



Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Warren County Dreams

DECEMBER
2014

Winter Formal Dance to be held Saturday, January 24, 2015

Our first agency dance of the year, our Winter Formal, will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2015 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Warren C. Young Center, located at 801 Drake Road in Lebanon, Ohio.

The dance is open to people ages 18 and over receiving services and supports from the Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities. The cost is \$3, payable at the door.

The theme will be Masquerade Ball. Please join us! For more information, contact Angie Moore at (513) 806-3808.

A Word from our Superintendent

We are so proud to have received in November, our seventh consecutive 3-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

CARF is an independent, non-profit organization that provides accreditation services worldwide to health and human service providers. Those that meet CARF's high standards are amongst the best available and are achieving the greatest possible outcomes.

We received the accreditation for the following

services we provide; Child and Youth Services, Community Employment Services—Employment Supports, Community Employment Services—Job Development, Community Integration, Employment Planning Services, Organizational Employment Services, and Service Coordination.

We couldn't have received this highest accreditation without the dedication and exemplary work of our wonderful staff. We have 180 employees who work here in various positions, and we all have in common the desire to help people



**Megan K. Manuel,
Superintendent**

with developmental disabilities. It takes a caring nature to work in this field, as well as a strong commitment to those we serve. We are grateful to have such a great team, and it is so rewarding to be honored with such a distinguished recognition.

Board President Eugene Rose completes 12 years of service

WCBDD Board President Eugene Rose was appointed to our Board in 2003 by Warren County Probate Court Judge Michael Powell.

In 2007, Mr. Rose became the President of our Board, the role he has served for the past seven years.

Due to the Ohio Revised Code law which states

that Board Members will serve no more than three consecutive terms, Mr. Rose will retire from his position at the end of this year, after completing 12 years of service. We are so grateful for his commitment and dedication.

All Board Members serve as volunteers and are not paid for their time.



Board President Eugene Rose, pictured here with Superintendent Megan Manuel, is honored for 12 years of service.

Become A Buddy for the Miracle League of Greater Dayton



The Miracle League of Greater Dayton is currently seeking volunteers to become Buddies for their upcoming softball season that is scheduled to begin in April, 2015.

Being a Buddy is a fun and rewarding experience. You will help people with developmental disabilities play

softball. As a Buddy you will; help players hold the bat, hit the ball when needed, run the bases or push a wheelchair around the bases, encourage participation when necessary, and pose for pictures with players before, during and after the games. The skill level of the Miracle Players vary, so some flexibility and adjustments may be needed with individuals.

To become a Buddy, volunteers must be at least 13 years old. Twenty people are needed to be Buddies for each game. Games are held in Warren County on Saturdays and Thursdays in Springboro at the Miracle League Field, located at the Springboro Junior High School, 1605 S. Main Street, Springboro, Ohio.

Sports Teams are encouraged to volunteer and should

wear their uniforms. Please note though, the playing surface is rubberized so cleats are not allowed. Businesses, clubs and other organizations are also encouraged to volunteer, and can wear their logo-embled shirts as well. All volunteers are encouraged to bring along their friends, parents, children, teachers, fans, neighbors and more.

Buddies must arrive 15 minutes before game time to receive a brief orientation, and to be paired with a player.

The 2015 Miracle League schedule is:

Saturday, April 25th—Opening Day

Saturday, May 2nd—Tentative Picture Day

Thursday, May 7th

Saturday, May 16th

Thursday, May 21st

Saturday, May 30th

Saturday, June 6th

Saturday, June 13th

Thursday games are held at 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.
Saturday games are held at 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

For more information go to:

www.miracleleaguedayton.org.



DODD Transition Plan Forum to be held January 10, 2015

There are many changes taking place in Ohio's developmental disabilities system. One of the significant changes is a new rule from the federal Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which says that Medicaid funds can no longer be used to provide waiver services in or adjacent to settings that have the effect of isolating people.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) convened a CMS Transition Plan Committee comprised of stakeholders from across the DD system to identify which settings are currently not in compliance with the new CMS regulations, and develop recommendations for how to bring them into compliance.

Join members of the committee to learn more about the CMS rule and what the state is doing to ensure we're in compliance. Ask questions about the transition plan, and learn how you can review the plan and provide feedback.

The DODD Transition Plan Forum in our will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Hamilton County Board of Developmental Disabilities' Beckman Adult Center, located at 2600 Civic Center Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45231. The forum is free and open to the public.

For more information, go to <http://dodd.ohio.gov/OurFuture.gov>.

Family Information Series, S.A.L.T., continues into the New Year

The School to Adult Life Transition, or S.A.L.T., is a new Family Information Series funded as a pilot project of Employment First, Ohio's Initiative to raise expectations for community employment for youth and adults with developmental disabilities.

The series is a partnership between the Boards of Developmental Disabilities of Warren, Montgomery and Greene counties. It began in September and will continue until May, 2015.

The series is for parents of teenage children who have developmental disabilities. The sessions address the needs and concerns that families may have regarding the transition from school to adult life.

The next scheduled session will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The topic will be Navigating Social Security. Family members, agency personnel and educators are welcome to attend and participate. In addition, parents are encouraged to bring their transition age students between 14 and 22 years of age to attend learning sessions on Employment Awareness Self-advocacy. Students must be able to participate in the classroom while the parent(s) attend the presentation.

The S.A.L.T. series is presented by Carolyn Greathouse. Ms. Greathouse is the Parent Resource Trainer for the Warren, Montgomery and Greene Counties S.A.L.T committee. She is the parent of a teenager who has developmental disabilities, and has been involved with special needs groups for more than 15 years, since her son's diagnosis.

The S.A.L.T. series is held at the Warren C. Young Center, located at 801 Drake Road, Lebanon, OH. All sessions will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m.

Series dates and topics for 2015 include:

January 28, 2015:	Navigating Social Security
February 25, 2015:	How does employment impact Social Security benefits and benefit analysis
March 25, 2015:	Guardianship
April 22, 2015:	To be determined
May 27, 2015:	To be determined

For more information, contact Carolyn Greathouse, Parent Resource Trainer at (937) 371-2051 or e-mail prtceg@sbcglobal.net.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is a 100% preventable disability

Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) is a continuum of various permanent birth defects caused by the mother's consumption of alcohol during pregnancy. FASD includes fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), which is the most severe form of the condition. Establishing the prevalence of FASD is very difficult, but it is estimated that at least one percent of children in the United States are born with FAS or other alcohol-related birth defects.

The effects of FASD include physical, behavioral, and cognitive disabilities. These conditions can affect each child in different ways, and can range from mild to severe. FASDs last a lifetime, and there is no known cure. Research shows that early intervention treatment services can improve a child's development. There are many types of treatment options, including medication to help with some symptoms, behavior and education therapy, parent training, and other alternative

approaches. No one treatment is right for every child. Good treatment plans include close monitoring, follow-ups, and changes as needed along the way.

There is no known safe amount of alcohol or safe time to drink alcohol during pregnancy. Because of this, government health agencies recommend that women drink no alcohol at all if pregnant or planning to become pregnant.



Be Safe: Have an alcohol-free pregnancy

If you are pregnant or planning a pregnancy, it is safest not to drink any alcohol.

No safe time.
No safe amount.
No safe kind.



**Warren County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

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**Our mission is to support people
with disabilities and their families to
achieve what is important to them.**

This newsletter was collated, folded and labeled by the enrolled individuals employed by Production Services Unlimited, Inc. (PSU). PSU is a non-profit business that provides work training and paid work experiences to adults enrolled in WCBDD programs.

www.warrencountydd.org

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Groups seek entries from artists with developmental disabilities

Two organizations, Partners For Community Living and Toward Independence, Inc. will hold their 8th Annual Art & Soul Exhibit in April, 2015, and are seeking artists with developmental disabilities to submit their artwork.



*Art & Soul
Exhibit*

Call For Entries!

The Art & Soul Exhibit is a regional, juried art exhibit open to artists with developmental disabilities. Awards and prizes are given to top artists in both youth and adult categories. Artwork is currently being solicited from a 22-county area and the deadline to enter is February 4, 2015. There is a \$5 entry fee charged per entry to offset handling costs.

The top 40 entries from all submitted artwork will be selected by an independent judging panel of professional artists. The benefits to artists whose work is selected for exhibit include: an opportunity to showcase their artwork to a large, diverse audience; free framing/other enhancement paid for by event sponsors; a chance to earn income through artwork sales; eligibility to win

monetary awards, and much more.

On Friday, April 17, 2015, the awards ceremony and artists' reception will be held at Toward Independence, Inc., located at 81 E. Main Street, Xenia, Ohio, 45385. The event will be from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. The art exhibit dates are April 14-24, 2015. Artists whose work sells through the exhibit will earn 100% of the profits.

The 8th Annual Art & Soul Exhibit is sponsored by Partners For Community Living, Toward Independence, Inc., Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services, Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities Services, Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and Sketches Framing Shop.

For more information and an entry form, go to: www.ti-inc.net/events/news/ or call Beth Esterkamp at (937) 376-3996.