

**Brian Jones** 

## Retirement March 2025

Recent retiree Brian Jones began his journey with the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities in June of 1995.

Over the course of a 30-year career, he worked in a variety of departments, buildings, and capacities. Brian was a Bus Monitor, a lunch period Monitor, a Habilitation Technician, Habilitation Specialist, a Mentor, a Provider Support Specialist and, finally, a Specialized Support Consultant. He worked at the Transportation Department, Hill Plant, Holland Plant, and right here in Larc Lane Center. Along the journey, Brian also earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, and raised a beautiful family!

Brian is always respectful and kind and assisted individuals served to be connected and supported in their communities in the least restrictive manner. He always made great connections with individuals served, their families, and support staff. Those connections ran deep because he was always willing to go that extra mile, even after his retirement! Brian recently went with a SSC to visit an old friend of his, an individual served with complex behavior issues that Brian worked with for many years. The individual had recently moved back to Toledo and sorely needed to see old friends and feel safe. Upon seeing Brian walk in, the individual's face lit up and the SSC was able to have instant credibility because of their association with Brian!

Brian was also a trainer and teacher for many groups and classes over his career. Trauma Informed Care, Resiliency, Risk of Harm, TARGET (Teaching Adults Respect, Genuineness, Empathy and Trustworthiness) Club, Mental Health Collaboratives, are just a few of the trainings he led. When an individual was court ordered to NODC, Brian met with them weekly for several months as a method of preparing for discharge before the pandemic started quarantine rules. He even offered to train NODC staff to become trainers of the TARGET curriculum as a community collaboration.

In the midst of the COVID pandemic, Brian assisted with the Creativity Bags by assembling the bags, creating a list of activities for adults to be included in the bags, and even delivering them. Brian also served his colleagues as a Union Representative for many years. In 2020, he was awarded the prestigious Josina Lott Award, the highest honor given to a Lucas DD employee.

Thank you, Brian, for your years of dedicated service. May your days ahead be as impactful and fulfilling as your years of service have been to this agency. Congratulations and happy retirement!