

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

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

{July 2021}



FORECAST

WELCOME!

JULY

July is Social Wellness month

Social Wellness means nurturing yourself and your relationships. To have a network of friends, family and other people that can provide social support. Social support helps to enhance the quality of life and positive self-image. Social support can come in different forms from emotional to physical support (lawn care or housekeeping). To learn more and get a social wellness tool

kit click on the links:

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information/social-wellness-toolkit>

<https://www.takingcharge.csh.umn.edu/july-social-wellness-month>



July's full moon is called the “**Buck Moon**” because early summer is when male deer grow new antlers according to the Farmer’s Almanac. This month look to the sky on July 23 to see the full moon.

Deaf-Blind Awareness Week June 27-July 3, 2021.

The history of Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness week started in 1984. President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the last week of June to be deaf-blindness awareness week to bring and highlight contribution of those who have deaf-blindness. On June 26, 1985 the President signed Proclamation 5355: Helen Keller deaf-blind awareness week. Every year the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults commemorate the week with a national advocacy campaign. This year’s theme is: Deaf-Blind Employees Can Help Businesses Grow with Unique Insights and Perspectives: Trail Blazer, Big Thinker, Go Getter, Deaf-Blind (<https://www.helenkeller.org/>)

Watch the Short Film: “Feeling Through” A homeless teen meet deaf-blind man who changes his life forever. <https://www.helenkeller.org/hks/feeling-through>



Connecting the Dots/Documentary about the 1st Deaf-Blind actor to star in the short film “Feeling Through” www.youtube.com/watch?v=fq-DIHxPEBY

Upcoming Rule Changes:

July 1, 2021 Rule: [5123-10-05](#) (Early Intervention Program - Developmental Specialist Certification)

September 1, 2021 Rules:

[5123-2-08](#) (Provider Certification - Agency Providers)

[5123-2-09](#) (Provider Certification - Independent Providers)

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/forms-and-rules/rules-under-development/effective+dates+for+new+rules>

 **KUDOS**



TO
Mary Ella Homes

Mary Ella did not hesitate to step up and take on care for an individual even though we did not know a lot about her. The individual needed much more support than what was originally thought. Mary Ella kept the individual through the weekend until we could find a more appropriate placement. Mary Ella was extremely accommodating and kind even though plans needed to be changed due to the individual not being able to participate in the activities as previously thought.

From Kristin Aemisegger



PATHS TO SUCCESS



Defining Moments

We all have defining moments in our lives. For example, because I have moved so many times over the years, some of my defining moments have been in the many moves I've made from apartment to apartment, apartment to house, and house to house. When trying to look back on an experience, I might say something like, "Oh, I remember, that was when I lived in that apartment on Brenner Street!" or "That was right around the time we moved to the house on Wichita Avenue!" The moments, and our perceptions of the moments, that we choose to use to recall our personal life history, tend to define our lives as they create the stories we write in our minds about our lives, so that we can recall moments we count as important to us.

As I have gone through the storms and the calm times, learning and growing along the way, I realized the truth of the Albert Einstein quotes where he said,

"Nothing changes if nothing changes"

"Old ways won't open new doors."

"If you always do what you always did, you will always get what you always got."

Because I have thought through to seek understanding and wisdom of the defining moments of my life, the good as well as the bad ones, my experiences have not been in vain; I have learned a lot about life and about purpose and perception and, over the years, I have changed immensely because of it. I see each defining moment of my life, whether stormy or calm, as stepping stones instead of stumbling blocks on the path to success. These moments combined have built my character, causing me to love, respect, have compassion for and to empathize with, those around me. May your *path to success* be paved with the intention of seeking to understand and to gain wisdom, as you too go through life's moments of storms and calmness, so that you are able to perceive the benefits of *all* of the moments and experiences in your life as you pave your path.



LAMPOST

Congress Urged To Increase Spending On Autism

by Michelle Diament | excerpt from the May 25, 2021 edition of
The Disability Scoop News

A bipartisan group of federal lawmakers is pushing for additional government funding next year for autism initiatives. Dozens of members of Congress are calling for the federal government to significantly ramp up its investment in autism-related activities by spending an additional \$150 million on the developmental disorder.

The lawmakers said the extra spending would help make good on recommendations from the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee, a panel of government officials and autism stakeholders charged with advising the secretary of health and human services and coordinating federal activities related to the developmental disability.

The added investment could be used to expand autism monitoring efforts, provide for new clinical standards to be developed, support those transitioning to adulthood and pay for research on issues facing those on the spectrum across the lifespan, among other efforts, the lawmakers said.

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

Provider Certification Rules under Revision

Rule 5123:2-2-01 (Provider Certification) establishes procedures and standards for certification of providers of supported living, including Medicaid-funded Home and Community-Based Services provided in accordance with Section 5123.045 of the Revised Code.

DODD is proposing to rescind rule 5123:2-2-01 and adopt two replacement rules:

- **5123-2-08 (Provider Certification - Agency Providers)**
- **5123-2-09 (Provider Certification - Independent Providers)**

These rules are projected to go into effect September 1, 2021. For a chart of the proposed changes, please see the following links:

AGENCY PROVIDER PROPOSED

CHANGES https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/cef34d77-a9a9-4158-b2d9-ac15f29ac3e1/Crosswalk_Agency_Provider_2020_11_09.pdf

INDEPENDENT PROVIDER PROPOSED

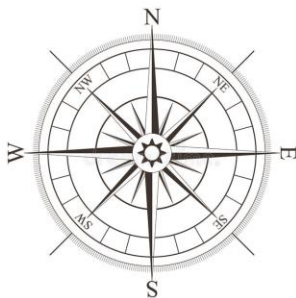
CHANGES https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/2c7ff6bd-7961-4af5-bf27-9e6e9bf7a73e/Crosswalk_Independent_Provider_2020_11_09.pdf

METROPARKS

Check out Metroparks Toledo where you can explore your parks, enjoy the wonders of the outdoors, and Get Outside Yourself. Metroparks offers a wide variety of inclusive activities for everyone such as kayaking, tree climbing, archery and more! Most activities can be adapted to fit the needs of anyone, regardless of their abilities. Participate in a public program, or request a private group program if that makes you feel more comfortable. The Metroparks Program Team can set up in a park or they can come to you for a program. For more information, contact: Ashley Smith at 419.265.2920 or Ashley.Smith@metroparkstoledo.com

Visit the Metroparks Website:

<http://metroparkstoledo.com/outdooradventures/metroparks-inclusive-programs/>



GUIDES

Paul Miles

Paul was hired in at the board in 2004 as a SASS on a team who worked at the Neill building at that time. Paul spent 17 years working as a SASS and during this time, had 6 different Supervisors, 3 different Department Directors, and 3 different Superintendents. He loved working with the individuals and their families and feels blessed to have worked with many of them the entire 17 years. It was a very hard decision for him to leave the SASS role because of those long time relationships. Paul finally made the decision that he wanted to help from a different angle and joined the Provider Support Department in April of this year. The thought of helping Providers

be successful is something he believes in. Having great Providers in our area can reach many more individuals than the number on his SSA caseload that he was working with. So, he felt it was time to recharge his battery and try something new.

Away from work, Paul loves to spend time with his family camping. Paul and his wife have a camper in Indiana that they go to on the weekends, often taking their grandchildren with them. He loves spending time with them at the beach, fishing, or playing games in the camper. Paul is also a big sports fan. He coached baseball for many years and now he is focused on only watching and enjoying one player, his grandson Edward, who is 8. Paul's future plans are to continue growing old with his wife of 27 years and to be there for his family when needed. He is proud to be a family man and an employee of the LCBDD.

LOOKING BACK (A HISTORY OF DISABILITIES) By Terry Myers

Involuntary Sterilization of Disabled Americans

Non-consensual sterilization is one of many of the characteristic historical abuses that took place, mainly in the first half of the 20th century. People with intellectual disability (ID) were optimal targets as part of the ideology of "negative eugenics." "Negative eugenics" are the methods employed to promote elimination and/or segregation of those deemed physically, mentally, or morally "undesirable."

In many jurisdictions for many decades, it was lawful to perform sterilization methods on individuals without their consent. It was also lawful to obtain third-party consent for the process. It goes without saying that this was a gross violation of human rights. Long-term adverse effects on those sterilized against their will have only been recognized in recent years.

The first state law to legalize sterilization of people with disabilities was passed in Indiana in 1907. It was passed as an avenue to prevent "the procreation of confirmed criminals, idiots, imbeciles, and rapists." Other states soon passed similar legislation, often referring to candidates for sterilization as "feebleminded." This was a massively broad term that included everything from an inability to "appreciate moral ideals" to impairments of hearing or vision. Many of the people who were forcibly sterilized were residents of mental institutions, and they often weren't even told what was being done to them. In many cases, they were led to believe they were having an appendectomy. California was particularly extreme and sterilized upward of 20,000 people.

There may still be several states that subscribe to coerced sterilization. States have been called upon to prohibit such practices and adopt legislative changes clearly defining the requirements of full, free and informed consent with regards to sterilization of women with disabilities, in accordance with relevant international standards. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) affirms the legal capacity of persons with disabilities and their right to equality and nondiscrimination in all aspects of life, including the rights to found and maintain a family and to retain their fertility. However, circumstances such as these were, and still largely kept from the public's eye today.

All forced sterilization campaigns, regardless of their time or place, have one thing in common. They involve dehumanization of subsets of the population deemed less worthy of reproduction and family formation. They merge perceptions of disability with racism, xenophobia and sexism, resulting in the disproportionate sterilization of minority groups.

TRAINING

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

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

https://mcusercontent.com/46f9edd74ac726fdf457dfe0f/files/0efc3b49-258f-6750-2537-c7f65b97edae/July_2021_Provider_Training.pdf

You can also access **new provider** training free online at DODD's website at the following link: <https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/about-us/training/departments-provided-training/eight-hour-provider-training>. You will be prompted to make an account and it will keep track of which modules you have completed. You can print off a certificate at the end.



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>

For Provider Training sessions, we have some **Zoom Etiquette Expectations** that we ask all attendees to abide by:

1. Choose a dedicated spot to sit during the training that allows you to stay focused and participate in the training. Please sit upright and be attentive.
2. Put your microphone on “mute” so any background noise is not heard by other attendees.
3. Keep your camera on, and pay attention during the training. Dress appropriately as others will be able to see you on camera. Please limit distractions in the background.
4. Absolutely **NO DRIVING ALLOWED**. If you are driving during the training, you will be removed from the Zoom training and will not receive a certificate. This is to ensure the safety of yourself and others.

Thank you for supporting these expectations so that we can continue to offer free provider training that is educational and useful to all!



FIRST AID STATION

UV Safety Awareness Month

Summer has arrived and while the sun is shining bright it's a golden time to highlight July as UV Safety Awareness Month!

We all love to take in those warm summer rays, but everyone must remember to protect their skin and eyes from the damaging effects of the sun.

The sun emits radiation known as UV-A and UV-B rays. Both types can damage your eyes and skin.

Here are the harmful things unprotected sun exposure can do:

- Cause vision problems and damage to your eyes
- Suppression of the immune system
- Premature aging of the skin
- Skin cancer

Fortunately, there are things you can do to minimize the risk that comes with sun exposure.

1. **Cover Up:** Wearing a Hat, long-sleeved shirts, pants, and Sunglasses - for eye protection.
2. **Stay in the Shade:** The sun's glare is most intense at midday. Staying in the shade between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. will lessen exposure. The sun can still damage your skin on

cloudy days or in the winter.

3. **Choose the Right Sunscreen:** This is extremely important. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) new regulations for sunscreen labeling recommend that your sunscreen have a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15, and should protect against both Ultraviolet A (UV-A) and Ultraviolet B (UV-B) rays.

4. **Use the Right Amount of Sunscreen:** When out in the sun, apply at least one ounce (a palmful) of sunscreen every two hours. Apply it more often if you are sweating or swimming, even if the sunscreen is waterproof. If you are having any problems after being in the sun, be sure to talk to your healthcare provider.

Enjoy the outdoors this summer and remember to protect your eyes and the skin you're in!

Resources: https://www.va.gov/qualityofcare/education/uv_safety_awareness_month.asp

More Resources – (click to open in new tab)

[Myhealthyvet – Preventing Skin Cancer](#)

[Myhealthyvet - Sunburn \(Sun Poisoning\)](#)

[Sunscreen Tips](#)

"WARM LINE" for Emotional Support

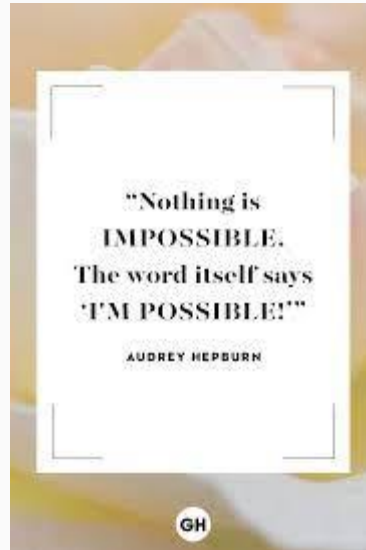
In need of some emotional support while dealing with all things COVID-19?

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

Jenny Kinney

Terry Myers

Jane Meyer

Linda Repka

Sally Damschroder

George Woodget

Gail Sanders Paul

Miles

Catherine Thanasiu

Michelle Cope-Morris

Meredyth Brown-Grycza

Success Coaches:

Faith McCreary and Sharon Calhoun

Technicians:

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

Investigative Agents:

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

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

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

Lucas CBDD: <https://lucasdd.info/> (Click on "Provider Supports")