

A quarterly publication of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Renovation of Weiant Center to begin in 2018

LCBDD will move several departments to a temporary location on Union Street this spring.

After years of preparation and planning, the renovation of the 51-year-old E.S. Weiant Center is scheduled to begin this spring.

When construction begins, the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities will temporarily relocate its administrative offices, as well as its Early Childhood, Employment Supports and Provider Relations

departments.

The temporary location will be on the second floor of the Newark Commerce Center, located at **195 Union St. in Newark.**

LCBDD's Service Coordination office will remain open, at 565 Industrial Parkway in Heath, throughout the construction process.

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An early architect's rendering of the renovated E.S. Weiant Center.



Licking County DD TV coming soon

LCBDD is thrilled to announce a new way of sharing information with the individuals and families we support as well as community stakeholders – Licking County DD TV.

Starting this year, LCBDD will begin creating two to three minute video blogs that will be packed with information about LCBDD news, programs and updates that our community needs to know.

These videos will be shared on the LCBDD website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Families might also see some coming through email blasts.

Stay tuned, and if there is a topic you would like us to discuss on Licking County DD TV, send an email to Anna Jeffries at:

anna.jeffries@lcountydd.org.

A message from our Superintendent Jason Umstot



In October, we announced the Board's approval of the E.S. Weiant Center renovation.

The news was well received by the public and we greatly appreciate the support.

This building means so much to LCBDD and to the many generations who have used this facility, creating more than five decades of memories.

It is our hope that by updating the building, we will be there another 50 years.

As with any renovation project, we can expect some temporary changes while the work is being done.

We know that moving our Administrative, Early Childhood, Employment Supports and Provider Relations departments isn't going to be easy, but we know that doing so will **Continued on page 4**

Upcoming events

- **4:45 to 6 p.m. Feb. 21, March 21 and April 18:** LCBDD Board Meeting, E.S. Weiant Center front conference room, 116 N. 22nd St., Newark, Ohio
- **7 p.m. March 5:** LCBDD accepts DD Awareness proclamation at Pataskala City Council, 621 W. Broad St., Pataskala.
- **7 p.m. March 19:** LCBDD accepts DD Awareness proclamation at Newark City Council, 40 W. Main St., Newark.
- **7:30 p.m. March 19:** LCBDD accepts DD Awareness proclamation at Heath City Council, 1287 Hebron Road, Heath.
- **8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 7:** DD Awareness and Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse. For more information, go to ddohio.wordpress.com/about/.

LCBDD News

Fix the List initiative spreads throughout the state

For the past 15 months, a coalition of advocacy groups, agencies and organizations throughout Ohio have been working together to modernize the Medicaid waiver waiting list.



This month they launched Fix the List, a statewide movement to improve the process for those waiting for Home and Community Based Services waivers.

Their goals are to eliminate confusion for people with disabilities and their families and create a more

efficient and effective system for determining how resources are allocated.

The Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities is supportive of this effort and encourages those we support to not only learn more, but offer feedback as the initiative continues.

For more information about Fix the List, go to: fixthelist.info.

March is DD Awareness Month

In March, LCBDD will participate in the national celebration of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

Over the next few weeks, LCBDD will launch a new TV commercial, billboards and radio ads in our community.

LCBDD will also be communicating with our local governments, accepting proclamations from local leaders and donating books to local second grade classrooms that promote unity and acceptance.

Our goal is to increase the understanding that people with developmental disabilities are a part of our community and when we all have good lives, Licking County is a better place to be. Watch our website and social media pages throughout the month for stories, photos and more.



LCBDD launches DSP Employment Connections

In January, LCBDD launched DSP Employment Connections –the first initiative of its kind in the state of Ohio.

This new program is designed to support provider agencies in their recruitment efforts, and educate the community about the roles of direct support professionals.

Check out our spring newsletter for more on this exciting project.



To the CSS direct support professionals working in the home on Hamilton Avenue:

Thank you for your dedication to supporting the three men who live there. Your passion for your job is both obvious and inspiring.

–Anna Jeffries

Public information officer

To radio station Sunny 95:

Double thumbs up for recognizing and selecting our very own Zach Werner for a “Hometown Hero” award for his mission work in our county.

–Dora Young-Ford

Service coordinator

To George J. Igel & Co., Inc. and Downtown Cycles:

When an individual supported by LCBDD was in need of a new bicycle, these two businesses got funds together to purchase a new one for him!

–Anna Jeffries

Public information officer

To Independent HPC Provider Alissa Miller:

When an individual she serves became very ill and was in and out of the hospital, she kept in touch with her, visited her in

We can't do our job without the support of the community! LCBDD staff members are using this space to express our gratitude to providers and members of the community who have gone above and beyond.

the hospital and was a huge support to her family. She has been up to the challenge of learning new skills to care for this individual and is incredibly dedicated to her, and her family. She goes way above and beyond and we are so fortunate to have her as part of our team.

–Sarah Quinn

Service coordinator

To Allen from Johnson Health:

Thank you for doing such a wonderful job with a young man who struggled before you came along.

–Brandi Baughman

DSP eligibility specialist

To Service Coordinator

Dorinda Burley:

She braved icy temperatures to shovel the sidewalks and accessible areas next to parking spaces at the Service Coordination building. She also went above and beyond, clearing pavement in the back. Thank you for braving the cold and keeping us safe.

–Jaime Lawson

Information and referral level of care specialist

To Deb and Nancy from CLE:

Shout out to CLE staff Deb and Nancy, who stepped up and addressed a potential medical situation with grace and efficiency. A person we serve would have lost her nursing service and access to

her needed insulin shots for the day, if it weren't for CLE getting the Department of Job and Family Services and Maxim the needed information. The person had no service interruption. Great team work!

–Silvia Murrey

Service coordinator

Guest shout outs:

To Jaime Lawson:

Jaime is attentive to both the individuals she supports as well as to those individuals and agencies providing supports. Jaime is extremely helpful and is never afraid to “get her hands dirty.” Thank you Jaime for all you do!

–Meagan Hickman

Associate director

Newark Resident Homes

To Licking County Transit:

LICCO wanted to express gratitude to the LC Transit team for its exceptional collaboration with the LICCO-Newark opening. Everyone got to/from the correct location. Their willingness to make the significant number of changes easier on others was so appreciated. The team has been so positive which influenced the smiles of people as they arrived.

–Mary Thompson-Hufford

CEO, LICCO Inc.

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Front page cont.

All individuals and families supported by the board will receive information by mail, and electronically, in the next few weeks about the temporary location.

Built in 1966, the E.S. Weiant Center has never had a major infrastructure upgrade. The most recent updates to the building were to the HVAC systems in the 1990s.

Over several years of planning, it was determined that the most cost-effective option was

to renovate the existing building, preserving a facility that holds significant memories for many local families.

This project has a \$4.5 million construction budget and an estimated total cost of \$6 million, which includes the construction/renovation costs, associated professionals fees, furnishings and technology upgrades.

Parking will be expanded and former school rooms will be converted into more effective office and meeting space.

This project will not require LCBDD to seek additional levy funding.

When the project is completed, LCBDD’s Service Coordination department will relocate to the E.S. Weiant Center, bringing the entire organization under one roof. This will allow the agency to better serve the community and focus more resources on the people we support.

For more about this exciting project, keep an eye on our website and social media pages for updates.

Shout Outs cont.

To Licking County Transit:

Christy Riley called and left me a voicemail to express her appreciation of her Transit services. She mentioned Robin working with her to change her scheduled work

day for this week. Christy also said she appreciates the door-to-door assistance she gets from drivers Chris and Dempsey. She mentioned she appreciates the help to find her seat belt and their punctuality.

– Christine Burkamp

Service coordinator

To the Aktion Club of Licking County:

Thank you for organizing a food drive to support people in need this winter.

–Anna Jeffries
Public information officer

Umstot cont.

be a lot less disruptive than staying while the renovation is underway.

We are very thankful for the professional board at Newark Development Partners who graciously agreed to accommodate us for the time needed to relocate.

We expect to move on or around April 1 to our temporary location at the Newark Commerce Center located at 195 Union St. in Newark. We plan to be there for nine to 12 months.

The renovation work is being completed and managed by local architectural engineers

Wachtel & McAnally and Robertson Construction. The teamwork from both companies has been overwhelmingly positive.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Contact Superintendent/CEO Jason L. Umstot by calling 740-349-6588 or email: Jason.Umstot@lcountydd.org.

Momentum is created and edited by LCBDD Public Information Officer Anna Jeffries.

If you have ideas for future publications, or would like to get on our mailing list and receive this electronically, contact Anna at 740-322-6911 or anna.jeffries@lcountydd.org.

The Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities (LCBDD) has been proudly funding services and supporting people with developmental disabilities for more than 50 years.

LCBDD can be reached by calling 740-349-6588 or by visiting our website, lcountydd.org.

Follow us on social media using @LCOUNTYDD. If you are a family member of someone we support, don’t hesitate to visit our family support page by searching “LCOUNTYDD Families” on Facebook.