope Makes Big Difference

### Advocacy Group Brings Safety Initiative to Ohio Roadways

**Chillicothe, Ohio** - Flashing lights approaching behind your vehicle give all of us a little jolt of anxiety – no matter the situation. Imagine that anxiety amplified knowing that your ability to communicate with officers may be hindered by your disability. Thousands of drivers throughout Ohio know this feeling – and a simple blue envelope can help.

The Southern Ohio Council of Governments (SOCOG) is pleased to announce the launch of the Blue Envelope Program across the state of Ohio. The program uses communication tools to assist individuals with developmental disabilities during interactions with law enforcement and emergency personnel.

“The Blue Envelope Program is a powerful example of how compassion and understanding can shape public safety,” said SOCOG Executive Director Kelly Rosler. “By fostering better communication between law enforcement and individuals with disabilities, it builds a safer, more inclusive community for everyone.”

The key part of the program is the Blue Envelope itself. The envelope has space on the outside for information about the disability and/or medical conditions of the driver or passenger of the automobile. A copy of a ID/driver’s license, vehicle registration, and vehicle insurance card can be kept inside the envelope which would be handed to a law enforcement officer during a traffic stop. Having this information in one place makes it easier to communicate with officers and reduces anxiety during a traffic stop.

The second piece of the program is the Blue Envelope Car Decal. The three-inch decal features the program logo and can be placed on a vehicle’s windows to discreetly communicate to law enforcement and first responders that the occupants participate in the Blue Envelope Program. They will be aware that a person in that vehicle may have a disability that could affect their actions or speech. In the event of a traffic accident, the Blue Envelope Car Decal and Blue

Envelope allow first responders to access critical information immediately in case you are injured.

The Blue Envelope Wallet Card is included in the packet for people who want a method of communication they can carry in their pocket or purse. It is a smaller version of the envelope that can be used anywhere.

Blue Envelope Packets are available at participating County Board of Developmental Disabilities offices throughout the state of Ohio. The packets are available for free to anyone with a developmental disability.

“The Blue Envelope program promotes inclusion and is a communication tool between law enforcement and community members,” said SOAG co-coordinator Travis Dresbach.

“Disabilities such as autism spectrum disorder, dementia, physical disability, or mental health conditions may require additional accommodation or awareness during a law enforcement interaction. It’s amazing that something as simple as an envelope can do so much.”

The flagship Blue Envelope Program was designed by the San Diego Sheriff’s Department and has been implemented nationally with various agencies. The program first appeared in Ohio with a program developed by the Mahoning County Prosecutor’s office in 2024. SOAG learned of the program and worked to see it implemented throughout the state of Ohio.

Ohio’s Blue Envelope Program was made possible through a collaboration of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, Southern Ohio Council of Governments, and the Southern Ohio Advocacy Group.

For more information about Ohio’s Blue Envelope Program, visit [www.socog.org](http://www.socog.org).

*Southern Ohio Advocacy Group is a committee of the Southern Ohio Council of Governments that promotes advocacy efforts and encourages people with disabilities to speak up for themselves. The members are made up of people with disabilities, family members, private providers and natural supports. Ohio counties that are represented in the group and serviced by the Southern Ohio Council of Governments include: Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, and Scioto.*

## “Love in Action”

I wanted to add a blurb in the report regarding our Love in Action Mission. We started this back in the Summer and our first event “serving at Bridges of Hope in Xenia” was a huge success. We had some of our folks and provider staff turn out and there was a great deal of excitement seeing our folks serving those in need by folding / organizing / hanging donated items that will be distributed to those who come through the shelter. I recently learned that Two of the Day Programs have even began serving at Bridges of Hope on their own. This is a great opportunity not only to learn some skills but teaches an important lesson about serving and giving back.

We are looking for more opportunities with Love in Action Events and will be looking to schedule some down the road.

Some Possible Serving Opportunities we are looking into include:

Food Pantries

One Bistro in Xenia

Clothing Pantries

With God’s Grace – Free Food Pantry and Store

# **Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

## **September 17, 2025 Board Report:**

### **Division: Administration**

### **Superintendent Reporting:**

**Updates:** A lot of discussion at the State level on property taxes. I thought it might be beneficial to include a summary of the discussion items from the Governor's task force and bills that have been drafted.

**Bills introduced by state representative Gary Click who represents Sandusky and Seneca Counties.**

**House Bill 420:** This bill would eliminate continuing levies after year 2030. After that date the levies could be on the ballot for their current millage and valuation for a term limited amount of time. Bond levies used for construction are exempted. Please note that we do not have continuing levies on the tax duplicate our only levy is a 3.5 mill tax that runs on a five-year cycle. That levy is on the tax duplicate commencing in 2024 through 2028 collected and dispersed 2025 through 2029.

**House Bill 421:** This bill deals with the 10 mills inside millage which is non-voted and grows with reappraisals. The bill allows petitioners to gather signatures from 15% of voters in last gubernatorial election to get the question on the ballot to lower that millage. Please note the DD board does not collect any revenue from this tax, so it does not impact on us.

**House Bill 422:** This bill requires supermajority support for proposals with higher millage rates. Levies of less than one mill could pass with a simple majority, but those of 1 mill to 1.9 mills would need 60% approval and those of two mills or more would have to clear 66%. The Boards last levy in 2023 passed by 59.49%. So, it would have failed. Setting such a rate in legislation does test the boundaries in the Ohio Constitution which states those levies must be approved by only a majority of the electors. So far that question has not been addressed, but most likely will be if this bill moves forward.

**Governor's Work Group:** The workgroup has considered offering some kind of deferral for homeowners but that was stymied by questions regarding annual usage or one time, interest payments, equity or ownership history? The group largely settled on capping deferrals at a dollar amount whether they run once or consecutively, with a 10-year homeownership attached.

The group discussed the idea of pausing increases temporarily while still assessing, to give time for developing a viable solution, like **House Bill 186** which would limit tax increases to the rate of inflation.

The group discussed granting Commissioners the authority to say yes or no to placing a levy on the ballot. I believe they already have that authority. In my career I have been involved in 12 levies in two counties and have always had to get Commission approval to do so. In Greene County the process has always included a presentation in a Commission work session as well as final approval in public session at a Commission meeting.

Please note after October 2025 Replacement Levies will no longer be an option for consideration. The Board has utilized this option four times since 1986, with the last time being in 2004.

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**Compensation Plan for 2026.** The only follow-up I have had so far from members on the plan was a discussion with one member about bonuses versus salary increases based on current salary. I will be glad to share my thoughts on that discussion as I did at the last Board meeting if members are interested. The Board can wait until the October meeting if they desire to act on this issue.

One item I did not present properly was the fact that the only change in the salary schedule, from the schedule passed last October, was an increase of \$2,000 in the entry level range for the professional schedule. The rest of the schedules remain the same as passed by the Board last October of 2024. I apologize for that error.

**OACBDD assistance with Superintendent search in 2026.**



I have sent an e-mail to John Trunk to schedule him for the January Board meeting to discuss the Superintendent search which the Board will under take in 2026. He confirmed he will be attending the January meeting.

***Items Requiring Board Approval***

Last month I provided my recommendation regarding compensation increase for 2026.

***The next regular GCBDD Board meeting is scheduled for  
October 15th, at noon, at Valley Rd with Virtual option***

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