

A quarterly publication of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Aktion Club of Licking County wins international video award!



Members of the Aktion Club of Licking County pose with the award they earned at a recent Aktion Club Convention.

2018 proved to be an exciting year for the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Licking County.

When a group of members decided to get in front of the camera to share their recent accomplishments, they had no idea that their message would reach far beyond their hometown.

In the fall, members of the club found out that their video, "Ability in Action" was awarded first place in the inaugural 2017-18 Kiwanis International Aktion Club video contest.

Members of the club and members of the Kiwanis clubs of Newark and Granville recorded the video at Buckeye Media Services in Gahanna on Sept. 17 and submitted it to

Aktion Club International.

The club received a trophy and certificate for winning first place.

"It makes me feel proud (to win)," said Carl Gruber, Aktion Club president. "It shows that our club is growing and we are doing stuff."

Both Aktion Club International and the Ohio District Kiwanis have shared the video through emails and postings on their websites.

It has already had a positive impact, directly inspiring a fundraising effort to start a new Aktion Club in Virginia, said Brynn Schaadt, a Circle K member at Virginia Tech who is

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A message from our Superintendent Jason Umstot



A new year means new adventures!

Where did 2018 go? With so much going on last year, the time just flew by.

So what will 2019 have in store for LCBDD?

We are eager to work with the new administration and new leadership at the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

The new DODD Director, Jeff Davis, is committed to focusing on the DSP workforce crisis, as well as simplifying the processes within our system.

LCBDD certainly supports these goals and I hope that we will continue to be considered as a resource in finding the necessary solutions to achieve them.

Also this year, we will be moving into the newly renovated E. S. Weiant Center!

What a change this building has undergone! The administrative savings and operational benefits will be very positive for the LCBDD

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Upcoming events

- **4:45 to 6 p.m. Feb. 20, March 20, April 17:** LCBDD Board Meeting, Suite B2 of the Newark Commerce Center, 195 Union Street, Newark, Ohio.
- **8:30 a.m. to 5p.m. March 5:** DD Awareness and Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse. For more information, go to ddohio.wordpress.com/about/.

LCBDD News

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 and billboards as well as radio and digital ads in our community.

LCBDD will also be communicating with our local governments, accepting proclamations from local leaders and donating books to local third grade classrooms to spark important conversations. The strength of our agency comes from our community. With their support, we are able to help people and their families plan for the future.

Watch our website and social media pages throughout the month for stories, photos and more.

Welcome Director Davis!



After the retirement of Director John Martin, Jeff Davis was appointed by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine to lead the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

Davis previously served as the executive director and director of government affairs for the Ohio Provider Resource Association, where he started working in 2011. He also served as deputy director for constituent services at DODD for 16 years. We would like to welcome our

new director and look forward to working closely with him to move our system forward.

Project SEARCH is starting at the New Albany Beauty Park

After three years of success at Licking Memorial Hospital, Project SEARCH is expanding in Licking County.

Starting during the 2019-2020 school year, the new program will be held at Anomatic and KDC/One in the New Albany Beauty Park.

This new opportunity will be one of the first of its kind!

To apply for the program, Licking County students must be at least 18 and in the process of completing their senior year of high school. They should have a goal of gaining competitive employment after completing the program.

Call Holly Shellogg at 740-349-6588 for more information.



The renovation of the E.S. Weiant Center is ongoing. Visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/lcountydd to see more photos of the progress.



Shout Outs!

To Tyler, of the FUSE Network:

An HPC provider, Tyler went above and beyond for a young man who was moving into a new apartment. On the day of the move, Tyler was there to assist this young man with transporting and moving multiple large – and heavy – items from the old apartment to the new apartment. This was no easy task, and it was just the two of them moving his belongings. The young man truly appreciated all the hard work Tyler did for him on that day, as it made the move easier and less stressful.

– Rachel Harper
Service coordinator

To Steve Carpenter of CSS:

Thank you for all you do!

To Robin Reid and Center for Disability Services:

Thanks for stepping in during a housing emergency.

–Kristen Morris
Adult team leader and
assistant director of
service coordination

To Sam Sites at Licking County Transit:

Thank you for always being so accommodating when we

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.

need tickets. You are always quick to respond and have an amazing turnaround time! Your help is appreciated very much! Keep being awesome!

–Shanay Nye
Process excellence
coordinator

To Diana, Tim, Paula, Loni and Chandra from KICKS:

Thank you for the excellent presentation you did about disabilities and self advocacy at Granville Intermediate.

To Together We Grow:

Thanks for bringing several provider agencies together for a great tea party and allowing me to come and interview participants for a website article!

To Granville Intermediate School and Etna Cub Scout Pack 41:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to young people about LCBDD and inclusion.

To Nick Miller, a service consultant at the Union County Board of Developmental Disabilities:

Thank you for offering helpful feedback on promotional materials for our DSP Employment Connections program.

To Sophia McGuire of Licking County Records and Archives:

Thanks to you and your staff for all you do! You are a great

partner to LCBDD.

–Anna Jeffries
Public information officer

To Steve Carpenter from CSS:

He has been very patient and continues to support a challenging person.

To Shannon Miller From NRH:

She was very flexible in working with me to make sure we met timelines.

–Amanda Wibur
Service coordinator

To Gary Lescalleet of PALS:

Gary took the time to send an email, giving a shout out to Service Coordinator Brenda Colley. He wrote:
"I had an ISP after a snow storm. The individual is older and so is her mother.

Brenda helped me shovel her driveway and sidewalk. It reminded me of better days in the world. She didn't do it for recognition...talk about above and beyond."

Thank you to Gary for sharing these kind words. And thanks to Brenda for going the extra mile!

–David McManus
Provider support coordinator

To the staff of PALS:

Thanks for all your work coordinating "beauty days" and providing a fun opportunity for the ladies you support to be pampered.

–Brandi Body
DSP eligibility specialist

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the daughter of Sally Schaad, the immediate past president of the Granville Kiwanis Club.

James Minter, owner of Buckeye Media Services, assisted the club with the creation of the video.

Minter, of Westerville, is a past Kiwanis lieutenant governor for the region that includes Licking County, and was very familiar with the club's engagement in the community.

"Working with the Aktion Club of Licking County was a true pleasure. We appreciate everything they do in their community and the lives they've touched in a positive way throughout Ohio and around the world," Minter said.

Kim McClain, one of the Aktion Club members who participated in the video shoot, said she enjoyed the opportunity to promote the club.

"Being in Aktion Club is great, because we have fun while helping others," she said.

One of the service projects highlighted in the video was the Aktion Club's successful food drive for the Food Pantry Network of Licking County.

The club planned and executed the food drive in early 2018 under the direction of Past-President Kyle Gossett, collecting 397 food items and \$120.

Feeding hungry children was identified as a statewide priority under the 2017-18 Ohio District Governor Dan and Barb Litzinger. Based on this, the Ohio District Aktion Club presented the club with its top award – the Thomas E. Crawford Service Award – for the food drive project at the 2018 District Aktion Club Convention on Aug. 25.

The award winning video can be viewed on the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities Youtube channel.



Looking to 2019

As they look to the new year, members of the Aktion Club are continuing to partner with Kiwanis clubs to support their fundraisers and activities.

The club is always looking for new members and opportunities for service projects.

Meetings are in the evening on the second Tuesday of each month.

If you would like more information about joining, please contact David McManus at the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities at: **david.mcmanus@lcountydd.org**.

Umstot cont.

team and the people we support.

Without a doubt, this year will be full of many positive outcomes.

As we stay focused on our mission, work as a team and always keep the people we support first – we will continue to play an important role in our community.

When you have a great group

of professionals –both internally and externally – to work with everyday, all great things are possible.

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.