

A quarterly publication of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Summer is on its way!

Despite the rain on May 3, our annual Summer Kickoff was a great way to start the event season! This newsletter is packed with information about upcoming activities! There's so much going on, you'll want to keep an eye on your email, and our social media pages too, so you don't miss any of the fun!

More photos from Summer Kickoff can be found on page 4. Thank you to LCBDD Administrative Specialist, Jennifer Hampton (Jen Marie Photography), for taking these beautiful photos!



Want to learn how tech can work for you?

Ask your Service Coordinator about an Assistive Technology Assessment!

- Assessments are provided AT NO COST through a partnership with AbilityTech!
- The consultant can meet you in your home!
- You will receive customized recommendations based on technology that can meet your wants and needs.

For more information, contact Amanda Brehm, LCBDD's Technology First Coordinator at amanda.brehm@lcountydd.org or 740-349-5688.

A message from our Interim Superintendent Wendy Gorrell



I have been delighted by the warm reception from the dedicated Licking County staff, providers and families as we embark on this transitional chapter.

The search for a new superintendent is well underway thanks to the support of John Trunk from the Ohio Association of County Boards. His many of years of service as a superintendent in our field make him invaluable as we navigate this process.

I was thrilled to participate in LCBDD's Summer Kick Off. Despite the rain, it was a tremendous success! The shared commitment of our community partners was shown in abundance. I'm sure you'll agree with me as you peruse the pictures included in this newsletter.

Momentum Refresh was a valued partner at this event and will continue to be a constant at Licking County events this year. Please be sure to check the calendar of events (on page 4) to see if they'll be at events you intend to participate in. Thank you all for your warm welcome and I look forward to updating you as we move through this exciting time.

Contact Interim Superintendent/ CEO Wendy Gorrell at: Wendy.Gorrell@lcountydd.org.

Upcoming events

- **4:45 to 6 p.m. May 21, June 18:** LCBDD Board meetings will be held **IN PERSON** at the E.S. Weiant Center, 116 N. 22nd St. Newark.
- **Noon to 1 p.m. (on Zoom) OR 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (either in-person or on Zoom) on June 4:** "Spark of Connection: Redefining Ourselves as Caregivers" with Alisa Klepser. Those attending the in-person evening session should come to the E.S. Weiant Center (116 N. 22nd St., Newark.) Registration information is below.
- **2 to 4 p.m. June 9:** Y on the Fly visits LCBDD, 116 N. 22nd St., Newark. Free and open to the community.
- **11:30 to 1:30 p.m. June 12:** Accessibility Lunch and Learn, Infirmary Mound Park (Shelter #5) 4351 Lancaster Road, Granville. RSVP by June 6, info below.

LCBDD News

Support for Caregivers



Although we unfortunately had to cancel our fall session for caregivers, we are thrilled to share that Alisa Klepser, Executive Director of Re-Wellness Center will be offering two sessions, called "Spark of Connection: Redefining Ourselves as Caregivers."

Caregivers can sign up for either session, but each one will cover the same information. There will be a virtual lunch and learn from noon to 1 p.m. on June 4 OR a hybrid session from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on June 4. Those attending the

evening session can join by Zoom or come to LCBDD (116 N. 22nd St. in Newark) and attend in person. Whatever session works for you, please register using the QR code to the left.

Y on the Fly is coming to LCBDD

We know that summer is a great time to bring families together so that both children and caregivers can build friendships. So we are excited to welcome Y on the Fly to LCBDD. The Buckeye Valley Family YMCA's mobile vehicle will be in the LCBDD parking lot (116 N. 22nd St. in Newark) from 2 to 4 p.m. on June 9. There will be a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) activity, hula hoop fun, drumming games and snacks. Families can play on the playground at McGuffey Elementary and snow cones



will be available for purchase. All ages are welcome to enjoy this free event!

Learn about the accessibility options at the Licking Park District

Did you know that the Licking Park District has several all-terrain wheelchairs that are available to rent, at no cost, to help people explore nature? LPD's Infirmary Mound Park also has an accessible nature playscape and an accessible kayak launch and fishing dock. You can check out these options and test drive the all-terrain chairs at a lunch and learn, from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. on June 12. Join us at Shelter #5 at Infirmary Mound Park, 4351 Lancaster Road, Granville. Momentum Refresh will be there, providing a fully accessible restroom with a universal changing table. The event, and lunch, is free but participants need to RSVP. Use the QR code to sign up!





Shout Outs!

To Robin Webb, a discharge planner at Hickory Behavioral Network, who was extremely helpful in helping me stay informed about someone on my caseload. She worked very hard to seek information and connect with other staff on their behalf to ensure the discharge was supportive and intentional.

– Jack Pincelli
Service Coordinator

Shout out to Tonya Hansen

Wiseman for doing a wonderful job getting three people on my caseload into many community activities.

To Kelly Wells at MEORC for handling my caseload while on leave. It made the transition back to work run smoothly.

–Jessica Cabela
Service Coordinator

Shout out to **DBS Consulting! Owner Darendra Geer** is great at explaining complicated processes to our families and making sure people get the benefits education they need. Darendra was previously employed by another county board so she is flexible and understanding because she knows how busy things can get.

– Sam Clark
Transition Specialist

Robin Lane is an independent

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.

provider and she's amazing. She is exceptionally good at what she does and strives to provide services in a way that aligns with the person's ISP and goals. She's diligent about providing updates to me and working with me to keep ISPs up to date. She is a fierce advocate for her clients, both ensuring they receive the care and services that they should be afforded but also holding them to their own standards and abilities. Thank you so much for all your hard work, Robin!

– Jo Henthorne
Service Coordinator

Shout out to **John Stamper and Adrian Cherry** for providing excellent respite services to the families they support! Your hard work and dedication is very much appreciated.

Shout out to **Pennie Chappell** for always being a wealth of knowledge for our providers and being willing to assist whenever she can!

Shout out to **Wendy Caldwell at Big Brothers Big Sisters** for coordinating another wonderful year of the Lunch Buddy program at McGuffey Elementary.

–Shanay Nye
Provider Support Coordinator

Shout out to **Lisa Diss at CSS!** Her leadership, vision and passion are already making a huge difference! Thank you for what you do!

To Mary Thompson-Hufford with The Fuse Network: For being willing to share and brainstorm training ideas!

To Amanda Amyx with Center for Disability Services for offering CPR and First Aid training to other providers in Licking County!

To Loren Lander from Greenleaf: For offering Empowering Employment to Licking County DSPs and people served!

–Hannah Tucker
Provider Workforce Support Specialist

To Southwest Licking Schools: For collaborating with us on a successful training on AACs.

To Jhuma Acharya from Licking Heights: For your excellent presentation to our staff.

To Learning 4 Life Farm and Heart of a Warrior Farm: For inviting us to take a tour and meet horses and alpacas.

To Better Together Playnasium: For joining us at the Pataskala Egg Hunt.

To the Buckeye Valley Family YMCA and the Licking Park District for partnering with us on two new events!

To Reynoldsburg Council Rep. Bhuwan Pyakurel: For your dedication to creating support opportunities for your community.

To CLE and The Fuse Network: For providing feedback on a project.

To Newark Development Partners: For meeting with us to discuss accessibility in Downtown Newark.

–Anna Jeffries
Public Information Officer
–Leann Shafer
Community Outreach Coord.

Momentum Refresh is BACK!

We are so excited to share that we will partner with Momentum Refresh on even more events this spring and summer! Mark your calendars for these events and make plans knowing that there will be a fully accessible restroom – with a universal changing table with a hoist, and accessible toilet and sink – that will be available for anyone who wants to attend! Please help us share this far and wide, because we know that accessible restrooms makes a huge difference that goes far beyond the DD community. When events are more inclusive, our entire community benefits!

- Utica Ice Cream Festival: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 24 and 25 and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 26, Velvet Ice Cream in Utica
- Newark Strawberry Festival: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. May 30 and 31 and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 1, Downtown Newark
- Accessibility Lunch and Learn, 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. June 12, Infirmary Mound Park in Granville
- Pataskala Fireworks, Noon to 10 p.m. June 28, Foundation Park
- Granville Fireworks, 7 to 11 p.m. July 2, Wildwood Park
- Diggers and Dozers, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 19, The Works in Newark
- Pataskala Street Fair, 6 to 10 p.m. Aug. 13 and noon to 10 p.m. Aug. 15 through 16, Main Street



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 to 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.