



BELMONT

County Board of Developmental Disabilities

*Encouraging, Supporting and Respecting
People on their Journey Through Life*

**2009
ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Service and Support

Re-organized Service and Support Administration Department upon retirement/resignation of two employees. Re-distributed case loads among existing SSAs, which left funds available to accommodate the hiring of an individual specifically for transition services for youth ages 14-22

Increased number of those served from 209 individuals at the end of 2008 to 238 at the end of 2009 with one less SSA

Added 26 individuals to Level One waiver services and 4 individuals to Individual Options waiver services

Note: County Board now has 73 percent of eligible individuals enrolled in federal Medicaid waiver services. This reduces county board day service funding obligations by 40 percent.

Assisted the Family Advisory Board in the re-establishment of the Belmont County ARC

Implemented new Person-Centered intake process focused on the principles of self-determination

Self Determination Leadership Team presented at Bethany College, the Solidarity Conference and the Ohio State House

Board became an active member of the local Cluster, working in conjunction with the other agencies, and made financial contribution of \$50,000

Children's Services

Created grant opportunity to help facilitate the education of children with developmental disabilities in each of the seven public school districts

Began providing speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy and/or aquatics to children in Early Intervention who did not have other means of receiving therapies

Began supporting local high schools (JVS) and universities (Muskingum, Ohio University Eastern, Bethany) in harvesting pathways to teaching.

Two staff members completed Delegated Nursing Training

Updated IEP program; staff trained under new forms, per Ohio law mandate.

Purchased new changing tables in school-age classrooms and leaf chairs (sensory equipment) through federal stimulus monies (ARRA funding)

School of Hope received Elks Grant of \$1000 that provided for installation of ceiling tracking system over two of the classroom hygiene areas

School of Hope received grant from Jefferson-Belmont Solid Waste Authority that provided for purchase of new playground equipment (ball funnel and swings)

OUR VISION

People are valued for who they are and what they bring to the community

Human Resources

Researched, developed and implemented the final transition plan for the completion of the privatization of Belco Works. Through mass communication meetings as well as individual meetings, communicated the plan and its impact to all employees

Extended the early retirement incentive and successfully processed the retirements of two children's services employees, one administrative employee and five adult services employees, minimizing the impact of the Belco transition

Successfully recruited Intervention Specialist, Jodi Frye, a classroom position replacement

Through one previous classroom elimination, re-directed the focus and expanded the Children's Services department without increasing headcount. The new focus is geared toward building relationships with school districts, eligible children and their families and supporting transition processes. Successfully recruited a Transition Specialist, Adam Nicholoff

In conjunction with several other partnering boards, entered into collaboration with the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission to expand employment options for transitioning high school students into the work place. Successfully recruited a project grant funded Transition Counselor, Kara Shutler, to fill this role and enhance the efforts of the Transition Specialist

Began utilizing Monster.com to broaden and enhance Board's ability to attract talent in the recruitment process

Held successful in-services for county board staff extending the invitation to all provider agencies. In addition to meeting annual requirements, staff members were trained in areas of Positive Culture, acceptance and understanding, and children's advocacy. We welcomed speakers Sally Albrecht, presenting on "The Disordered Brain" and Cindy Holland, presenting on "Multi-sensory Activities and Environments"

Children's Services staff were provided on-line training in the areas of Safety and Prevention

Contracted with Innovative Work Solutions to perform functional job analyses of select Children's Services positions to insure clarity regarding the physical requirements of the positions

Researched and contracted with a new third party administrator to handle the pre-employment, random screening and post accident testing required in our Drug Free Work place program

Successfully transitioned to a new dental insurance carrier, realizing a 10 percent savings

Implemented a protocol for the use of shared maintenance/mechanic employees and addressed a proper procedure for compensatory time

Embarked on the beginning stages of a Shared Functions Project among Belmont, Harrison, and Noble counties

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Finance

Successfully absorbed the Accounts Payable function with existing staff; thus avoiding a new hire

Facilitated the Capital Improvement Budget resulting in needed improvements such as roof repair, security system, pool renovations, etc.

Attended state budget meetings to gain knowledge of biennium budget proceedings and reported back to staff and Board of Directors

Facilitated the acquisition and accountability of Federal ARRA funds

Facilitated new technology acquisition for the School of Hope

Successful Medicaid Cost Report audit and other financial audits

Negotiated contract and facilitated installation of a new T-1 Internet connection resulting in greater speed and stability

Assisted in the elimination of overtime and the administration of the Early Retirement Incentive Program

Implemented the new Taxable Fringe Benefits policy of the County Auditor

Negotiated various new contracts with vendors such as AT&T, Verizon and The Billing Connection

Headed the transition from Alltel to Verizon Wireless requiring activation of new cell phones

Handled the fiscal area of the *Bridges To Transition* initiative of Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission

Facilitated the tri-county training in the new Infall payroll module

Began work on the new Shared Functions initiative

Various hardware and software upgrades, evaluations and supports

Transition

Entered into partnership with Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission to provide transition vocational services to youth ages 14-22 (grant partnership between RSC, Ohio Association of County Boards, and 15 county boards of DD)

RSC grant award received, providing \$3.69 for each dollar of local county board match

OUR VISION

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Residential

Completed housing review and future housing development plan with EOHDC

Satisfied county portion of mortgages on homes purchased through state Capital Assistance Program

Reduced reliance on county board by contracting for lawn maintenance with Eastern Ohio Housing Corporation

Finalized transition of “fee for service” agreement with Belco Works

Contracted with private providers for Special Olympics

Residential provider ResCare began using School of Hope pool and gym for benefit of individuals it serves

Added blood borne pathogens training to provider training schedule to assist providers in meeting certification requirements

Provider Services

Eliminated employee overtime in the transportation department for a projected savings of over \$60,000 per year

Re-structured Transportation Department, eliminating one route and reorganized routes to maximize efficiency.

Transportation

Continued to expand the use of private transportation providers to meet needs of those served; approximately 30 percent of adult transportation now provided by private entities

Collaborated with county commissioners to complete countywide transportation plan, allowing for access to compete for Ohio Department of Transportation grant funds

Swimming Pool Upgrade

New paint on walls, ceiling and in pool

New tile flooring

Pump

Replaced stove in cafeteria kitchen

Gas Utility Lines Upgraded – gas lines serving Board of DD offices/ School of Hope and Belco Works were separated

Maintenance

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Communication

Created document – *Facing the Future* – to educate commissioners and other elected officials about how the Board is addressing increasing needs and decreasing revenues

Conducted informational meetings with elected officials/other stakeholders to explain information contained within *Facing the Future* document

*Commissioners Ginny Favede, Matt Coffland
Prosecutor Chris Berhalter
Auditor Joe Pappano and Deputy Auditor Andy Sutak
Treasurer Joe Gaudio
Probate/Juvenile Court Judge Mark Costine and Jennifer Shunk
ODJFS Director Dwayne Pielich
CAC Director Gary Obloy*

Sponsored *Spread the Word to End the Word* campaign 03-31-09. Belmont County Commissioners issued Proclamation in support of campaign. People First Officers accepted on behalf of BCBDD

Expanded 2008 Community Report into magazine format that detailed each area of Board involvement

Superintendent met with public school superintendents in all seven districts in Belmont County to discuss collaboration

Superintendent met with Family Advisory Council to discuss privatization of Adult Services at Belco Works and other matters

Recognized Commissioner Ginny Favede for receiving an Ohio Public Images Award (BCBDD nomination)

Participated in the Special Education Advisory Committee Recognition Banquet and purchased all the Exceptional Student Awards Recognition plaques

Represented BCBDD on the Belmont County Social Services Levy Campaign Committee

Invited participant at OACB meeting held to discuss how Association could assist county boards in communicating name change (removal of “MR” from county/state agency names)

Board president participated in panel discussion at OACB Fall Conference

Superintendent recognized with Kenneth Legats Award for Excellence in Administrative Leadership at OACB Winter Conference

Operations Manager Willie Jones recognized with a *Partners in Excellence* Award at the OACB Winter Conference

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Belmont County Board of Developmental Disabilities Directory

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OUR MISSION

To encourage, support and respect people
on their journey through life



OUR VISION

People are valued for who they are and
what they bring to the community

OUR VALUES

We value people and the choices they make for their lives.

We value the human spirit and the potential that lies within each person.

We value supports that help people live, learn, love and
have a life of their choosing.

We value relationships that develop from common bonds and interests.

We value Self-Determination and its dream about life
that goes beyond basic needs.