

Logan County Board of DD Kicks off their 2015 Flower Sales

The Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board kicked off their Annual Flower Sale for 2015 at their board meeting last night. They offer a large selection of beautiful hanging baskets and pots of geraniums in a wide variety of colors. Orders must be placed by April 19, 2015. For more details or to place an order contact Jenifer Schreiner at 592-2009.

In other board business, Kelly Douglas Bader, Community First Facilitator gave a presentation on Best Buddies. Best Buddies is a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Founded in 1989, Best Buddies has over 1,800 chapters worldwide – in schools, communities and workplaces in several states and in 50 countries. Globally, Best Buddies impacts nearly 800,000 people with and without disabilities. Best Buddies volunteers annually contribute support services valued at more than \$168 Million Dollars.

Friendship programs include school-based programs (Middle Schools, High Schools, and College), community-based (Citizens), and an electronic pen-pal program (e-buddies). Leadership programs like Ambassadors and Promoters are designed to develop leaders in the disability rights movement. The Best Buddies Jobs program focuses on integrated employment for people with DD.

The Board met with county schools' superintendents at the Logan County ESC earlier today. All of the superintendents felt that this would be a good program for the county. It will cost \$200,000 to get the programs to Ohio and the state has raised around \$150,000 so far. The goal is to have every board of DD in the state give a little towards the program. Once the program is in Ohio it will be implemented in each of the county schools. The Logan County Board voted to contribute \$500.

Superintendent Bauer discussed DD Awareness Month and the many activities the agency supports this month. We will host an Employer Appreciation Breakfast to honor all the local companies that support us; the Elected Officials Breakfast was held today to thank all of the elected officials and businesses that assist us as well as the wonderful media coverage from the Bellefontaine Examiner Newspaper and WPKO radio. A few of our associates have recorded messages that have been playing throughout the month as well as an interview with Superintendent Saul Bauer for In-Sync on WPKO.

Lori Horvath, Medicaid Development Administration Deputy Director for Ohio Board of Developmental Disabilities was our keynote speaker at the Elected Officials Breakfast and was happy to report that Logan County has over 40 associates currently employed in the community and that we are very active with new plans and ideas that will hopefully provide many additional new job opportunities as we adapt and make changes to comply with the changing Federal and State guidelines. She updated everyone on the current changes as we know them at the current time.

John Bayliss, President of the Logan County Commissioners expressed his gratitude to the staff, employers, and community for their support as he shared the proclamation that March is DD Awareness Month.

Kim Kellogg-Martin expressed her support of Logan County DD and the charity Basketball game that will take place on April 25th at Ben Logan High School to benefit Logan County DD Special Olympics. She said you will want to come see this game featuring former OSU players and hear about the Driven Foundation. Driven was founded by Roy Hall and his half-time story will inspire you. You will also get to see our Special Olympics team play basketball and Discovery Center will do a cheer and dance routine at half-time.

Superintendent Bauer expressed special thanks to Dean Blosser who led us in the pledge and Kim Rodabaugh-Roby who led the Invocation.

In other board news, Superintendent Bauer informed the board that the Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities now has a new face for their website. Please look at all of our wonderful news and activities at www.logancbdd.org. Mike Hall is our web designer and he did a fantastic job giving us a fresh new look that can be updated frequently. Our new site has a scrolling calendar to give you a quick glance at activities and our favorite feature is Associate of the Month. Each month we will feature an associate who is employed and share an interview

with them. Jamie Ross also did a super job giving our quarterly newspaper the Messenger a new look. Our new release features many great articles about our associates and how they "Can Do Like You." This is distributed electronically. If you would like to receive this paper and you are not currently on our distribution list please contact Deb Morrison at 292-3011.

The board approved the calendar for Discovery Center to make up four calamity days. They will attend school on April 6th which was originally scheduled as Spring Break and they will extend the school year three days so the last day of school will now be June 5th.

Superintendent Bauer also informed the board that we were one of the recipients of the Spotlight Grant from WPKO. We will be featured in October which is when we hold our Annual Chicken BBQ.

The next finance committee meeting, is scheduled for April 9th 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, April 16th at 5:30 pm in the board conference room. These meetings are open to the public.

Debra Morrison
HR/Executive Secretary
March 19, 2015