Supports and Services for Children

Our mission is supporting people with disabilities and their families to achieve what is important to them.
The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities supports more than 2,000 individuals with disabilities and their families.

For information about events, support groups, programs, services, and much more, go to:  
[www.warrencountydd.org](http://www.warrencountydd.org)
Agency Eligibility

For any Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities’ service, an individual must reside in Warren County and be deemed eligible for County Board of DD services. The Support Services Division is the starting point for services for all individuals over three years of age. The Intake Specialists will assess all individuals requesting services to determine the eligibility of the individual. For those who are currently eligible for County Board of DD services, eligibility is reviewed at the age of three, six, and sixteen. The onset of the disability must have occurred prior to the age of 22.

Guidelines for eligibility for Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities services:

• Children under 3 with one developmental delay or risk of the same may be eligible.
• Children 3 through 5th birthday with two developmental delays or an established risk may be eligible.
• Individuals 6 and older with a qualifying diagnosis and three or more substantial functional limitations may be eligible.

To determine eligibility:

For children under age three, please contact: Central Intake for a referral

Southwest Region
513-434-3322

For children age three and older, please contact:

Jessica Haddix, Intake Specialist
Jessica.Haddix@warrencountydd.org
513-518-5323

Amy Spencer, Intake Specialist
Amy.Spencer@warrencountydd.org
513-806-3780

Information and Referral

Information and Referral is designed to provide information and support regarding services available to the people served by Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities. This service is available for individuals who meet eligibility requirements and are not receiving other services through the county board. Ongoing information and resources will be shared with families.

Direct contact is made at least one time per year to ensure you know who to reach should you be in need of assistance.

For more information, please contact:

Krista Dell’ Aria,
Information & Referral Service Coordinator
krista.dellaria@warrencountydd.org
513-806-3774
Early Intervention

Evidence-based early intervention assists family members and caregivers to enhance a child’s learning and development through everyday activities or routines. Our Early Intervention program serves children age birth to third birthday who have a medical diagnosis with a high probability of developmental delays, or with a developmental delay in one or more areas based on standardized tests or informed clinical opinion.

The Early Intervention program receives referrals from the Early Intervention Service Coordinator, through the Warren County Educational Service Center. Once a child is determined eligible and has had an assessment of the strengths and needs of the child and the family, the family’s Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) will be developed as a team. The family and child will be provided with support from the Early Intervention team, which may be comprised of a Service Coordinator, Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Speech-Language Pathologist, or Developmental Specialist.

One member of the team will be assigned as a Primary Service Provider (PSP). The primary service provider, or coach, sees the family in a location (which includes options through technology) that meets the priority, needs and outcomes of the child and family. This professional will coach the parent or caregiver during each visit, leaving them with a joint plan until the next visit. The PSP will monitor and address questions and priorities related to the child’s development.

For more information about Early Intervention, please contact:

www.ohioearlyintervention.org

For additional information or questions related to any Early Childhood support or service, please contact:

Kelly Brooks, Early Childhood Manager
Kelly.Brooks@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6520
Developed by Dr. Richard Solomon for use with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, P.L.A.Y. Project techniques are appropriate to work with all children. The P.L.A.Y. Project Home Consultant Program emphasizes the importance of helping parents become their child’s best P.L.A.Y. partner. This program provides training and support for families of children in their home (in person or through technology). Trained consultants teach parents techniques that are effective, fun, and useful in day-to-day interactions with their child. This is currently available from birth to sixth birthday.

*(Birth to 3, as a strategy for Early Intervention)*

**Toileting Supports**
*Contracted Services with Envision*

Toileting 101 - is a group session for the parent or caregiver. This session gives an overview of toileting readiness and supportive ideas for beginning. It is offered in Spring and Fall each year.

Individualized Supports – will assess toileting readiness, determining necessary preparations, adaptations, and successful implementation in your child’s natural environments. (age 3+)

For more information, please contact:
Chrissy Barton, Division Secretary
Chrissy.Barton@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6429

**It Takes Two to Talk**
*In person or through technology*

*It Takes Two to Talk* is a program for parents of children (birth to 5) who have language delays. *It Takes Two to Talk* recognizes:
- The importance of involving parents in their child’s early language intervention.
- The need to help children and families as early as possible in a child’s life.

*It Takes Two to Talk* is led by a Hanen Certified Speech-Language Pathologist who has received specialized training from the Hanen Centre.

For more information, please contact:
Peggy Engelhard, Speech -Language Pathologist
Peggy.Engelhard@warrencountydd.org 513-806-3803

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**Social Connections**
*In person or through technology*

Also provided are play groups, social opportunities, parent and caregiver linkage or education sessions, and information about opportunities in your community. Past events included train rides, Social Saturdays and more!

For more information, please contact:
Carolyn Bogenschutz, Division Secretary
Carolyn.Bogenschutz@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6487
Support and Education

Family Supports

The Family Supports program was developed to provide support to families who are caring for a family member in their home. The goal is to relieve some of the emotional and financial strains experienced by families, and to enhance harmony within the family unit. There are no income guidelines to participate, however, the individual may not be enrolled on a Medicaid Waiver.

Contracted Services with Envision

(Age 3-22)

Specialized services are available through a contract with Envision. Envision's CITE (Community Integrated Training and Education) services provide parents with in-home support to address and overcome challenging issues with their child who has a developmental disability.

A strengths-based holistic approach is used to deliver services in the home and community to help children and young adults grow, succeed and build a life that involves choices, community, relationships and respect. The goal of services is to develop effective intervention plans around issues such as challenging behaviors, daily living skills, social skills, and communication. Services include:

- Skill assessment and skill development planning, task assessment to determine strengths and needs within targeted skill development areas.
- Parent training and education, including direct coaching and consultation.

For more information, please contact:
Chris Smith
Support Services Director
Christopher.Smith@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6449

www.envisionohio.org

Intensive In Home Supports

Behavior Supports

Specialized coaching in positive behavior supports is available for staff and family members. Assessments in the home environment and observations in school environments are used to build on successes at school, and transfer those successes into the home environment. Behavior Specialists communicate, consult and coordinate with families and school personnel.

For more information, please contact:
Chris Smith, Support Services Director
Christopher.Smith@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6449

Assistance may be provided in covering some cost of therapy, adaptive equipment, camp, respite, disposable items (after age 3), and special diet needs.

- The maximum cap for an eligible family with one eligible family member with a developmental disability is $2,500.00.
- The maximum cap for a family having more than one eligible family member with a developmental disability is $4,000.00.
- Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - Medical supplies
  - Adaptive equipment
  - Home modifications
  - Feeding equipment and supplies for individuals with special diets (after age three)
  - Respite care
  - Camp
  - Cost of therapy

For more information, please contact:
Katrina Steele
Family Supports Coordinator
Katrina.Steele@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6432
Voices Speaking Out

Voices Speaking Out is the Self Advocacy group sponsored by the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Members of the group are comprised of adults ages 18 and older, receiving services from WCBDD. They advocate for independence and the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities into community life. They learn the importance of self determination, and work to ensure that all people are treated equally and fairly.

Voices Speaking Out meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. New members are always welcome. Please contact us for more information and locations.

For more information, please contact:
Ellen Hudson, Advocacy Coordinator
Ellen.Hudson@warrencountydd.org
513-806-3778

Sinclair Partnership

Students at Sinclair Community College, Mason, who have developmental disabilities or are experiencing mental health issues have a resource available to them, to help them be more successful in school. A counseling position has been created through a community partnership between the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Mental Health Recovery Board Serving Warren and Clinton Counties, along with Sinclair Community College.

The Counselor - Supported Education Program will serve as a personal point of contact for identified students to help them navigate the college system. The Counselor will also coordinate the delivery of internal and external supports to advocate for the students’ needs, as well as provide immediate support to address academic, mental, personal and career needs, including crisis intervention when needed.

For more information, please contact:
Gloria Kinney
Student Support Specialist
Gloria.kinney@sinclair.edu
937-512-5530

Service and Support Administration

(Service Coordination)

Service Coordinators assure various services and supports are available and are responsive to the preferences and needs of persons served. They also promote independence, choice, and community integration. The Service Coordinator serves as a resource and partner for the person served, the family of the person served, and others who are significant in the person’s life. The Service Coordinator assures that all service providers work together to implement the service plan. This person also monitors services and ensures that the health and safety needs of the individual served are met.

A Service Coordinator is assigned to be on-call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to respond to emergency situations and can be reached by calling: 1-800-800-6847.

For more information, please contact:
Tony Hidy, SSA Director
Tony.Hidy@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6433
Community Integration

The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities’ Community Integration Coordinator assists with the coordination of Special Olympics for the Warren County area. Special Olympics starts at age 8. In addition to Special Olympics, the Community Integration Coordinator facilitates county-wide activities that include, but are not limited to, social outings, recreational activities, and dances that are open to individuals of various ages.

The Community Integration Coordinator creates a calendar of events monthly that is shared on our website and social media pages, and is also sent via email to all individuals and families who would like to receive notification of events and activities.

If you would like to receive correspondence from the Community Integration Coordinator regarding activities available each month, please contact:

Rhonda Schutte  
Community Integration Coordinator  
Rhonda.Schutte@warrencountydd.org  
513-806-3809

Mini-Grants

The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities has been able to offer mini-grants to the Warren County School Districts since 2016.

Grant opportunities are offered to local school districts to provide students eligible for WCBDD additional educational supports. These supports are in addition to what is already provided by or required to be provided by the school district. Our goal is to provide students with opportunities they may not otherwise have had without this funding. Some examples of supports that may be provided include, but are not limited to, sensory supplies, fine motor skill supplies, staff assistance, and technology.

For more information, please contact:  
Melissa Stall, Support Services Manager  
Melissa.Stall@warrencountydd.org  
513-228-6459
Camp Opportunities

Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities contracts with local summer day camps and residential camps for the purpose of increasing supportive opportunities for children and families. Camps can also be funded through Family Supports and Waivers.

For more information, please contact:
Katrina Steele, Family Supports Coordinator
Katrina.Steele@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6432

Youth On The Go

Youth On The Go is a recreation and socialization support for parents and their children ages 6 to 13 who are enrolled in services with the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Events and activities are held in various places in Warren County, through contracts with other partner agencies. Past events have included swimming, gymnastics, baking, pizza parties and more. Reservations are required.

For more information, please contact:
Katrina Steele, Family Supports Coordinator
Katrina.Steele@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6432

Community Events

The Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities hosts and participates in a variety of community events to increase the visibility of our agency to the general public. These events allow the public to learn about the agency and the services and supports we provide to people with disabilities. These events are open to all ages and all abilities, and are always free.

Community Events have included; Open Houses, concerts, car shows, egg hunts, festivals, resource fairs, and more.

For more information, please contact:
Adam Jones, Community Relations Coordinator
Adam.Jones@warrencountydd.org
513-806-3941

Early Learning Support

(In-person or through technology)

Professionals employed by Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities may provide training and/or support to staff in early childhood environments. The training and supports are led by staff who have expertise in early childhood developmental levels, sensory processing of children with disabilities, and behavior intervention. Professional guidance is provided with intent to support WCBDD eligible children.

Training can include overviews of early intervention, development in children with disabilities, skill levels and expectations, functions of behavior, assessment tools and more.

For more information, please contact:
Kelly Brooks, Early Childhood Manager
Kelly.Brooks@warrencountydd.org
Transition Services

(Age 14-22)

Students eligible for Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities services are able to participate in transition services. The program is designed to help students transition from school to the adult world.

The transition process is a team approach, which is developed around the needs of the individual student. The program partners with the local schools and other agencies to develop and implement appropriate programming.

Transition Coordinators create individualized plans for each student. They will assess and refer to available programs in addition to coordinating and monitoring services.

During the time spent in this program, students will work on social skills, employment skills, public safety, self-advocacy, critical thinking skills, decision making, and activities of daily living. The goal is to ensure students are gaining skills to leave school confidently.

By helping to develop skills through programming and real life experiences, the students will gain more independence.

For more information, please contact:
Brittany Conner
Transition Manager
Brittany.Conner@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6469

School To Adult Life Transition (S.A.L.T.)

(In person or through technology)

Free, informational seminars for children who have developmental disabilities are held every month from September to May. The seminars address needs and concerns that families may have regarding the transition from school to adult life for those with developmental disabilities. Each month, a different topic and speaker is featured. The sessions are held at the Warren C. Young Center, located at 801 Drake Road in Lebanon, Ohio.

The seminars are open to the public, and advance registration is not required. Parents may bring their teenagers ages 14 and older to participate in the Student/Young Adult sessions which are held concurrently, in which they receive information on exploring their road map involving community, work/employment, home/housing and education/training.

For more information, please contact:
Patti Shrom
ptpattis@gmail.com
513-277-9900
Community Employment

Community Employment is the preferred path for working-age adults with developmental disabilities, and all individuals should have the opportunity to explore career options and seek jobs that fit their skills and interests. The Transition and Community Employment programs are designed to work together to help individuals meet their fullest potential in terms of employment.

The Community Employment staff assist adults with developmental disabilities to obtain and maintain employment as direct hires into the community. Staff members work in roles as Job Coaches to help individuals be successful in jobs, and Job Developers work with businesses to find out their staffing needs.

Together the Transition and Community Employment programs focus on developing relationship with various businesses and community organizations in order to enhance employment opportunities for all of the individuals served.

Other programs offered by Community Employment include a Driving Program, Careers with Peers, Attire for Hire and a financial grant program to assist individuals with the purchase of a personal vehicle.

For more information, please contact:
Angela Dean
Community Employment Manager
Angela.Dean@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6481

Community Housing Assistance Program (CHAP)

The Community Housing Assistance Program, or CHAP, was incorporated as a 501 (c )(3) charitable organization in 1992 to provide housing for individuals with developmental disabilities. CHAP currently owns more than 90 homes and manages two homes owned by the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities. These homes house more than 170 individuals, who pay a percentage of their income in rent. Individuals can get a subsidy from Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities or Section 8 to assist with their rent.

CHAP homes are not licensed group homes and staff do not live in the homes. Staff support is provided by certified providers chosen by the residents in the homes, and supports are provided based upon individual needs. Individuals must be eligible for Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities service in order to reside in CHAP housing.

For more information, please contact:
Carol Heil
Community Resource Director
Carol.Heil@warrencountydd.org
513-228-6516