

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities



Superintendent's Report - March 2021

Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

The JCR Imagine Program had a busy month with the following:

- Groovy Garfoose Music Therapy started up a new session in February. Six Imagine individuals participate in virtual music therapy on Tuesday mornings.
- The Imagine individuals continued volunteering their time at double bagging lunch bags for 'End 68 Hours of Hunger.'
- The Imagine Program is proud to announce that they officially have their first job! We are working with Bright Beginnings to assemble a large quantity of Help Me Grow Home Visiting Kits to be distribute to eight regional sites across Ohio. This will be a great job for all of the individuals in the Program to be a part of. We are very excited for this job opportunity!

In collaboration with the Community Support Specialists, VGC has increased virtual opportunities available each day to connect with the community. Through the We Thrive Together Program, individuals can choose an activity of interest such as Music Bingo, Name that Tune, Line Dancing, Virtual Trips, Let's Play Cards, and Wheel of Fortune. Best thing about these programs (other than being FREE) is that the individuals can safely participate in a variety of activity and engage with others in the community during these times where everything is so limited. Some of our individuals are also looking forward to participating in the virtual Dancing Wheels Dance Workshop that will take place twice a month in March and April. Lastly, VGC is kicking off March by celebrating Dr. Seuss Day with a virtual guest reader, Staff Development's Lisa Stevens!

Crossroads Health Early Childhood Program participated at Broadmoor School's Preschool Meeting to talk about a variety of services they offer and how to refer to their different program areas.

Riverside Show Choir was unable to come to Broadmoor School this year for their annual in-person performance; instead, they put together a Virtual Concert which was viewed by our students in their classrooms. Songs were both sung and performed in sign language.

Riverside Leadership Class made Valentine cards for every student at Broadmoor School. They have also connected with our students by sharing videos of their school club activities. In February, our students learned about the skills needed to play Lacrosse.

Cleveland State's Music Therapy students returned to Broadmoor School this year to provide classes to our preschool and school age students utilizing Zoom.

Broadmoor Administrators attended a State Support Team 4 Special Education Leaders Professional Development Workshop. Topics included Alternate Assessment, OELPA documents, Walter Home Awards, and Compliance Monitoring guidance.

Broadening Abilities (BA) is grateful to have received six new iPad cases from a generous donation from the estate of Rita Fadel, beloved grandmother of Chris S. BA will be using these iPads to explore

more individual preferences via virtual means. It will be an exciting endeavor to learn and grow with technology.

BA received three sets of speakers for the smart boards which will help to enhance sound quality and enjoyment of favorite movies, music, and videos on the big screen.

Department Program Enhancements/Updates

The Early Childhood Development attended the following professional development opportunities this month: NAS and Developmental Stages (24 – 26 months), Pivotal Response Treatment for Early Intervention, and PBIS Overview.

Two Broadmoor Preschool Instructors represented LCBDD/Deepwood at Ohio's Early Childhood Virtual Townhall.

Broadmoor resumed Gym classes on February 8. All students were able to return while practicing social distancing and following safety protocols.

Special Events

On February 13, Pieces of Imagination dog treats were sold at the Shop With Your Pet event at Great Lakes Mall from 12 – 4 pm.

Broadmoor Substitute, Deb Mozil (who also happens to be a pastry chef), offered the LEEP students a formal cooking class where they were able to make and enjoy chocolate covered strawberries and fruit smoothies to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Bedford Fire Department held a virtual tour of their fire station for Broadmoor's Preschool students.

VGC individuals enjoy participating in the virtual Recreation Workout every week where they can also spend a few minutes visiting with longtime friends from other program areas. This virtual activity is a blessing that has come from the limitations of this past year, when we see all the smiling faces that come from being able to connect with old friends (even if only virtually for now). VGC continues to offer special days such as pie tasting, as well as, a variety of craft opportunities. Individuals enjoy displaying their crafts by decorating their areas.

Cherry Pie Day was deliciously enjoyed at BA with making a cherry pie from paper and eating a cherry pie snack after lunch. Other fun activities include, feeding the squirrels and watching them eat their special treats, listening to music, listening to stories, fine motor skill activities, dancing to music, virtual museum visits, Groovy Garfoose, and making crafts. On a few very warm days, we actually went outside for a short walk, taking in all the nature sights and sounds. On another day in February, we talked about nutrition and drank a healthy and yummy smoothie. Reece's peanut butter cups were enjoyed while individuals learned about how peanut butter was discovered. A creation of a glittery shamrock decoration got everyone excited about St. Patrick's Day. Dancing Wheels brought on new excitement with some stretches and movement to watch and enjoy on our smartboards. February ended with a delicious bowl of Wendy's chili, while chilling with our friends.

Agency Resources

Early Intervention completed 22 evaluations with all of the children being eligible for Ohio Early Intervention Services.