

ANNUAL REPORT

2018
2019



2018-2019

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It has been an exciting and busy year for the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (GCBDD). We have remained focused on increasing our services and support opportunities for all members of our community, while continuing to follow Federal and State regulatory standards and guidelines. We have accomplished many of our goals and are proud of the work we have done and that we will continue to do.

Community employment is one of the main focuses for GCBDD. In a testament to that focus, we have increased the number of individuals served through our Employment First program, which assists eligible Geauga County residents with developmental disabilities to obtain jobs in their community. In 2018, we helped 493 individuals, 133 of whom are now employed at minimum wage or higher positions.

As statistics show, early intervention (EI) services for children with developmental disabilities or delays help provide the best outcome for parents and children. As such, we are continuing to focus on community outreach to promote awareness of our EI services. We received 166 new referrals in fiscal year 2018, which solidifies the work we have done in our outreach efforts.

Case Management continues to be one of the largest services that GCBDD provides. We currently serve 575 individuals and families through Service and Support Administrators, who help link people to personal care, respite, housing, employment and transportation services. Another aspect of our Case Management support is helping providers receive and maintain their certifications. We are happy to report that 16 new providers in Geauga County received their certification in 2018!

I am honored to be a part of the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities team and am very proud of the work we have done this year. We have expanded our services and provided support to the individuals in our community who need it most. It is what we strive to do and what we will continue to do as we work toward our goal of ensuring the individuals we serve have the support they need to live, learn and earn in the community.

With Warm Regards,

Don Rice
Superintendent



EMPLOYMENT FIRST

The Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (GCBDD) is determined to support and enhance the lives of adults with special needs through its Employment Programs. Employment is a goal for many adults, including those with developmental disabilities. Community employment brings benefits, including greater independence, financial and social skills, improved self-esteem and personal satisfaction. Employment does not have to mean 40 hours a week; every individual has different interests, skills and abilities.

With support from private providers, GCBDD offers services that range from direct caregiving to community employment efforts. Services are provided in a way that matches the individual's interests, strengths, priorities and abilities so they can meet their personal and career goals.

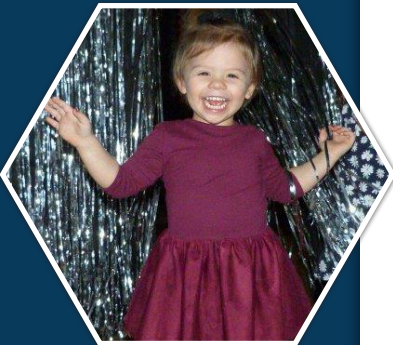
Our providers also help individuals with planning their career. Providers assist individuals with Job Development (helping individuals find jobs) and Job Coaching (helping individuals learn and accurately carry out job duties). Job Coaching is intended to be a time-limited service that fades as the individual grows more comfortable in the job. After the coaching phase, Follow Along services begin. Follow Along services may include following-up with the employer and/or the individual to see how things are going. Should there be any problems, the Job Coach would return, mediate and assist the individual to help retain employment.

This past year, the Employment First program was able to serve 493 individuals, of which 133 individuals are employed. Moreover, Geauga County was one of nine counties across Ohio chosen to participate in the state-wide Team Multi-Agency Planning (MAP) to Employment. This project was a two-year commitment to extend and sustain multi-agency planning practices in local areas that concluded in May 2019. The Geauga Multi-Agency Transition Team (GMATT) sought to optimize the planning process for Transition Youth by increasing collaboration among agencies that supports student achievement and post-school success. As part of the project, GMATT created an Enhanced Summary of Performance (ESOP) to close the gap between entities working together to assist students in transition, which is currently in its pilot phase. Four districts are piloting the idea and will provide feedback. Feedback will be used to create the final product, which will be accessed in the electronic databases used by local school districts. The goal is for school staff members to begin updating a student's ESOP at the age of 14 and keep up with the document as the student moves from grade to grade.

We look forward to seeing this and other Team GMATT projects come to life in the future!



EARLY INTERVENTION



Early Intervention (EI) is a statewide system that provides coordinated early intervention services to parents of eligible children under the age of three with developmental disabilities or delays. The EI program at Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (GCBDD) received 166 new referrals in FY18. On average, there are between 105-110 children receiving ongoing Early Intervention Services at any given time throughout the year.

Gauga County's EI program not only offers EI services but also a variety of play groups to further enhance children's opportunities to interact and build skills. We have developed a Facebook page so families can easily access our calendar of events at Geauga County Early Intervention Play, Learn and Grow. Also this year, we held the fifth annual Night to Shine Event in March in honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. This event celebrates the achievements of the children in our EI program and gives them the opportunity to walk the red carpet!

The Department of Developmental Disabilities' (DODD) new EI rules will be effective July 1, 2019. GCBDD's Individualized Family Service Plan and all forms have been updated in compliance with DODD's state and federal regulatory standards. Our goal is to make the new processes as seamless as possible for families so they can focus on their child's development.

Also this year, DODD implemented a Regional Outreach staff to promote awareness of EI services available to families. We have worked closely with our Regional Outreach staff member to address our goal of reaching more doctors' offices, day cares and our Amish population. Currently, we are developing a professional newsletter for hospitals and doctors' offices to make them aware of our services and encourage them to make referrals as they suspect concerns. We want to reach as many families as early as we can, as statistics show that Early Intervention services helps reduce the need for further intervention and empowers parents/caregivers to have the confidence to best assist their child.

- ✓ **Bingo** – second Saturday of every month – average 40-50 people
- ✓ **Cooking Class** – second Tuesday of every month – 16 people (individuals with DD only)
- ✓ **Art Class** – every Wednesday – average 15-20 people
- ✓ **Movie Nights** – five times per year – average 50 people
- ✓ **Pioneer Waterland** – annual – 275 people
- ✓ **Internet Safety Class** (internet only) – 10-15 people
- ✓ **Loose Ends or Legacy** – 25 people
- ✓ **Amish Safety Day** – 200-220 children
- ✓ **Carnival** – 630 people and growing
- ✓ **Science Night** – 80 people
- ✓ **Christmas Karaoke** – 60 people
- ✓ **End of Summer Bash BBQ and Karaoke** – 80 people
- ✓ **Cake Decorating Class** – 10 people
- ✓ **Hang out nights** – 3 times a year – 40-50 people
- ✓ **Talent Show** – 100 people
- ✓ **Healthy Relationships** – 2 classes – 12-15 people

COMMUNITY & RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Beneath the umbrella of Community & Residential Services at the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (GCBDD) is Case Management – one of the largest services GCBDD provides.

Approximately 575 individuals and families receive supports through Service and Support Administrators (SSAs). Many of these supports include linking individuals and families to community resources, such as personal care, respite, housing, employment and transportation services. We currently have over 180 individuals receiving residential support in our community in a variety of settings. We work with over 155 private providers, both agency and independent, to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Our Case Management services range from assistance with daily care, supervision and respite to helping individuals find jobs in the community and setting up transportation to get to those jobs. We also support providers in receiving and maintaining their certifications through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. This year, we received over 300 calls related to provider certification, and we are pleased to announce that 16 new providers in Geauga County received their certification in 2018.

Also this year, we offered six Parent Forums, which shared useful information with families and community members about a variety of topics, such as Medicaid, Social Security, guardianship and estate planning.



RECREATION

The recreation opportunities made available through the Metzenbaum Center offer individuals with developmental disabilities the chance to pursue their recreational interests. Individuals are able to enjoy many different activities throughout the year, such as Special Olympics, dances, and dinner clubs. In addition, we have a service organization, the Aktion Club, which helps others in the community.



Recreation:

310
people



Pool:

75
people



Music:

219
people



Pickleball:

25
people

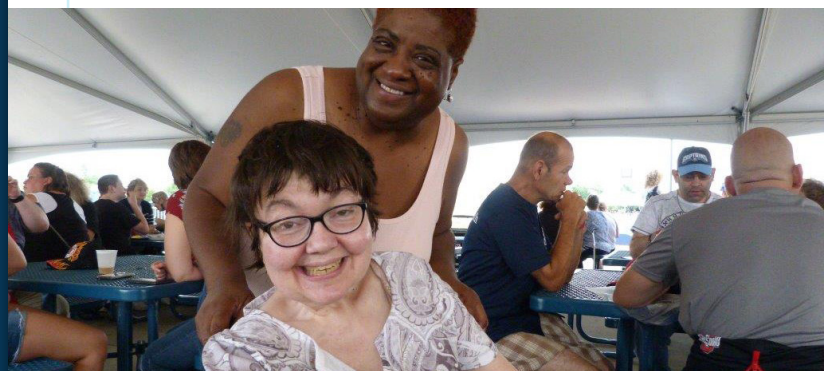
TRANSPORTATION

GCBDD coordinates transportation services with private providers so that individuals are able to participate in day programs and work in the community. GCBDD is currently working with seven private providers to transport individuals to community jobs. The Board created a bonus structure to encourage private providers to start doing transportation. In return, there are more choices for the individuals to choose from. GCBDD is still looking for providers or natural supports to transport individuals to community employment locations in and around Geauga County.



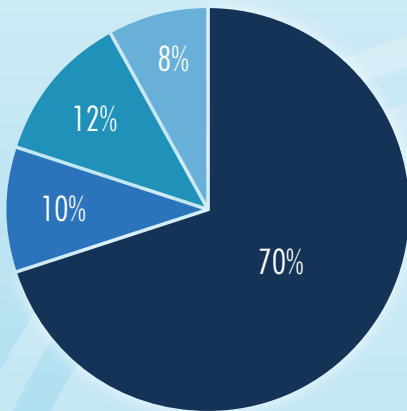
INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY (ICF)

The goal of our program is to provide needed care to the individuals we serve as well as opportunities to allow for self-determination, independence, community inclusion, and improved quality of life. The Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) currently serves 22 individuals ranging in ages from 25-73. In 2017 we continued following the Federal and State rules regarding the downsizing of the ICF. We are completing this by not filling vacancies as they occur.





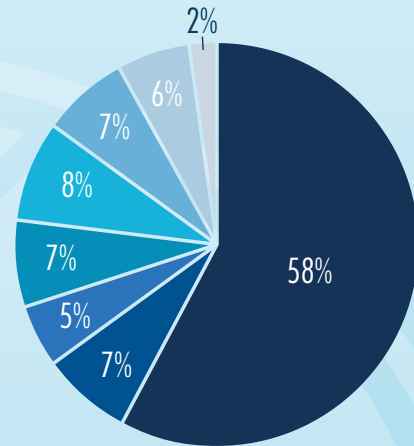
2018 ANNUAL REPORT FINANCIALS



REVENUES

- Levy: 70%
- Federal: 10%
- State: 12%
- Other: 8%

Total: **\$18,279,643**



EXPENSES

- Residential: 58%
- Case Management: 8%
- Children Services: 7%
- Administration: 7%
- Adult Services: 5%
- Transportation: 6%
- Building & Grounds: 7%
- Recreation: 2%

Total: **\$16,608,609**

PEOPLE SERVED

Early Intervention: **244**

School Age: **323**

Adult Service: **360**

Employment: **133**

Residential: **202**

Transportation: **386**

Case Management: **574**

Recreation: **379**

Serving more than **950 individuals** in 2018



METZENBAUM CENTER

The Geauga County Board
Of Developmental Disabilities



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