

# Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities



## Superintendent's Report - October 2021

### Community Awareness/PR Opportunities/Collaborations

The Willoughby Branch (WB) has recently started to gradually and safely get back into community activities. A number of those activities have turned into volunteer situations due to the positive relationships we have with community entities; such as, Mentor Public Library Children's Dept., Lake Metroparks park cleaning (and art show as well), and Meals on Wheels (Council on Aging) in partnership with the Mentor Rotary Club.

Long-time supporters of Broadmoor School, the Knights of Columbus Madison Geneva Council 5286, and Knights of Columbus St. John Vianney Don Bosco Council 4801 contributed \$2,673.84 to be used for educational materials, equipment, classroom supplies and school activities.

Two Early Childhood Education Program students from Mentor High School will be doing their fieldwork in Broadmoor classrooms this school year.

Cleveland State Music Therapy Practicum students have begun their music sessions with students in the Preschool, school age, and LEEP classes.

Sueann from the Alliance of Therapy Dogs has been bringing her Papillion, Little Caesar, to visit the students and go for walks around the building.

LEEP students enthusiastically resumed their community jobsite outings that include RB Sigma in Mentor, Lake Erie College, and the Unique Like Me shop in Painesville. Other students are back to work on their onsite jobsite responsibilities where they perform simulated work tasks like dusting and dry mopping, assembly, and shredding.

LEEP students that participated in "travel training" dropped off balloons at the home of Joe Trask, who was the dog handler for some of our Partners with Paws furry friends. He is recovering from surgery and will be returning soon!

The following schools collaborated with Broadmoor during the month of September to have field experiences or volunteer: Chardon High School, Perry High School, Mentor High School, and Cleveland State University.

Imagine individuals are happy to be participating in the Groovy Garfoose Music therapy again each Tuesday morning! Two individuals each week continue to volunteer at Lake Farmpark doing a variety of outdoor work tasks. This month Imagine was happy to welcome back Heidi for weekly massage therapy.

The Provider Support Department wrapped up the one-time DSP Appreciation Giveaway that occurred during Direct Support Professional Recognition Week in September. All active DSPs received a swag bag containing Deepwood branded items, candy, and a letter thanking them for their hard work and dedication to serving individuals with developmental disabilities in Lake County. A total of **1,014**

DSPs were recognized and this project included all active private Providers in Lake County as well as the County Board DSPs for a total of 126 Independent Providers, 7 ICF Providers, and 46 Agency Providers (both day service and residential). Provider Support thanks the Board and Administration for their ongoing support and recognition of our Provider partners and their efforts in providing high quality services to individuals in Lake County.

### Special Events

Broadmoor School became the first ever school partner and the only school in Ohio to participate in the Freedom Flag Foundation's National Freedom Flag and World Trade Center Steel Education Program. In addition, Broadmoor became the first school in Ohio that was loaned a piece of steel recovered from ground zero for its use in educational outreach and displayed over the next school year. Staff and students participated in the Freedom Flag ceremony in order to remember the lives lost on 9/11/01 and to celebrate the bravery of the first responders.

On September 24, a CES individual began working at Rad-Air in Wickliffe, Ohio.

It's football season and WB showed their support for the Cleveland Browns by wearing Browns apparel the Friday before their first home game. They took advantage of the beautiful fall weather and completed a craft using the leaves outside. Also, in celebration of Johnny Appleseed Day on 9/27, Janeen along with staff cooked up some homemade stuffed apples (filled with cinnamon and oatmeal) that made the building smell delicious!! ☺

Our beloved volunteers are back!! WB has re-started their book club and craft club - both meeting twice a month.

Broadmoor celebrated the official opening of the Accessible Learning Center and the Activity Center/Playground on September 28 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The playground has all-accessible equipment, along with auditory and visual components so that everyone can be included in the fun and activity. The Activity Center will offer safe, endless play opportunities for individuals of all ages and all abilities in one accessible spot. Mentor Rotary made grow tables so students can participate in gardening and growing plants from seed. Many thanks to the Clark Family, Deepwood Foundation, and many others that made it all possible

Broadmoor Preschool held their annual family picnic on September 15 at Garfield Park. Deepwood Foundation and Broadmoor Family Network sponsored food. Chardon High School sent 42 students to help play with students, run activity stations, and help parents with their children.

Full day preschool took a field trip to Patterson Fruit Farm on Monday, September 27 to discover the sights and smells of fall. For many students, this was the first time riding the bus and the trip will help when they transition to kindergarten next year.

The week of September 13 Imagine celebrated DSP recognition week! Thank you to all of our DSP's for everything that they do each and every day!

Fall is here at Broadening Abilities and shortly here we are moving into **HALLOTHANKSMAS!!** We had a fun filled month of lots of sunshine for our walks outside and to the parks. We spent time at Lake Erie College with Special Education students for a "Day of Fun." Groovy Garfoose music therapy started up this month, every Friday at 11:30 until December. BA enjoyed a trip to the Zoo and

Cleveland Aquarium. Heidi, our massage therapist, comes every Monday. BA celebrated their five-year anniversary! Nancy and Anna presented a beautiful tribute and history of BA. Lastly, Dawanna made the celebratory toast! We danced to music and then we all enjoyed cake. On September 20, BA will be having an Apple Fritter Fundraiser to raise monies for special activities and community integration outings. Apple Fritters will sell for \$5 a piece.

### Agency Resources

Early Intervention completed 28 evaluations with 26 of the children being eligible for Ohio Early Intervention Services in September.

### Featured Success Stories

WB had their second Annual Cornhole Tournament and Mike Y. and John U. teamed up to become the champions!

Cayden is on the move! Joelle, Cayden's Mom, was able to share the gains that Cayden made while working with Broadmoor's Early Intervention Program. The family was featured on the website and social media.

### Staff Development/Training

Early Childhood staff attended the following professional development trainings during the month of September: Coaching practices in EI, EI Mission and Key Principles, and Family Centered EI.