

New ATCO Idol format creates integrated experience



Participants in this year's ATCO Idol stand on the stage at Stuart's Opera House for their finale.

Those of you who attended ATCO Idol at Stuart's Opera House witnessed the most successful event to date. Over 20 talented artists treated the audience to amazing performances. For the first time, musicians without disabilities accompanied several performers, making this a fully integrated experience. ATCO Idol can still easily hang on to the title of the county's most popular talent show.

Country music, particularly Garth Brooks, was the most popular music of choice among the performers.

Just like American Idol, ATCO Idol had three judges: Margaret Demko, ACBDD Board President; William Peacock, of The Plains; and musician Dave Borowski.

Contestants were judged on three categories: how well they knew the lyrics, how much fun they were

**“Everybody is a winner
at ATCO Idol.”**

– Leslie Perry, event coordinator

having, and their overall performance. But as Leslie Perry, event coordinator, said, “Everybody is a winner at ATCO Idol.”

ACTO Idol has grown and evolved over the years, and this year was no exception. We appreciate everyone's hard work and dedication to constantly improve upon previous years' successes. Thank you to everyone— staff, individuals, supporters— who worked so hard to make this a fantastic event.

ACBDD Wears Blue for Child Abuse Prevention Efforts

April 11 was Wear Blue Day in Athens County. Coordinated by Athens County Children Services, this day is an opportunity to bring awareness to child abuse prevention efforts. To participate on this important day, staff from each of our divisions wore blue and shared group photos on social media.

ACBDD Admin. & Beacon School



ATCO Team



Employment Options/PersonnelPlus



Service & Support Division



ACBDD & Beacon Administrators



ACCS facts from 2017:

- ACCS received 1,768 referrals of suspected child abuse or neglect
- Referrals can be made 24/7
- The county had custody of 183 children
- Those children spent 44,674 days in foster care
- Foster parents can be married or single
- Foster parents receive 36 hours of training
- Foster parents also go through a home study
- ACCS facilitated the adoptions of 18 children

ACBDD Stakeholder Survey open until May 25

The ACBDD is starting its three-year strategic planning process. Part of this process is gathering feedback from our stakeholders. Our online survey has been shared with the community and can easily be accessed from our agency's website or Facebook page.

Anyone is welcome to complete the survey, which consists of just seven questions. We look forward to receiving valuable feedback that will help our organization plan for the future. All responses will remain anonymous.



ACBDD had a blast at the 31st annual KidFest

Staff members from Beacon School, Employment Options/PersonnelPlus, and the Service & Support Division attended KidFest and had a blast sharing their activities with families. One of the goals in attending this event is to help ensure families are familiar with the wide-ranging services provided at ACBDD.



Paul Coe celebrates 20 years working with Quidel

Paul Coe, brother of Board Member Pam Bond, had his retirement party recently. He has worked for 20 years at Quidel. Congratulations, Paul! Here he poses with Doug Mitchell, Director of Employment Options/PersonnelPlus; Dr. Dave Scholl, former CEO of Quidel; and Dr. Kevin Davis, ACBDD Superintendent. Dr. Scholl was instrumental in beginning of the partnership with PersonnelPlus and the ACBDD. Quidel has positively impacted many people and has been extremely progressive in supporting employment opportunities for people with disabilities.



Bring Your Daughters & Sons to Work Day at ACBDD

ACBDD recently recognized National Bring Your Daughters & Sons to Work Day. Everyone, including the children, individuals we assist, and the staff, had a fantastic day. Activities were planned all across the agency on this day. It was a great opportunity to show the next generation what we do here on a day-to-day basis.



Open Forum set for May 15

On May 15, ACBDD will host its second Open Forum of 2018 at 6 p.m. at the ATCO building (21 S. Campbell Street, Athens).

This forum is free and open to the public. The purpose of the forum is to update the community on the ATCO Transition, which is in its third year of a three-year plan. Also planned is a presentation on the changes for Ohio's waiver wait list, known as "Fix the List." Please feel free to share this widely.



ARC Training brings DODD Director to SE Ohio

Several staff members attended the ARC of Ohio's Spring Conference, which was hosted in The Plains. Ohio DODD Director Martin and Deputy Director Lori Horvath both presented. Topic of the conference included the new waiting list rules, person directed goods and services, and technology supports for individuals.



ACBDD's Administrative Professional Appreciation Day

We recently recognized Administrative Professional Day by formally appreciating those in our agency who work in this type of role. We could not do what we do without their support. Thank you so much!



WE JUST WANT TO SAY... THANK YOU!





Preschool program is 4-Star Rated

We also celebrated our Preschool team for their recent 4 Star Award designation from Step Up to Quality. SUTQ is Ohio’s tiered quality rating and improvement system.

Star ratings are awarded only to learning and development programs that exceed licensing standards and that are committed to continuous improvement, the continuing education of teachers, the use of learning and development standards to support children’s learning, and relationship-building with families and communities. The entire staff worked diligently to ensure we were offering a quality program as defined by the state and spent countless hours



gathering evidence to support the rating.

Congratulations to our Preschool team. This is another acknowledgment of the quality services we provide at the ACBDD!

Service Learning experience a benefit for all

On Service Learning Day, we had the privilege of hosting students from Ohio University and Athens High School. They had a day full of activities, including cleaning our flower garden, reading to our students, and teaching drum lessons. It was a wonderful experience for them, and for our students and staff. Thank you all for your service work!



Applications available for 2018 KOC Summer Camp

We are extremely proud to share that our partnership with Kids on Campus will continue this summer. This means we will be hosting a four-week Summer Camp at Beacon School. Be sure to keep an eye out for the application.





Appreciating our Paraprofessionals

We recently took the time to recognize the hard work and dedication of our paraprofessionals (also known as educational aides). These individuals provide vital support to our teachers. Thank you for what you do! Here they pose together by classroom.

Young Adult



Intermediate II



Primary II



Primary I



**WE APPRECIATE
ALL YOU DO!**

Preschool





Luau-themed prom a huge success!

This year's prom, which had a luau theme, had our students from Intermediate II and Young Adult classrooms movin' and groovin'! We were also thrilled to host students from Federal Hocking, Nelsonville-York, and Athens City Schools. Thank you to everyone who made this special day possible for this incredible group of young people.





Earth Day recognized by ATCO team

Staff and friends at ATCO recognized Earth Day on by planting flowers and doing landscaping at the homes of individuals who attend ATCO. They also cleaned up the ACBDD golf hole at the People First Putt Putt course. What a great way to recognize this important day!



League bowling concludes with award ceremony



League bowling for this semester concluded earlier this month with a pizza party and the presentation of trophies. Congratulations everyone for a job well done!

Teresa Darst remembered as tireless advocate

The ACBDD is sad to share that a longtime past employee has passed away. Teresa Darst dedicated a 30-year career to ATCO, where she was an Adult Service Aide for the Developmental Activity Center. Teresa retired in 2015 and enjoyed several years of retirement with her husband Rand and her beloved dogs that she took in as rescued pets. Over the years, Teresa touched the lives of many people with disabilities, advocating for the people she worked for and helping them explore the community. She was a very strong advocate for inclusion and understood what was important to the people she assisted.





Save the Date!

We hope you can join us for this spectacular event



Every two years, ACBDD and PersonnelPlus recognize our community partners and the individuals we assist during our PersonnelPlus Employer/Employee Gala. This special occasion always coincides with National Disability Employment Awareness Month, which is in October.

In 2016, we capped our reservations at 359 attendees. These attendees represented business people, workers with disabilities, families, state and local officials, and many more. The gala is one of the most moving events in the county. And given our success this year thus far with community employment, we anticipate even more interest in this event.

Contact the PersonnelPlus office for ticket information. They can be reached at (740) 592-3416. We hope you can join us for this great event.

ssa division

Service and Support Administration Division

Staff members recognized for their outstanding work

Our Service & Support Division recently recognized Service and Support Specialists Beth Graham, Mary Howell, and Jamie Hart; and Behavior Specialist David Sincoff. They were recognized for the outstanding work they each have done to support an individual on their caseloads.



Beth Mary Jamie David

These internal recognitions will become a regular occurrence to acknowledge the challenging work some of our staff face and the efforts they make to support individuals and families. Thank you all for your exceptional work!

SSAs fully embrace Good Life concepts, principles



Through a formal resolution and letter, the ACBDD board and the Superintendent both expressed their appreciation to the SSA Division for their participation in the first-ever multi-county Good Life Concepts, Principles and Tools Pilot Program.

The Good Life model focuses on the ability of professionals to show compassion, appreciation, and respect to individuals and colleagues. The goal of this pilot program is to enhance the quality of life for individuals in Athens County.

We appreciate their professionalism and distinguished service to our organization and to the people we assist.

Community Events

Team Heart & Sole races for all kinds of reasons



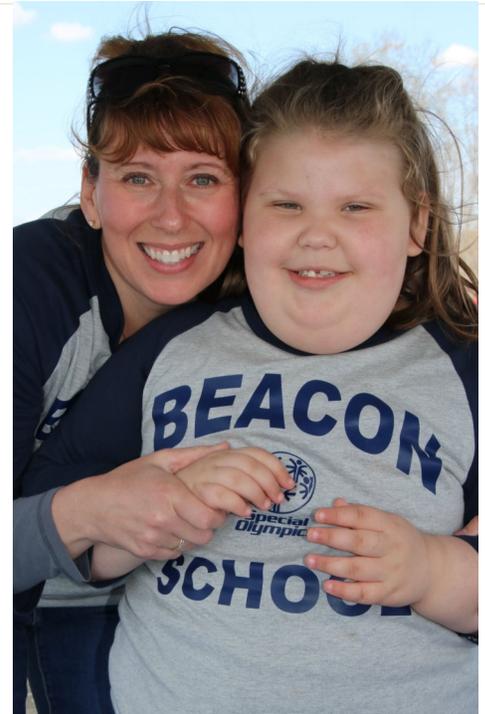
Team Heart & Sole had 14 athletes compete during the OhioHealth Race for a Reason. If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved with THAS, contact our local coordinator, Paul Richard. He can be emailed at athens.teamheartandsole@gmail.com or (740) 590-8787.

Special Olympics 2018 has record number of athletes

We had a wonderful turn out to this year's Area 8 Special Olympics Track and Field Day. It was perfect weather for some friendly competition. We are so proud of everyone who participated! Go Beacon School!



Special Olympics cont...



“Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”

ACBDD in the news

ATCO Idol delights at Stuart's

The Athens Messenger—April 7, 2018



May Birthdays:

Cale Hagen —May 2

Mary Howell —May 3

Jodi Mitchell —May 6

Jennie Booth —May 17

Dawn Deisher —May 21

Gregory King — May 24

Becky West —May 26

Ciara Jenkins —May 26

Debbie Dixon —May 28

Cressie Chaney —May 30



May Work Anniversaries:

Rex Maccombs —14 years

Laurie Gregg —21 years

Ron Kelley —2 years

Jerry Swackhamer —3 years

Susan Weaver —20 years



Employment Opportunities at ACBDD

To see full job descriptions, visit athenscbdd.org.

Medicaid Services Manager—Apply by May 2

Some qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree;
- Excellent verbal and written communication for effective interaction with internal and external customers;
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office products including Word and Excel; data entry and control;
- Excellent skills in human relations and establishing positive rapport with service providers and staff;
- Knowledge of agency, state and federal statutes, rules, policies, regulations and procedures governing contracts for procurement of services and programs.

Job duties include, but are not limited to:

- Serve as the Medicaid Services Manager as required by section 5126.054 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- Research and analyze all information related to ACBDD Medicaid programs;
- Function as the main point of contact between the Board and DODD on the implementation and application of Medicaid waiver rules promulgated by DODD and ODJFS. Provide technical assistance to families, providers and Service Coordinators on the specific requirements of Medicaid waivers.

Full-Time Custodial Worker—apply by May 4

Some qualifications:

- Must be 18 years old, possess a high school diploma or GED, have the ability to use whole numbers, read & write.
- Must be able to lift and move safely 25-75 lbs.
- Knowledge of custodial safety practices; skill in operation of cleaning equipment

Job duties include, but are not limited to:

- Daily, prepares supplies needed; sweeps and mops floors, vacuums carpets; washes walls; cleans and dusts furniture; cleans restrooms; cleans glass & mirrors; cleans & empties trash receptacles; launders mop heads and towels;
- Periodically as needed removes & hangs drapes; removes snow & ice from walkways & drives;

To apply to either position, send a cover letter, resume and list of at least three professional references to personnel@athenscbdd.org or complete an application at Beacon School, 801 W Union St, Athens, OH 45701.

Working conditions may exist that do not normally exist in the occupation of a public employee. These conditions may include: exposure to blood borne pathogens, communicable diseases, potential infectious materials, hazardous chemicals and/or aggressive behaviors.

*ACBDD is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer
with a strong commitment to building and maintaining a diverse workforce.*