



Lisa Saunders

Retirement November 2025

Specialized Support Consultant Lisa Saunders recently concluded a 26-year career here at the Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Lisa has had a focus on children, teenagers, and employment throughout her career. She started out as a Habilitation Specialist Substitute. She was then promoted to Job Placement Specialist and shortly after that became a Vocational Specialist, helping individuals find employment and maintain their employment. A few years later Lisa became a Behavior Specialist (later called a Specialized Support Consultant) working with children and young adults. She then became an Employment Navigator, fostering the ZooTeens program from a part-time program to a year-round full-time program at the Toledo Zoo for young people to gain work experience. She returned to Specialized Support last year, where she stayed until her retirement. It was there that she helped develop the Work, Work, Work program encouraging teens to explore employment options before graduation.

For Lisa, it was all about building great relationships. Whether that was with individuals served and their families or schools, summer camps, and agencies. Lisa even developed and trained camp counselors on how to handle individuals with developmental disabilities.

In 2005, Lisa was awarded the prestigious Josina Lott Award.

Lisa, we are going to miss your expertise, creativity, and energy. We wish you well on your newest job title, "Grandma." Congratulations on your retirement and thank you for your years of dedicated service!