

A quarterly publication of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Coming together to coordinate vaccinations



As COVID-19 vaccines rolled out in Ohio, LCBDD – and all of Ohio's 88 county boards – were charged by Governor Mike DeWine with assisting in the coordination of vaccines for people we support – and direct support professionals – who were eligible for vaccines under phases 1A and 1B and chose to receive them.

In Licking County, that meant our Provider Relations and Service Coordination departments came together to contact people we support,

guardians and providers to schedule vaccine appointments.

Our website and social media pages reflected the latest information and our providers worked hard to make sure people they support had transportation.

Clinics at the Licking County Health Department and Licking Memorial Health Systems went smoothly, thanks to their employees, our caring community and our dedicated LCBDD staff.



A message from our Superintendent Jason Umstot



"New year, same mission!"

We decided this would be our tagline for 2021. But what does it really mean?

Throughout 2020, we learned a lot. We had to adapt, apply our skills in ways like never before –and still LCBDD delivered the necessary services and supports Licking County residents depend on.

Regardless of the challenges we had to deal with, our mission never changed.

Now we are in a new year where we will continue to apply what we learned in ways that will increase efficient, yet effective supports.

As we plan for our future and the growth we are experiencing in our county, it's more important than ever to assess what we've learned and reevaluate our operations so we can expand on our strengths and improve in ways that will provide better outcomes for the people we support.

Thank you to our caring community for the opportunities you provide for us so that we can make a

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Upcoming events

- **4:45 to 6 p.m. March 17, April 21, May 19:** LCBDD Board Meeting, held on ZOOM until further notice. Visit lcountydd.org/board-meetings for more details.
- **1 p.m. March 3, 17, 31 and April 14:** SNAP-ED cooking and nutrition classes, held on ZOOM. These are offered in partnership with the Licking County Ohio State University Extension. They are free, but participants must register. Contact Public Information Officer Anna Jeffries at 740-322-6911 or email anna.jeffries@lcountydd.org.
- **10 a.m. March 2:** Virtual DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. Participants must register! More information at ddohio.wordpress.com.
- **6 p.m. March 10: Licking County's Got Talent LCBDD Edition:** This event will be held virtually. To audition or sign up as an audience member, go to: wethrivetogether.org/talentshow/

Licking County Health Department receives LCBDD's 2020 Community Partner award

When LCBDD was considering recipients for its second annual Community Partner award, the Licking County Health Department was unanimously at the top of the list.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, their staff has worked tirelessly to support LCBDD – from helping us understand guidance from the state and helping secure personal protective equipment, to assisting with the challenging task of coordinating several vaccine clinics – we could not have kept the people we support informed without their help and expertise.



Despite how busy they have been, they've never hesitated to respond to phone calls and emails, at all hours.

We were thrilled to present the Health Department with this award on Zoom during our December All Staff meeting. We are very thankful for all they do!



Shout Outs!

To LICCO and Stephanie Brooks:

For working hand in hand to provide transportation and support for a person while they were quarantined.

To Tina and the staff from My Bloom Care:

For their continued support of a gentleman on my caseload. His staff have turned into more of a family for him than just staff. He is doing better than ever and it is because he has constant and supportive staff around him.

Shout out to Brittany and Michelle from Midwest:

For the monthly updates and pictures they provide, it always makes my day when I receive them!

To the NRH staff and Generations HealthCare Hospice nurses:

For the amazing support they provided and continue to provide to an individual and their roommates during a very difficult time.

–Katy Mitchem
Service Coordinator

To Alyssa Golden at Gathering Place:

For always looking out for individuals you serve and alerting the team when there are concerns that need

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.

addressed. Your willingness to step in and help solve a problem is appreciated by the team. You have a heart of gold!

To Chad Miller at CSS:

Thank you for going out of your way to ensure a person you serve was able to make it to the Covid-19 vaccine clinic.

To Hailee Devoll of ASUR Supported Living Services:

Thank you for helping make the transition between provider agencies smooth for your new 24/7 site. Your attention to detail is appreciated.

– Karla Lust
Service Coordinator

To Mrs. Giovannelli's class at Granville Intermediate:

For inviting us speak to you about developmental disabilities. **To Niki and Chandra from KICKS:** For your amazing presentation to the Granville students. You did an awesome job!

To Meagan Withrow from NRH:

Thanks for giving me a ride at the vaccine clinic.

To Melissa Owens, from the Licking County Aging Program:

For being willing to meet and discuss future partnerships.

To the staff of Licking Memorial Health Systems:

For being compassionate and caring during our vaccine clinic.

– Anna Jeffries
Public Information Officer

I just want to give a shout out to the **CDS staff** getting rides for my folks to the clinic. I so appreciate them scrambling to rearrange so our folks could get the vaccine.

–Tiffany Rhoads
Service Coordinator

Shout out to Brittany from Bloom:

For a last minute vaccine run!

To Michelle from Midwest:

For always being amazing.
–Brandi Body
DSP Eligibility Specialist

Shout out to Ritta Saylor and DSP's at The Fuse Network:

For all that they have done for a gentleman on my caseload who recently received a life changing medical diagnosis. She has been a life saver with coordinating his needs and ensuring he has assistance in the home.

Shout out to Maxim Healthcare (special shout out to Stewart):

For their awesome teamwork with getting services set up for this same person. With this awesome team collaboration, he is able to live his best life and stay in his apartment. Thank you all!

–Ashley Bryan
Service Coordinator

Thank you to the Housing Coalition for your kindness and understanding. **Thank you to the Children and Family First wraparound facilitators** for doing an amazing job working with families and teams.

–Cheree Nelson
Transition Youth Team Leader

LCBDD News

Awareness and Advocacy Day goes virtual

To keep all participants safe during the pandemic, Ohio's annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness and Advocacy Day will be held virtually this year.

The event starts at 10 a.m. with a Zoom program. Meetings with lawmaker will also be held on Zoom.

The event is free but participants must register at: ddohio.wordpress.com.



LCBDD's DD Awareness activities continue

Although we've had to adapt

Umstot cont.

positive difference in the lives of so many people.

Contact Superintendent/CEO Jason L. Umstot by calling 740-349-6588 or send him an email at: 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.

our traditional DD Awareness Month activities during the pandemic, we are still planning to celebrate!

Our annual TV commercial will premiere at the beginning of March and you will see billboards go up around the county. Radio ads can be heard on WCLT and WNKO. You may even see and hear from LCBDD in some new places – including streaming platforms, Spotify and Snapchat.

Until we can have in-person events in our community, this increased outreach is even more important.

We will also be donating a children's book to kindergarten and special education classrooms in Licking County. We were unable to do this last year, so we are excited to get those books out!

You can follow along with all our plans on our social media

channels throughout the month of March.

LCBDD partners with We Thrive Together



We Thrive Together

LCBDD is pleased to share we will be partnering with We Thrive Together to offer high quality, fun, virtual events for people we support.

You are welcome to join any of their online events listed on their website and participate with folks from all over the state: wethrivetogether.org/upcoming-events.

We are also hosting a few Licking County focused events, including a virtual talent show on March 10. To learn more, audition or sign up to watch, go to: wethrivetogether.org/talentshow.

Congratulations to our 2020 DSP Award winners!

- **Horizon Award: Ashley Greene, CSS**
- **Momentum Award: Leah Goulter, CLW**
- **Constellation Award: Deb Chamberlain, CLE**
 - **Soar Award: Chad Plunkett, CDS**
- **Lunar Award: Lois Ridgley, Independent**

Thanks for all you do!

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.