

Logan County Board Approves Two Key Resolutions

The Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves two key resolutions at their board meeting held on Thursday June 18, 2015.

First, the American's Disability Act will observe their 25th Anniversary on July 26, 2015 and the LCBDD affirms that they will continue to encourage the citizens of Logan County to work toward full ADA compliance and the LCBDD is grateful for the citizens of Logan County who accept and support people of all abilities in their daily activities and value people with disabilities as contributing members of the Logan County community.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approximately 20 percent of the U.S. population has some kind of disability and the ADA prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life including jobs, transportation and all public and private places that are open to the general public. The ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions and increasing full participation in community life.

Superintendent Bauer praised the Logan County Community and thanked them for their support. "We are very fortunate that Logan County is very supportive and willing to focus on each person's abilities."

The second resolution determines that the LCBDD will cease to provide adult day services and will enter into a contract with RTC Industries Inc. to provide these services effective January 1, 2016.

The Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) in their final rule – 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid regulations effective March 17, 2014 – has determined that "Providers of HCBS for the individual, or those who have an interest in or are employed by a provider of HCBS must have all of the following qualities:

- ✓ Is integrated in and supports access to the greater community.
- ✓ Provides opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, and control personal resources.
- ✓ Ensures the individuals receive services in the community to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS.

The State of Ohio submitted a transition plan on March 13, 2015 describing the actions that will be taken to ensure initial and ongoing compliance with the CMS rules and the State plan.

The LCBDD currently provides adult day services to individuals of Logan County with developmental disabilities receiving services and participating programs of the Board. LCBDD will cease to provide adult day services effective December 31, 2015 and shall enter into a contract with RTC Industries, Inc. effective January 1, 2016 to provide these services.

Superintendent Bauer says we expect this transition will be seamless and transparent. It will not have any effect on the associates receiving services and the changes will be behind the scenes. We anticipate most of the DD Staff will transfer to RTC Industries Inc. We will meet with the staff to assist them with the transition.

In other board business, Superintendent Bauer reviewed the financial report. We are 42% through the calendar year and the general fund is 36.03% utilized. Capital funds are 10.98% utilized and the Community Support Fund is 53.52% utilized. The general fund for revenues is 51.27% collected.

Superintendent Bauer discussed a letter that was sent to the Statehouse from Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA), Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB), Ohio Wavier Network, Values and Faith Alliance (VFA), & The Arc of Ohio addressing House Bill 64 that recently passed. This bill contained several funding and policy changes and they asked the house to respectfully consider their ideas as the Senate deliberates on Amended House Bill 64.

Mr. Bauer reviewed a report analyzing the past ten years of utility costs. He reported that the agencies efficiencies have improved greatly during that time. This is a result of a combination of things such as facilities upgrades to more energy efficient equipment and staff being more aware of ways to save energy.

This has resulted in a reduction in energy usage for the board office of 45.28% for DP&L and 44.91% for Vectren and resulted in the Discovery Center reduction of 57.19% for DP&L and 50.21% for Vectren. Superintendent Bauer praised the staff for their increased cost savings.

Superintendent Bauer informed the board that a new workgroup was formed in May titled Community Integration. This workgroup has made a significant difference in the short time they have been meeting. In the past month there has been a noticeable difference in the number of integrated community outings and events.

In other board business Superintendent Bauer was glad to report that the Discovery Center and Early Intervention Program are in full compliance for the Ohio Child Compliance Report. 18 counties in the state did not meet compliance.

The Community Blood Center will be presenting the LCBDD with a Gold Lifesaving Ambassador Partner Award on June 19, 2015. In 2014 the LCBDD collected 130 units of blood and hosted 6 blood drives and averaged 94% of our blood drive goals.

The next finance committee meeting, is scheduled for August 7th 2015 @ noon at the Logan County Board of DD board office conference room at 1851 St. Rt. 47 West, Bellefontaine. The next board meeting takes place on Thursday, August 20th at 5:30 pm in the board conference room. These meetings are open to the public.

Debra Morrison
HR/Executive Secretary
June 18, 2015