

Momentum

A quarterly publication of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Meet some of our Tech All Stars!



A message from our Superintendent Jason Umstot



I've been the Superintendent of the Licking County Board of DD for nearly seven years and during that time our agency has experienced constant growth. In the past five years, the number of people with disabilities supported by LCBDD has increased 36 percent. Much of that growth has taken place on the western side of the county. At LCBDD, we always strive to be proactive and anticipate the needs of our community. With Intel projected to change the landscape of our county in the next few years, it's critical that we focus on planning so the quality of our services remains consistent.

Right now, we are focused on learning and gathering information. That means meeting with community partners, such as Grow Licking County and local business leaders to find out as much as we can about the changes that are expected. We will be relying on our strong relationships with our fellow social service agencies and working side by side with them to plan for the future.

We are working on forming new relationships, especially with partners in the Pataskala, Etna, Johnstown and Alexandria areas to make sure that we understand

Continued on page 4

What is the new Tech First Rule?

Ohio implemented a new Technology First Rule in April of 2022. This Rule requires technology be considered as part of all service and support plans (including ISPs) for people with disabilities who receive services from county boards.

Under the new rule, technology will be considered first when planning for in-person services. Learn more about the rule here: dodd.ohio.gov/about-us/resources/tech-first/tech-first.

LCBDD is forming a Tech First committee, has created a position focused on assistive tech and is working on several other projects to share information. Visit our website to learn more:

[Lcountydd.org/assistive-technology/](https://lcountydd.org/assistive-technology/).

Upcoming events

- **4:45 to 6 p.m. Aug. 17, Sept. 21 and Oct. 19:** LCBDD Board meetings will be held **IN PERSON** at the E.S. Weiant Center, 116 N. 22nd St. Newark, Ohio.
- **Noon to 6 p.m. Aug. 8-12:** Hartford Independent Fair. LCBDD will once again be under the grandstand! Keep an eye on our social media pages for more info!
- **2 to 4 p.m. Aug. 19:** Visit our booth at the Pataskala Street Fair on South Main Street!
- **Noon on Aug. 20:** We will be participating in the Pataskala Rotary Street Fair Parade. Check out the Pataskala Rotary Facebook page for updates: facebook.com/RotaryClubofPataskala.

LCBDD News



Thank you Director Hauck!

Thank you to Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Director Kim Hauck and Steve Beha, DODD's Deputy Director of Policy and Strategic Direction, for visiting us on July 6.

Our day started with a visit to the Licking County Family YMCA's summer camp to learn more about their All for One camp and other ways our two agencies work together.

After we got back from camp, we were able to give Director Hauck an update on some of our local priorities before ending with a Q and A session. We appreciate Regan Eveland from Center for Disability Services and Beth Dunning from ViaQuest, Inc.

representing local providers and sharing some of the ways we've partnered.

Thank you to Melanie Fling from the Licking County Children and Families First Council for also providing an update on ways that our community is working together to support multisystem youth.

Our Ages and Stages are changing so we can continue to focus on providing great services and supports!

On July 11, we made changes to the age ranges for our Transition Youth and Adult Service Coordination teams, to make sure that we are providing as much expertise as possible to people we support and their families.

Our Ages and Stages are now:

- **Early Intervention: Birth to 3**
- **Early Childhood: 3 to 12**
- **Transition Youth: 13 to 21**
- **Adult: 22 and older**

If you would like more information or want to know if these changes affect you, please visit Lcountydd.org or contact your Service Coordinator.



Shout Outs!

Shout out to **the Licking County Family YMCA's summer camp and Abby, Zach, Brody and Cam** for being amazing hosts during our visit from DODD Director Hauck!

To Greg Warren, Lead Trainer for OhioMeansJobs.com:

For coming to Newark to train local providers on the OMJ online system so they can proactively search for prospective DSPs!

To Licking County Transit: For your excitement about partnering to tell stories about the value of Transit and the awesome drivers who work there, including **Karrie Mick!**

—Anna Jeffries

Public Information Officer

To the staff of the Village Network: Taz, Bethany and Teresa:

They worked as a team to support a family, going above and beyond with giving direct, creative solutions, words of encouragement and elbow grease.

—Tiffany Rhoads

Service Coordinator

Shout out to independent provider Kim Clark for always thinking creatively for the people she serves and doing more than what is expected!

—Ashley Bryan

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.

Service Coordinator

To Chris Trick: For allowing Silfies Media to tell your story!

To Mrs. Giovannelli and Granville Intermediate: For allowing us to capture the perspective of your awesome students and share it with our community.

To Debbie Untied and Skyler Grosh of Fuse/Licco: For telling your stories to Silfies Media!

To CSS, CLE, CDS, Bloom and PALS: For attending a training facilitated by Ohio Means Jobs!

To Tony and Paul of Friends for Life: For bringing your enthusiasm and creativity to Licking County and shout out to the amazing people who joined in the podcast fun:

Brittany Gray of CLE, Jamye Griffin of CDS and Meagan Hickman of NRH!

To Lisa McCutcheon and Adrienne Anderson of Licking County 4H: For collaborating on some exciting projects!

—Brandi Body

DSP Eligibility Specialist
Manager

Thank you to Jim and Robin Hoekstra for being great landlords to those we serve. Your support to help a man on my caseload has been amazing! Thank you for all you do!

To Michelle, Brittany and Bridget at ViaQuest: Thank you for all your help and flexibility with frequent changes in a person's case.

Your support to give her stability is greatly appreciated.

To Dennis & Amanda from CDS: Thank you both for all you've done for the man on my caseload that you recently started serving. Your support to help give him more stability has been greatly appreciated.

To Andrea Dietrich: Thank you for your excellent communication regarding concerns you have for people you are working with, whether through Interim or LCAP's Heritage Hall.

To Jodi Wolf at Wynn Reeth: Thank you for your quick email replies and all your follow up you do to make sure the people we support have the services they need working properly.

—Karla Lust

Service Coordinator

To Deputy Karen Dunlap: For all her hard work and dedication to Project Life Saver. I know the referrals for Project Lifesaver continue to grow. She goes all over Licking County on a daily basis to keep kiddos safe. I appreciate her willingness to meet families at times and places that work best for them. Thank you!

—Connie Bryant

Service Coordinator

To Independent Provider BranDee Fuller: She has made a positive impact in the life of a kiddo on my caseload and has totally changed the family's

Continued on page 4

Shout outs cont.

impression of what a DSP can and should be!

–Kim Burke
Service Coordinator

To Ryan David and the team of volunteers from Crane One:

Ryan contacted us about doing some volunteer work for LCBDD. We presented them with a few work items and they decided to weather treat our privacy fence at the home on Tollgate Road. They did a fantastic job! Thank you!

–Bud Rudin
Facilities Maintenance
Specialist



Umstot cont.

the needs of those communities and that they know what our agency can do for their residents. And we are looking for office spaces for our agency to expand so we can be there for the people we support and their families in the most convenient way possible. We are just starting on this journey but welcome your thoughts and feedback. We are looking forward to supporting Licking County residents during this new opportunity for growth.

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.

Do you know someone who would make a great Tech All Star? Let us know!

Contact Public Information Officer Anna Jeffries at anna.jeffries@lcountydd.org or 740-322-6911 to make a nomination or share your experience!

More technology resources!

- **Meet the Ohio Tech Ambassadors:** Learn more about assistive tech from people with lived experience! They offer in-person trainings, online events and more! Visit ohiotechambassadors.org for more information!
- **Learn through videos:** DODD has a Technology First video playlist that features over 95 videos from across the state highlighting the benefits of technology in people's lives. Check it out on their Youtube channel under "Playlists:" youtube.com/user/DODDohio.

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.