

Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities Approves 2016-2018 Strategic Plan

The Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities approved the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan at their board meeting held on Thursday June 16, 2016.

An updated survey was developed and sent out in February 2016 and the results of that online survey, which was sent to hundreds of Logan County residents, initiated a response and an action led by the LCBDD. The surveys were sent to individuals receiving services, parents, community leaders, employees and retirees. We asked about the current actions taken by the Board in response to the 2014 survey and strategic plan. We wanted to know if we were fulfilling the expectations expressed in the prior survey and outlined in our 2014 strategic plan.

We were once again overwhelmed by the many positive comments made and the expressed support of the services provided by the Logan County Board of DD, Discovery Center and Adult Services. Most of the surveys expressed satisfaction with the services provided in Logan County.

The surveys also expressed interest in community employment, sheltered employment and autism services. The survey expressed a need for additional work related programs, particularly community based employment and additional opportunities in sheltered employment. Community employment and community integration were mentioned frequently.

A team of fourteen community leaders met regularly at the Board offices to develop a planning process that will address the needs expressed in the survey. The team consisted of staff, families, people served and other key stakeholders gathered in an effort to set goals and outcomes outlined in a strategic plan to carry us through 2018. The work we are doing is centered in our belief that “every person adds value to our community”. Progress will be reported in the Messenger and other communications such as the Bellefontaine Examiner and WPKO.

The results of the survey have been balanced with the emerging trends affecting our field. As we prepare the strategic plan and listen to families, people served and other stakeholders, we also study the impact of emerging trends and issues in the developmental disabilities world. These will be front and center as we go about our work over the next three years and beyond. They will require us to redefine and redesign how we do many things, including day programs, community employment and community integration.

As defined in our plan, our value statements are:

1. **Everyone deserves a good life.** People with disabilities and their families have the right to live, love, work, worship, play and pursue their life aspirations just as others do in the community.
2. **Empower people to be self-advocates** – Individuals with developmental disabilities should become strong self-advocates who are empowered and self-determined. Individuals with disabilities will have an active say in their services and programs. They will make choices about their lives and what is important to them.
3. **Community First** – Each person should be a part of their local community and have access to community resources as does the general population. Only when the most integrated setting is not meeting the needs of the individual will other specialized settings be explored with them.
4. **Demonstrate Respect** – All implementation strategies will show respect for the privacy, individuality, and self-advocacy of the people receiving support. We also support the respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity.

5. **Emphasize employment and meaningful activities.** All adults who can work should work. Implementation strategies will be designed to promote and support community employment, have meaning to the people who receive supports and be relevant to their daily lives. Those who employment has not been attainable, will be provided activities that are meaningful to them to enrich their lives.
6. **Provide effective intervention/support methods.** Evidence based support models and approaches will be used to provide effective early childhood services and support. The emphasis will be on the development of proven evidence based practices that result in measurable performance outcomes at both the individual and systems level.
7. **Financial Accountability.** The LCBDD commits to being good stewards of local, state and federal dollars. The board is committed to the provision of services in the most effective and efficient means available. Budgeting will be viewed as a discipline to decide which services should be funded and at what level they should be funded.

In other board business, Superintendent Bauer reviewed the financial report. We are 42% through the calendar year and the general fund is 36.50% utilized. Capital funds are 100% collected and the Community Support Fund is 67.92% collected. The general fund for revenues is 58.27% collected.

Superintendent Bauer informed the board that the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) has contracted with the OACB, the Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) and a collaborative of other stakeholder groups to set the state's direction on DD systems information. The Capacity and Integration Regional Collaborative Leadership Endeavor (Project Circle), a new training program scheduled to begin this summer, will help professionals define what "integration" means for DD services, build provider capacity, and create community connections for people with disabilities. This project was conceived in response to a request for proposals issued by DODD in early 2016. The department sought assistance from the DD field creating a plan to satisfy federal requirements and maintain quality services while preventing unnecessary upheaval in the lives of Ohioans with disabilities.

In other board business several contracts were reviewed and approved. A new contract was approved with Mike Stroud for IT services for the 2016-2017 year. The following contracts were renewed: Midwest Regional ESC for Substitute Teachers/Aides, CORSP Inc. lease agreement, Logan County FCFC lease agreement, Mike Hall Website Maintenance, Northwest Therapy Physical Therapy Services, Northwest Therapy Gross Motor Specialist Services and Fran Smith Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant Services.

In personnel issues before the board, Superintendent Bauer informed the board that a new instructor assistant has been hired, Sherri Ullom. She will fill the spot that was left vacant because of the passing of our long time employee Glenda Ratleff. A contract will be renewed to have Doressa Elliott continue working in the classrooms at Discovery Center and a new intermittent sub custodian/cook was hired to assist when needed. Sandra Enderle will assist in that capacity.

The next finance committee meeting, is scheduled for August 15th 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 18th at 5:30 pm in the board conference room. These meetings are open to the public. The board will not meet in July.

Debra Morrison
HR/Executive Secretary
June 16, 2016