

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities



Superintendent's Report - August 2021

Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

The Willoughby Branch (WB) was excited to be able to take advantage of the warmer weather and had the opportunity to mingle with other groups at the WB: June and July activities included a cookout with Rec (featuring a dunk tank), and outdoor games with the St. Gabriel's Youth Group. The individuals created murals of themselves all through the month of July. Christmas occurred in July, where individuals and staff created red/green tie-dyed t-shirts and wore them on the same day. Bahama Santa made an appearance and everyone had pictures taken with Santa at the "beach."

Thanks to all who attended the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the all-inclusive playground on June 15! We have been enthusiastically watching the building of our All-Inclusive Adapted Playground and Learning Center at Broadmoor School (Phases 1 and 2). It is nearly complete and should be ready in time for the first day of school.

The Marcus Lantern Fundraiser is scheduled for August 28, 2021, at St. Noel's. This is a great time for a great cause and includes auctions, raffles, and a main Board Prize. Tickets are available at deepwoodfoundation.org on the Events Page.

On July 2, individuals at Imagine enjoyed tie-dyeing shirts as a fun group activity.

Imagine continued volunteering once a week picking up trash at Headlands Beach for beach clean up.

Pieces of Imagination dog treats are now being sold at Barktown in Willoughby. There are two flavors to choose from: pumpkin peanut butter and banana peanut butter.

The Imagine Program individuals completed their job with Bright Beginnings and assembled 10,000 Help Me Grow home visiting kits.

The heat is on at Broadening Abilities (BA)! In order to beat the heat, individuals spent lots of time enjoying the new outdoor picnic area in the Memorial Garden, under the shade from the trees. Watermelon was celebrated as the fruit for the month and quenched everyone's thirst and taste buds. A water balloon activity made the day fun and cooled everyone off, while laughing and engaging in a summer activity. Recreation along with A-building staff, tested out their throwing abilities (while being bombarded with water balloons by individuals and staff). It was a "hit" for all who took time out on their busy Friday to enjoy a little friendly competition and bonding.

BA purchased a new Cricut machine that will be helpful in creating fun designs for posters, bulletin boards, and crafting. So that the cards have a more creative flair, it will also be utilized for the Veteran's card project.

BA individuals enjoyed virtual art with the Willoughby Library and classic storytelling with our friend, Pete. A trip to Cleveland at Edgewater Park Beach and pictures by the iconic Cleveland sign were exciting and nostalgic. A trip down memory lane also included a day at Geneva-on-the-Lake and lunch

at Eddie's Grille, as well as, ice cream in Chagrin Falls, and a visit to the Lake County Fair. Time away and in our community made this month a spectacular time for all.

Individuals at the VGC continue to take part in various virtual activities of choice; such as, crafting, exercise, line dancing, and game shows, as well as, participate in community activity. This past month many of the individuals have enjoyed outdoor trips to a variety of parks, as well as Geneva on the Lake and downtown Cleveland for outdoor lunch and sightseeing. We kicked off the Summer Olympics on a beautiful day with a parade of our own and a cookout after. Individuals at VGC were able to harvest the first "fruits" of the garden they have been working on since spring in the VGC courtyard. How yummy they were! Everyone enjoyed the visit from Mojito, the therapy dog, and everyone looks forward to his return.

Department Program Enhancements/Updates

Annually, Ohio schools receive a rating evaluating the performance of special education programs, known as the Special Education Rating. Broadmoor School's 2021 Special Education Rating of Meets Requirements is the highest level of compliance awarded.

Special Events

WB's Procurement Specialist and Director are getting involved with the Willoughby Chamber of Commerce, and participated in a business collaborative at LaVera's Party Center in Willoughby Hills, where all three Chamber of Commerce communities were present.

On June 1, CES contracted with a new employer, Produce Packaging in Willoughby Hills. This new site enabled six individuals to work five days a week earning \$10 per hour.

A CES individual began working at Craggy Bogland's Pub in Willoughby on June 7.

In June, EMI added an extra day a week to one of CES' independent employees

On June 28, CES contracted with a new employer, Federal Hose in Painesville. This site enabled three individuals to work three days a week earning \$10 per hour.

Agency Resources

Early Intervention completed 61 evaluations with 58 of the children being eligible for Ohio Early Intervention Services in June and July.