

B.R.I.D.G.E.S.

**Building Relationships Intentionally to Develop
Growth and Exemplary Services**

{January 2022}



FORECAST

January

We welcome Kim Hauck, as the new Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD). Governor DeWine states “her diverse background, leadership, talents and compassion will help the department continue to serve Ohio families.” Thank you to former Director Jeff Davis for your years of dedication and service to the Developmental Disability field. Enjoy your retirement!

Monthly & Day Observances

National Skating Month

National Hot Tea Month

National Soup Month
National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January 1st – New Year's Day

January 17th – Full Wolf Moon

January 31st – Inspire your Heart with Art Day

On January 31, take a close look as to how art has an affect on you -- did it make you laugh or move you to tears? Art has the power to change you and make you feel better. Art can inspire you as well. Don't limit your art to one form; explore a variety of art forms. Music, dance, photography and water color are a few options. How can you explore the arts? Look at visiting an art gallery in person or virtually. Read a book. Listen to music - a different form of music then your usual. Maybe this year you can take an art class or learn to play an instrument. Art can be soothing to the soul, bring joy, and is a perfect activity for comfort in difficult times.



Remember:

Rule 5123-2-09 (effective 9/1/2021) Provider Certification – Independent Providers
Implementation plan is January 1, 2022.

Rule 5123-3-08 (effective 9/1/2021) Provider Certification – Agency Providers Implementation
plan is January 1, 2022

Fun Fact:

January 31 1940, Social Security Administration issues the first Social Security check in the amount of \$22.54 to Ida May fuller. <https://www.ssa.gov/history/imf.html>

Brothers and sisters who have a sibling with special needs now have a program that's just for them called Sibshops. At Sibshops, they'll have a chance to meet other kids whose brothers and sisters have special needs and talk about the good and not-so-good parts of having a sibling with a disability.

Here is a link below with the Sibshop dates into 2021-2022:

https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/3240d73a-ff1e-0e8f-5895-96c0363341c9/Sibshops_info_sheet_with_dates_2021_2022_4.pdf

DSP APPRECIATION!

Please watch this video sharing just some of the reasons we appreciate our DSPs all year long!



https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fdrive.google.com%2ffile%2fd%2f1Vb7pfPuP6WVI3Y-3qv0NAvAHbR7VzcnV%2fview%3fusp%3dsharing&c=E.1,QlbpsWTGdBef_IQD51u4cnJjB1MnzVxGhwaskvZl8KHuLUCh139_AV4ZEi44WusvY4EOI6qV4KHOH9mAYRTmOsTunx3zTM-jS4FRH3QUMvscykmAyQ.,.&typo=1

PROVIDER AGENCY LINE OF CREDIT REQUIREMENT

DODD is requiring proof of a \$10,000 line of credit when agencies renew their certifications. Sometimes a bank's process for doing a line of credit takes a while and if a provider does not realize that they have have this and show proof of it during recertification, this could delay their application or even cause them to have to re-submit. For more information on this requirement, please see the link below:

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/providers/initial-renewal-certification/2become-provider-agency>

One potential resource for providers to tap into is the Business Support Department at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. There is a wealth of assistance and guidance for both non-profit and for profit businesses. This is a free resource available to all and more information can be found at <https://www.toledolibrary.org/business>.





to
Shameka Rayfus

Shameka has worked with "K" for a while and has developed a trusting relationship with "K" and her family. Due to this trust and the family's needs, "Shameka has opened her home up to for "K" to do Shared Living. Shameka goes above and beyond to make sure "K" is taken care of. Shameka is always asking about different resources to best help support "K". I know "K" and her family are extra appreciative for having Shameka in their lives".

Shameka will reach out to her provider support liaison whenever she has questions and is trying to find the best for "K."

This Kudos was submitted by SSA Tanitra Smith.

Transit Authority Charts Path for Future with TARTA Next

As TARTA revs up to give the Toledo area a transit system for the 21st century, it needs the help of community members and riders with its TARTA Next project. This year-long effort will redesign the existing fixed route bus system and other services to make transit work better in the region and grow ridership.

The TARTA Next timeline calls for service improvements to be determined by spring of 2022 and shared with the TARTA Board of Trustees for approval in the summer of 2022. Implementation of the TARTA Next plan is slated to begin in the fall or winter of 2022.

A public survey is available at <http://www.tarta.com> and you can learn more about [TARTA's plans for the future](#). Survey participants can win a \$50 gift card.



PATHS TO SUCCESS



The Importance of Setting Boundaries on Our Paths to Success

In their book called **Boundaries**, Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend, tell readers that “Any confusion of responsibility and ownership in our lives is a problem of boundaries. Just as homeowners set physical property lines around their land, we need to set mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual boundaries for our lives to help us distinguish what is our responsibility and what isn’t. The inability to set appropriate boundaries at appropriate times with the appropriate people can be very destructive.”

Jane Collingwood, in her article on psychcentral.com titled, "The Importance of Personal Boundaries," stated the following: “Setting clear personal boundaries is the key to ensuring relationships are mutually respectful, supportive and caring. Boundaries are a measure of self-esteem. They set the limits for acceptable behavior from those around you, determining whether they feel able to put you down, make fun, or take advantage of your good nature. Boundaries can protect you from exploitative relationships and help you avoid getting too close to people who don’t have your best interests at

heart.”

If you don't know what your boundaries are or what they should be for you, Jane Collingwood suggests you list five things you want people to stop doing around you (for example: cursing or gossiping), list five things you want people to stop doing to you (for example: ignoring you except when they want something from you), and list five things that people say to you that you do not like (for example: “you always give up”). Ms. Collingwood tells readers that as time goes by, they may need to update their boundaries, that people around you may not be fully supportive in your attempts to change and, like anything else, there is a price, which may be losing acquaintances along the way, but the relationships worth having will survive and grow stronger. As I researched setting boundaries further there were common threads of advice, throughout the various expert opinions, telling readers to be consistent, yet flexible as required, and to keep things simple when you set your personal life boundaries. And of course, there is another important aspect of personal boundaries that is commonly advised...that is respecting the boundaries of others, as we learn what they are. Respecting the boundaries of others and setting and maintaining our own boundaries can prove very effective as we move forward on our paths to success.



Holiday Shopping while visiting Bitter Sweet Farms

By George Woodget

Bittersweet Farms offered local residents a chance to shop local, give with purpose, and positively impact lives this previous holiday season.

Bittersweet Farms held “Market & Merry,” a pop-up holiday shopping event was held at the Market. The event was held at Bittersweet Gardens (located at Bittersweet Farms, 12660 Archbold-Whitehouse Road in Whitehouse.) This was the first time the event was open to in-person shoppers.

The full line of Bittersweet products – art, cookies, produce, and merchandise – was available for sale exclusively at this event. Each item was hand crafted by Bittersweet participants, and every purchase goes to support their meaningful paid employment and Bittersweet’s mission. In addition to holiday shopping, “Market & Merry” featured festive outdoor activities, including a bonfire, hot cocoa, and guided tours of the Bittersweet Barn.

FANS NETWORK

Are you looking for a way to give back to your community? The FANS Network is looking for community partners like you to enhance the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. For more information, see the flyer below:

https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/0f9f705b-ee3c-e063-6442-68685700baff/FANS_volunteer_flyer.pdf

LOOKING BACK

(A HISTORY OF DISABILITIES)

By Terry Myers

We all like laughter and feel great when we can have a good laugh. However, that laugh should not be at the expense of others. Too often and for far too long, people with disabilities have been characterized as a source of amusement. Since ancient times, they have frequently appeared in such fields of entertainment as circuses. In medieval and Renaissance Europe, “little people” were highly desired as court jesters.

From the time the film industry began, numerous casts of characters with disabilities have emerged, such as the scam artist faking their disability, the “comic mis-adventurer” whose impairment causes chaos wherever they go and the “sweet innocent” character.

Despite the presence of these casts, actual comedians with disabilities face inequities compared to their peers without disabilities. Clichè marked by stereotypes and misunderstanding about people with disabilities are still deeply engrained in virtually every aspect of society. As a result, comedians with disabilities often find themselves passed over in favor of other comics when they compete for gigs.

These discrepancies are often demonstrated by depictions of disability in comedic media that may or may not be sensitive to the issues people with disabilities face. Still, the disability community has offered more than its fair share of comedy pertaining to the struggles of its members, such as the web comic series *The Disabled Life*. Created by Jessica and Lianna Oddi, who both have spinal muscular atrophy, the series depicts the challenges of having mobility-related impairments through a comic lens.

Some comics with disabilities, such as New Jersey’s Chris Crespo, have expressed reservations about using their disability as a source of comedic material. Crespo, who has complicated syndactyly, initially felt uncomfortable about discussing his birth defect, marked by shortened arms, clublike hands, and a few deformed fingers, for comedy when he began studying the art of stand-up at New York’s Gotham Comedy Club. Still, his teachers gave him the confidence to discuss it, and he considers it one of his best sources of material.

Minnesota’s Josh Blue also has cerebral palsy. He has appeared on various late-night talk shows as well as headlining numerous specials, in addition to winning a season of NBC’s *Last Comic Standing*. His style of comedy is very self-deprecating, but he demonstrates a great deal of comfort with himself. As a result, his audiences are unable to feel uncomfortable due to his unique perspective on the topics he jokes about.

Regardless, some comedians with disabilities are weary of too much self-deprecation, seeing it as erasing the social inequalities they face. Instead, they may prefer forms of satire to better joke about their struggles.

Although a great deal of debate exists over how best to include comedians with disabilities in the industry, it is clear they have a lot of unique and quality material on the subject that can better shed light on disability for their audiences than the traditional stereotypes and clichè.

Yet, the exploitation of disabled people by professional non-disabled comedians on television is often overlooked. It is quite usual for TV scriptwriters or comics to use explicitly or implicitly offensive jokes and comedy routines about disabled people to get laughs, expressed author Colin Barnes in 1991. Commonly disabled characters are ridiculed by extracting humor from the functional limitation characterized by their impairments.

TRAINING

To contact Sara to register for training, please call (419) 380-5164 or sagardner@lucasdd.org

[ALL TRAINING IS OFFERED VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM AT THIS TIME.](#)

In 2022, we will be offering the new DODD curriculum for both Existing and New Providers each month.

The [2022 Training Calendar](#) can be accessed here:

https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/019038cd-c5ef-57ad-79b3-cefc12295d54/2022_Provider_Training_Schedule.docx

The [January Training Calendar](#) can be accessed here:

https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/84f7a835-b10b-7fe4-5cde-33bb61402b77/2022_Provider_Training_JANUARY.pdf

Hello Provider Partners,

DODD's Memo Monday dated 12/13/2021 announced the upcoming availability of the new **DODD MyLearning** courses. The new video modules will be available for providers to view starting 1/1/2022. ***The older certificates and modules will be gone after 12/30/2021 so providers who took those courses will need to download their certificates ASAP.***

<https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/images/83ea1f03-9a8e-a405-8ad0-f342815808ab.png>

Brain Health Basics: Train the Trainer will be held virtually on Wednesday, January 12th, 2022, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Brain Health Basics Train the Trainer offers a PowerPoint presentation for professionals to use in educating older adults and adults with disabilities about brain health as we age, and related handouts for consumers. In addition, a slide deck will be provided on Medicine, Age, and Your Brain which explains the impact some medicines can have on an older adult's brain, and the importance of talking with a doctor about this topic. Attendees will receive a user's guide and PowerPoint presentations for use with program delivery. This program has been approved for 1 hour of continuing education for Social Workers under the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage & Family Therapist Board as provided by the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc. (RSX080025).

[Click Here to Register for Brain Health Basics Train the Trainer](#)

Behavioral Interventions: When Caring for Someone with Dementia Train the Trainer will be held virtually on Thursday, January 27th, 2022, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Behavioral Interventions: When Caring for Someone with Dementia Train the Trainer is for anyone interested in delivering Behavioral Interventions: When Caring for Someone with Dementia program in their workplaces, networks and communities. This training will prepare individuals to deliver an applied and practical presentation that incorporates the most current research about dementia care, effective practical strategies, and useful resources. This program has been approved for 1.5 hours of continuing education for Social Workers under the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage & Family Therapist Board as provided by the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc. (RSX080025).

[Click here to register for Behavioral Interventions Train-the-Trainer](#)

New Provider Monthly Training Coming January 2022

Beginning January 2022, DODD's Office of System Support & Standards (OSSAS) will be offering monthly virtual provider trainings from 10 AM – 11 AM on the last Thursday of the month. Each month will have an identified topic and short presentation.

January 27, 2022 – **The Compliance Review Process** (Target Audience: Independent Providers, Agency Providers, Licensed Waiver Providers)

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7580210602375392525>

Other upcoming trainings include:

February 24, 2022 – **Background Checks & Training** (Target Audience – All providers, including ICFs)

March 31, 2022 – **Personal Funds** (Target Audience – All providers, including ICFs)

April 28, 2022 – **Service Delivery Documentation** (Target Audience – Independent Providers, Agency Providers, Licensed Waiver Providers)

If you have questions about these trainings, please contact: ossas@dodd.ohio.gov.



ALL ABOUT ZOOM!

As ISP meetings and provider trainings continue to be held virtually, we have all been learning new skills to keep up with our online work. We have linked a helpful video resource for using Zoom on your computer or phone here: <https://youtu.be/mbbYqiurgeo>

"WARM LINE" for Emotional Support

In need of some emotional support while dealing with all things COVID-19?

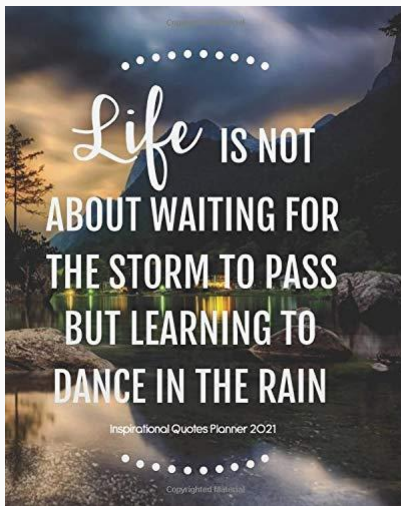
Feeling lonely? Depressed? Anxious? Stressed? Scared? Angry?

Call the Lucas County Emotional Support Line:





SHOOTING STAR



RESOURCES

The Provider Supports Department staff are here for you!

- Pat Stephens, Director
- Lisha Washington, Department Secretary
- Julienne Hardman, Provider Compliance Coordinator
- Lisa Poiry, Provider Development Coordinator
- Jennifer Wolfe, Provider Training Coordinator
- Sarah Diesch, MUI Coordinator
- Erica McElmurry, MUI Coordinator

Provider Support Specialists:

Dan Barda	Meredyth Brown-Grycza	Michelle Cope-Morris	Sally Damschroder
Jenny Kinney	Jane Meyer	Paul Miles	Terry Myers
Linda Repka	Gail Sanders	Catherine Thanasiu	George Woodget

Success Coaches:

Faith McCreary and Sharon Calhoun

Technicians:

Sherrie Burkhardt, Mellisa Merritt, Sara Gardner, & Danielle Russell

Investigative Agents:

Mira Banks	Leslie Gray	John Heydinger	Tammy Jones
Erin Lee	David Mullin	Dana Myers	Tiffany Rozzano
Madelyn Siegel	David Vaughan	Nathan Wolfe	

***Helpful provider information is always available
at the following websites:***

DODD: <http://www.dodd.ohio.gov/Pages/default.aspx#>

Lucas CBDD: <http://www.lucasdd.org> (Click on "Provider Supports")



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