

Severe Weather Notification

In the event that we feel a need to close our Adult Activities Centers (AACs) and/or our transportation services due to severe weather, we will use multiple methods to communicate any changes, including:

- iAlert on WKYC Channel 3
- Cleveland Fox 8 closings
- Facebook posting (www.facebook.com/CuyahogaBDD/)
- Phone message for those who attend one of the Adult Activities Centers
- Cancellations.com (You can sign-up on this site to receive CCBDD notifications.)

There may be times that we decide to keep our Adult Activities Centers open but not offer CCBDD transportation services. In these instances, it is the responsibility of the individual, family or provider agency to provide transportation to and from the AAC if the individual wishes to attend on that day.

Please note that if you use a nonmedical transportation (NMT) provider, such as Lakefront Lines, Rybak, Medport, CTS, or Take Two, you will need to contact them directly to learn if they are providing transportation on days that the weather is inclement.

If you work a job in the community and use a NMT provider for your transportation, you will need to contact them directly to learn if they are providing transportation on days that the weather is inclement.

Winter Weather Safety

When winter temperatures drop significantly, staying warm and safe can be a real challenge. Here are some helpful tips to stay warm and healthy during the cold winter months:

- Dress in layers of loose, dry clothing;
- Be sure to have a good winter coat and boots;
- Be sure to adequately cover your hands, feet, face, nose and head;
- Make sure to use handrails when climbing stairs; and
- Ensure all walkways are clear of ice and snow.

Source: Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, Health and Welfare Alert (Winter Weather #52-1-17)



 **50th Anniversary**
C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y
Board of Developmental Disabilities
1967 ————— 2017
1275 Lakeside Avenue East
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1129   

Coming Up
CCBDD Board Meetings
Dec. 21 and Jan. 25
Meeting begins at 5:30pm
CCBDD Administration Bldg.
1275 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland

Winter Break
CCBDD Buildings closed
Dec. 25, 26 and Jan. 1, 2
AACs closed Dec. 25 through January 3
AACs reopen Jan. 4



October 25, 2017 marked the 50th anniversary of county boards of DD in Ohio. Celebrating this golden milestone was filled with many reminders of just how far the DD service delivery system has come over the years. More so than ever before, people with disabilities are being given opportunities to live, learn, work and play in the community alongside all members of the community.

As I think about where the DD service delivery system is headed, I believe the future holds much promise and new possibilities. However, we all need to work hard and work together to raise expectations for them, and at times, even for ourselves.

We need to encourage people to dream of a future that may not have been available to them before now; to support parents to imagine a future for their sons and daughters that includes working with typical peers and earning equal pay; to focus on how people with disabilities are more like us than different from us; to lessen dependence on programs and systems and instead rely on friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors for support and assistance; and to educate our communities and area businesses on the many benefits of including people with disabilities in neighborhoods and in the workplace.

There will be challenges that lie ahead, but I am confident that, together, we can continue to support people with developmental disabilities in living the lives they want, pursuing and achieving their goals and dreams.



Kelly A. Petty
Superintendent & CEO

Celebrating our Golden Anniversary by honoring those who have made significant contributions

The Cuyahoga County Board of DD held an anniversary luncheon on October 10th, recognizing Achievement Award recipients, Hall of Fame Champions and volunteers who are all inspirational role models in supporting and empowering people with developmental disabilities to live, learn, work and play in the community.

Achievement Awards were presented to:

Roy Williams, *Good Life Achievement Award* recipient, was celebrated for his ability and commitment to advocate, change perceptions and bring about positive awareness.

Cast & Crew of Razzle Dazzle, an inclusive, performing arts group, was the recipient of the *Top Hat Award* and recognized for enhancing the quality of life for people with DD through volunteerism.

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, *Above and Beyond Impact Award* recipient, was honored for their partnership efforts with the Stir One Up Program advocacy group, promoting inclusion and civic involvement through a joint plastic bag project which removes unwanted trash (plastic bags) from our water system and repurposes them into sleeping mats for people who are homeless.

Giant Eagle, *Employment First Award* recipient, was highlighted for its commitment to valuing the contributions of people with DD in the workplace through its career transition liaison project, a promising model to further enhance the company's diversity.

Dr. Akram Boutros, CEO of MetroHealth, was recognized with the *Dr. Michael A. Donzella Leader of the Year Award* for his leadership in ensuring quality, comprehensive health care and employment for people with DD in an environment that is both diverse and inclusive.

The Board of DD also inducted several Champions into their Hall of Fame, recognizing their outstanding contributions to the DD system and the development of opportunities for people with DD in the community. Those honored included:

Dr. Judith Botwin, former Cuyahoga County Board of DD employee who holds a Ph.D. in psychology, was responsible for leading many advancements in support services for people with DD, including therapies, nursing services, behavior management and support administration.

John & Carol Culley, life planners for people with developmental disabilities, John and Carol have dedicated the past 20 years to sharing information and resources with parents/family members to develop, implement and sustain life plans, providing their loved ones with a comfortable, secure future.

William M. Denihan, retired CEO of the Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board and 40+ year public servant, William worked tirelessly and collaboratively to create a continuum of quality services for individuals with DD who also experience mental health illness.

SAW, Inc. Board of Trustees, established in 1969, this committed group of volunteer Board members has consistently adapted and evolved over the years to maintain its mission to provide employment, training and career growth for persons with DD, encouraging independence and enhancing their quality of life.

James & Dorothy May, loving parents, advocates, leaders, and friends to many, James and Dorothy May have dedicated their lives to assuring people with DD have every opportunity to enjoy the lives they want with dignity and respect.

Among the volunteers recognized were those who donated 100 hours or more of service in 2016 and volunteers who reached a milestone ranging from 500 to 7,000 hours or more over the length of their service. To date, the Board of DD's volunteers have donated more than 417,000 hours.

Inclusion drives innovation

The contributions of workers with disabilities and value of an inclusive workforce are celebrated each October during National Disability Employment Awareness Month. This year's theme, *Inclusion drives innovation*, represents how people with disabilities offer solutions in inclusive work environments.

Here in Cuyahoga County, this theme is put into action by the Employment Collaborative of Cuyahoga County, a group of over 30 local agencies committed to working together to match people with disabilities ready to enter the competitive workforce with local businesses. In honor of National Disability Awareness Month, the Collaborative and the Cleveland Society for Human Resource Management held a disability hiring forum at Cleveland's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on October 19, 2017. Over 100 attendees represented 67 local businesses, with many of them expressing interest in hiring people with disabilities. Presenters included CVS, Home Depot, KeyBank, Fifth Third Bank, Natural Essentials and Planet Fitness- all of which are industry leaders in hiring people with disabilities.



Did you know?



Since 2015, 450 people with a developmental disability have transitioned to a competitive job in the community and are enjoying the many benefits of being equal contributors to the local workforce.

We are Golden Together!