

Spring, 2019

**LICKING  
COUNTY**  
—Board of—  
**DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES**

*Together, we are better*

# Momentum

A quarterly publication of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

## Congratulations Garrett Ford!



Garrett Ford, of Pataskala, competed in power lifting at the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi in early March. He brought home four gold medals, making Licking County home to a world champion! Congratulations Garrett! We are very proud of all you've accomplished!

## E.S. Weiant project wraps up in May Ribbon cutting and open house planned for June 20!



As construction on the E.S. Weiant Center enters the final stages, the staff of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities is preparing for one final move.

Our staff members will move to the renovated building, at 116 N. 22nd St., in two phases, with hopes that everyone will

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## A message from our Superintendent Jason Umstot



For more than 50 years, the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities has been supporting the citizens of our county.

The cornerstone of the board has been the E. S. Weiant Center.

This building served for many years as our school and has continued to evolve as federal and state regulations changed.

Starting back as early as 2011, the Board prioritized a vision to continue to preserve this valuable building for many decades to come.

While the building was always well-maintained, it never received any large-scale updates. As buildings age, at some point, work must be done.

In October 2017, we announced a major renovation plan which began in May of 2018.

For nearly a year, we made some temporary moves, knowing that in time we would all be back in a very functional

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## Upcoming events

- **11 to 1 p.m. May 10:** DSP Recognition Celebration, DoubleTree by Hilton, 50 N. Second St, Newark.
- **4:45 to 6 p.m. May 15 and June 19:** LCBDD Board Meeting, E.S. Weiant Center, 116 N. 22nd St., Newark, Ohio
- **11 a.m. May 16:** Bridge2Equality Rally on the steps of the Ohio Statehouse.
- **4 to 7 p.m. June 20:** LCBDD ribbon cutting and open house, E.S. Weiant Center, 116 N. 22nd St., Newark, Ohio
- **8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 21:** TECHSUMMIT 2.0, Crowne Plaza Columbus North-Worthington, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus.

### DSPs to be honored May 10

Direct Support Professionals who have gone above and beyond will be recognized during a special celebration on May 10.

LCBDD's DSP Employment Connections program is sponsoring the event to mark Ohio In-Demand Jobs Week.



The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton in downtown Newark.

## LCBDD News

There will be refreshments, networking opportunities and awards.

Attendees are asked to bring a guest with them who is interested in learning more

about the DSP field.

Job screenings will be offered on site for those interested.

To attend, please RSVP to Brandi Body at 740-644-0344 or [brandi.body@lcountydd.org](mailto:brandi.body@lcountydd.org).

### Rate. Review. Realize the value.

*Help make a difference for those seeking services for their loved ones with developmental disabilities.*



**ProviderGuidePlus**—A new, online resource for rating providers of services for people with developmental disabilities in Ohio.

This easy-to-use tool allows you to rate **your provider** and learn how **other providers** have been rated. It can help you select a provider and help improve services for people with developmental disabilities.



#### Follow three simple steps to access **ProviderGuidePlus**:

- Go to [www.ProviderGuidePlus.com](http://www.ProviderGuidePlus.com)
- Click **Find, Rate or Review Provider**
- Type the name of the provider you want to rate or review

## Check out our new LCBDD commercial!

In March, LCBDD released a new commercial featuring Olive Tharp, Jarrod Aberegg and Nancy Schneider. We were able to film three different endings in different locations around our community. We are grateful for their willingness to share their stories!



To see the commercial, go to [youtube.com/user/LickingCountyDD](https://youtube.com/user/LickingCountyDD).



## Shout Outs!

**To Jessica Pike of CSS:**

Thank you for being so supportive of your staff.

**To the Donna Jean Center and the Gathering Place:**

Thanks for kicking off a great Random Acts of Kindness project. Thank you to Amy Gartner and Samantha Culver for helping out.

**To Mark with Bloom:**

Thanks for reaching out to DSP Employment Connections!

—Brandi Body

DSP Eligibility Specialist

**To Robin Reid and Regan Eveland of CDS:**

Best wishes to Robin for her retirement and congratulations to Regan for her appointment to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

—Angie Finck

Director of Provider Relations

**To all of the independent providers and provider agencies who are utilizing the trainings provided by LCBDD:**

CSS, the Gathering Place, the Fuse Network and Newark Resident Homes have all contributed to more than 260 people attending trainings. This allows for collaboration with other DSPs.

*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.*

—Teresa Whipkey

Provider Support Coordinator

**To Mary Thompson-Hufford, LICCO/Fuse CEO:**

Thanks for your extraordinary efforts to work with all the stakeholders to address glitches in the Imagine Provider Portal. Her diligence and perseverance (along with several of her peers) have helped move the entire system forward!

**To the Newark Kiwanis Club:**

For giving the Aktion Club the opportunity to "take over" one of their meetings and highlight their efforts in the community!

**To Mike Tomasi of CSS:**

For a great presentation to the Excellence Network on Trauma Debriefing for DSPs.

**To the Excellence Network:**

For a productive discussion around collaborating on employment supports efforts.

—David McManus

Provider Support Coordinator

**To Lew Michell:**

For his positive and consistent support and role modeling to several of the people we serve.

—Lea Bonner

Service Coordinator

**To the staff of LICCO:**

Thank you for providing useful information on peoples' progress toward their desired outcomes.

—Brenda Colley

Service Coordinator

**To SPARK:**

Thanks for hosting a great DD Awareness Month event.

**To the Midland Theatre and Explore Licking County**

Thank you for allowing LCBDD to use your spaces to film our recent commercial.

**To Newark Church of the Nazarene's Firehouse:**

Thank you for allowing us to use your space to film a video promoting the work of direct support professionals.

**To Justin Blumhorst of Capabilities:**

Thank you for your awesome presentation at the Columbus TechFest.

**To Sheridan Hendrix and Josh Bickel:**

For going above and beyond on your amazing coverage of Garrett Ford and his journey to the Special Olympics World Games.

—Anna Jeffries

Public Information Officer

**To Tammy Elliott of GreenLeaf:**

She is patient, caring and a go getter. Tammy is dedicated to coaching individuals to be as independent as they can be. She has made great contacts and relationships with the staff at Licking Memorial Hospital through Project Search.

—Denise Rose

Employment Support Specialist

**To Mary Dunlap at Goodwill:**

She has been efficiently scheduling all of the summer youth intake meetings.

—The LCBDD Employment Support Specialist team



### Front page cont.

be transitioned by the middle of May,

Please keep an eye on the LCBDD social media pages for news about the move and our ribbon cutting, that is planned for **4 p.m. on June 20.**

This transition marks the first time that the entire staff of the Licking County Board of DD will be together under one roof.

Not only will this change greatly enhance communication, and reduce duplication but it will foster collaboration and allow our agency to be a one-stop-shop for the people we support.

Rooms that used to be classrooms have been reconfigured to create more productive office space and an improved roof, windows and HVAC system will make LCBDD

a more energy-efficient agency.

The former Starlight School gym has been converted into a large meeting space where LCBDD board meetings will be held.

Conference rooms will have updated technology that will allow LCBDD staff to connect with other county boards, participate in trainings and improve communication with families.

With improved resources, LCBDD is planning to collaborate with the East and South Central Ohio Chapter of the Red Cross, offering the E.S. Weiant Center as an accessible shelter in the event of a natural disaster.

This shelter would specifically be for people we support who would not be comfortable in a typical shelter setting.

Although many aspects of the building will be new, it will be important to honor the history of the space and the important place it holds in the memories of county residents.

Visitors to the building will get to enjoy pieces of LCBDD history on display in the entryway.

As Licking County Commissioner Duane Flowers shared at a recent LCBDD meeting, **"We know a roof and walls don't make an organization. People do.**

**But what they do is show where you have been, where you are and where you are going."**

The entire LCBDD staff is looking forward to this next step in our history as we work to continue our legacy of strong services and supports.

### Umstot cont.

space, all under one roof.

That's why, this year we are talking about building a stronger future. It is more than a tagline, it is a statement of true purpose.

Not only are we focusing on the physical building, but as we reoccupy the space, we are creating an environment that encourages easier access, improved communication and efficient procedural practices.

When you start out having all departments under one roof and add our passionate, well-trained, dedicated staff to the mix, we can truly create an environment to ensure we are building a stronger future for the people we support, their families, provider agencies and our community partners.

When I came to the board, we served just over 1,500 people.

Now we are serving more than 1,700. This growth and the need for supports are not going to change. Our

proactive approach ensures that the people we support and the services we fund will enhance our mission and purpose.

Now, with all the elements in place, we are looking forward to inviting you to come and see us at the renovated E.S. Weiant Center this summer. I cannot thank the citizens of Licking County enough for their continued support.

**Contact Superintendent/CEO Jason L. Umstot by calling 740-349-6588 or email: [Jason.Umstot@lcountydd.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.**