



Vellaree Swarthout

Retirement January 2025

Vellaree Swarthout began working for the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities on March 30, 1987.

She held many positions in that 37-year span, including Teacher's Assistant, Summer Day Camp Recreation Leader, Habilitation Technician, Vocational Trainer, Job Coach Technician, and Records & Imaging Scanner.

In May 2022, she became a Community Connections Trainer, with a primary focus on working with the FANS network. Over her career, Vel worked at many facilities, such as Jay Shuer and Larc Lane schools, Lott Industries on Holland Road and Hill Avenue, Larc Lane Center, and the Administration Building.

Vel was dedicated to making a positive difference with the individuals she worked with whether by supporting them at school, helping them be successful on the job or in accessing their community.

She worked hard to treat everyone fairly and bring out the strengths and abilities of those she came into contact with. Vel was a team player, possessed a calm and positive demeanor, and her empathetic approach complemented the mission of the Board. She looked at the whole person and always found the best ways to assist them. She was not afraid to advocate for the people she supported as well her co-workers.

Vel had a knack of lightening the mood and making people laugh with her sense of humor and quick wit.

On behalf of the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, we congratulate Vellaree Swarthout on her retirement, capping off 37+ years of dedicated service to this Board and the individuals we serve.