



METZENBAUM CENTER
The Geauga County Board
Of Developmental Disabilities

2025

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



Live Learn Earn

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



The Community Support Services Department includes the following key team areas:

- Behavior Support Coordinator
- Investigative Agent
- Intake and Eligibility
- Provider Compliance
- Service and Compliance Coordinator
- Service and Support Administration (SSA)

In 2025, our department provided services to 634 individuals, working closely with 218 private providers and coordinating services for 300 individuals utilizing Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers.

HCBS Waivers are instrumental in facilitating the provision of essential services through a combination of local, state, and federal funding. By leveraging Medicaid funding through HCBS Waivers, we are able to extend our reach and serve a greater number of individuals while maximizing available resources.

Our SSAs operate with a person-centered approach, carefully assessing the needs and desired outcomes of the individuals they support. They are responsible for coordinating and authorizing funding for services that empower individuals to thrive and actively participate in their communities by creating opportunities to live, learn, and earn.

218

Provider Partners

634

Individuals supported by SSAs

300

Individuals used Waiver services



EARLY INTERVENTION

Geauga DD provides coordinated Early Intervention (EI) services to eligible children under the age of three, including support for parents and caregivers. We firmly believe that young children thrive best when they learn from familiar faces in familiar environments. Therefore, our EI services are delivered in the child's home and other familiar settings where they feel most comfortable.

By building upon existing supports and resources, we empower parents and caregivers to actively support their child's development. Our primary goal is to reach and support as many families as possible. Throughout 2025, we maintained targeted outreach efforts with healthcare providers, daycares, and the Amish community.



Research consistently demonstrates that Early Intervention significantly reduces the need for additional support later on.

Additionally, our EI program offers a variety of inclusive playgroups hosted at the Metzenbaum Center and throughout the community. These playgroups are thoughtfully designed to encourage socialization, play, attentive listening, and preschool readiness skills. They also provide valuable opportunities for children and caregivers to connect, build relationships, and support one another.

279

Children Received Services



EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Geauga DD's employment services are tailored to meet each individual's unique needs. Working closely with private providers, we assist individuals in identifying their interests, strengths, and preferences. We then align those insights with opportunities that support their personal and professional goals.

For many individuals we support, community employment represents a significant milestone. It promotes greater independence, improves financial stability, strengthens social skills, builds self-esteem, and increases personal fulfillment.

Geauga DD strongly supports Employment First, a nationwide initiative that prioritizes community employment as the first and preferred option for individuals with disabilities.

We encourage every adult we serve to explore the benefits employment can offer.

Our providers offer comprehensive support in helping individuals achieve their career goals through:

- Job development — assisting with the search for meaningful employment opportunities.
- Job coaching — providing guidance and support in learning and mastering job responsibilities.
- Follow-along services — ensuring ongoing support through regular check-ins with both the employer and employee.



603 Individuals received services

200 Individuals competetively employed

TRANSPORTATION

Geauga DD coordinates transportation services for approximately 468 individuals, supporting access to employment, day programs, and other essential destinations. We currently partner with 57 private transportation providers who play a vital role in meeting these needs. These providers offer a range of accessible transportation options that help ensure the people we serve can participate more fully in their communities. These partnerships allow for flexible, person-centered scheduling and are essential to maintaining continuity of care, especially for individuals with complex needs or limited mobility. Geauga DD continues to seek new transportation providers to support individuals in need of services.

468 People recieved transportation services

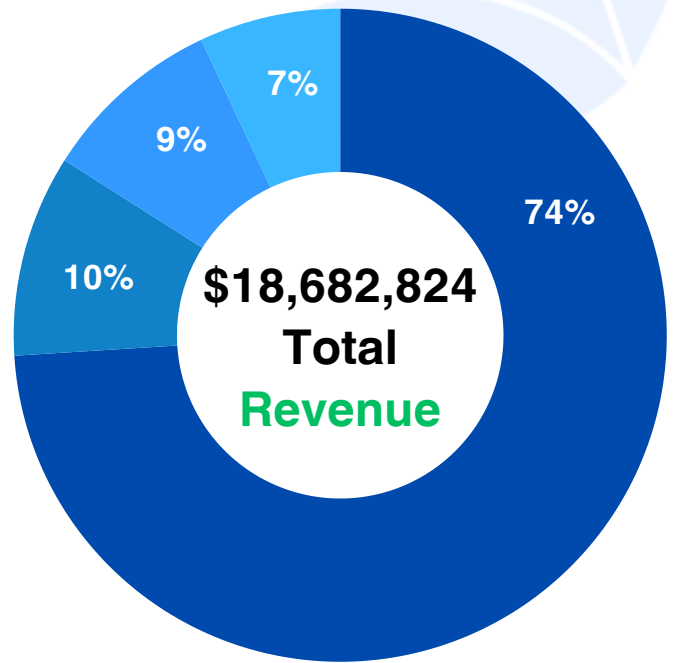
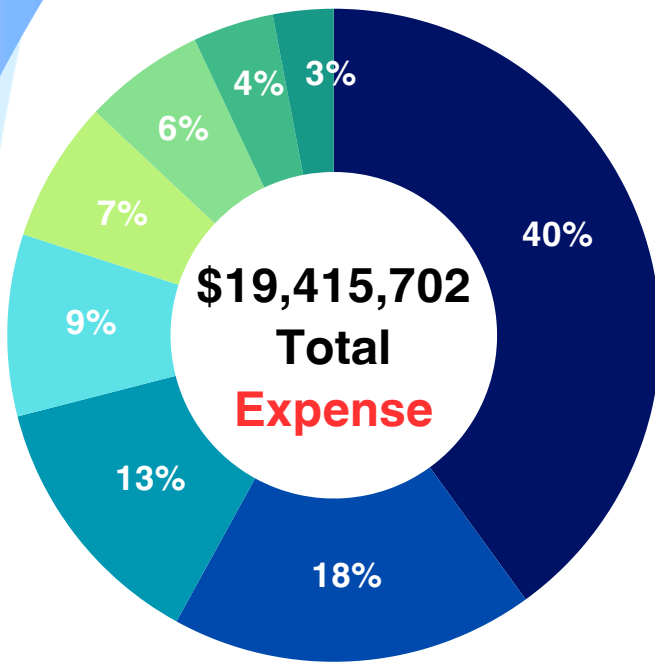
57 Transportation Private Providers



Intermediate Care Facility (ICF)

The goal of this program is to provide needed care to the people we serve as well as opportunities to allow for self-determination, independence, community inclusion and improved quality of life. The ICF currently serves 13 adults ranging in age from 34 to 81. In 2019, we began a partnership with the Jewish Family Service Association, and in 2020, they took over as the operator of the ICF.

2025 FINANCIALS



- 40% Residential**
- 18% Children Services**
- 13% Case Management**
- 9% Adult Services**
- 7% Administration**
- 6% Transportation**
- 4% Buildings & Grounds**
- 3% Recreation**

- 74% Levy**
- 10% Other**
- 9% State**
- 7% Federal**

1,245
People served in 2025

We have continued to responsibly manage the income from our 2015 levy, which is expected to sustain us through at least 2028. The Board understands its responsibility to be careful stewards of taxpayer dollars and is committed to extending current financial resources as far as possible. The Board will not pursue an additional levy until it becomes necessary. Current projections indicate that new levy collections will not be required until at least 2029, which would correspond to a ballot request in 2028.

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MISSION STATEMENT:

Helping People Live, Learn, and Earn in Our Community

VISION STATEMENT:

Building a caring community where individuals are
Integrated, Accepted, and Achieving



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