

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities



Superintendent's Report - August 2020

Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

The Deepwood Foundation COVID fund has helped Broadmoor families with food vouchers, rent supplement, and other essential needs for families during the pandemic.

Deepwood Foundation gave 23 iPads to Broadmoor students. These iPads will assist the students in their classroom and in remote learning environments.

The Knights of Columbus donated \$1,000 to Broadmoor School for school equipment and supplies.

The members of the Mentor Rotary completed one of the three projects adopted for Broadmoor School's Day of Caring. The beautifully made swimsuit drying racks will hang in each classroom. They will be used by our students to dry swimsuits after swimming class. Thank you Mentor Rotary for sharing your amazing woodworking skills which continue to benefit the students at our school!

Some of our individuals at the VGC, just finished the first session of Virtual Music Therapy with the Groovy Garfoose. While it is a different experience than the live version, many individuals enjoyed the consistency of staying in their group and seeing themselves participate on the television and hearing their instructor call their name. Some are able to enjoy occasional virtual visits through the iPad with other therapy programs, friends, and loved ones.

The Imagine Program started in their new building on July 6. Also, on Wednesdays some individuals from Imagine volunteer at beach clean-up at Mentor Headlands.

Department Program Enhancements/Updates

Trainings that were attended by Early Intervention Staff in June: Family Centered Practices in Challenging Situations, Bayley-4, NAS (6-12 months), and Development of Children with Down Syndrome. The Early Intervention team started using the Bayley-4 assessment tool for evaluations to determine eligibility on July 1. This updated version provides more opportunities to document emerging skills in infants and toddlers.

Early Intervention completed 12 virtual evaluations during the month of June, with 11 children qualifying for services. This month our central intake started outreach to pediatricians to educate them that we are still providing Early Intervention Services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Broadmoor staff has been busy getting classrooms ready for the 20-21 school year. School Age students will return on August 18 and preschool students will return on August 20. The teachers and assistants have been busy setting up classrooms following the requirements and guidelines given by the CDC, ODH, and the Ohio Department of Education. At the same time, teachers will be delivering the most effective instruction, building on foundational knowledge and skills and social emotional learning.

Early Intervention continues to provide quality services. There were 17 children evaluated virtually and 16 qualified for Early Intervention. These services will be provided by LCBDD/Broadmoor E.I. Teams including DS, Speech, OT, and PT services.

In an effort to continue to complete all current work contracts, Willoughby Branch (WB) staff have been reporting to work. The staff have been working tirelessly to prepare the building for reopening and meeting all requirements for ODDD and ODH. Due to the efforts of many, the Willoughby Branch has been approved for reopening on August 24! In an effort to prepare all WB individuals for their return to work, all WB individuals will be contacted and updated by staff on their return, in order to provide for a smooth and effortless return to work and having been prepared for what to expect in our new work environment.

Special Events

Christmas came in July when Santa visited the ICF's and delivered presents for each individual on July 13. Presents were donated by Asa's Angels and customized to a wish list we provided to Santa's helpers. Santa and his elves greeted the residents from outside the fence to spread tidings of good cheer and encouragement.

Nine teens and their advisors from St. Gabe's Youth Mission spent an afternoon cleaning up the recreation site on July 20. They cleaned the windows inside and out, swept under the pavilion, and picked up sticks/debris from the fit trail. They finished the day by pulling weeds from the black top area. An advisor had fun cleaning it off with his backpack blower.

At the VGC, the individuals recently enjoyed a lunch off the grill with moving food tables to serve individuals at the entrances of their groups, while maintaining social distance and sanitation procedures. Some individuals preferred to eat outside in their designated group area, while others chose to eat their lunch in the air conditioning. Many are participating in activities within their group areas, such as playing musical instruments, baking, creative crafting, watching movies, exercising to music, picnicking, watering flowers, taking walks, swinging, shooting hoops, and flying kites.

Staff Development/Training

The Early Intervention staff continue to attend DD trainings including: Dysphagia Management and Virtual Reality Evaluation Factors that Influence Speech Acquisition.