

Beacon unveils new, all-accessible playgrounds

For the first time in Beacon School's history, all three playgrounds are now accessible to all students. We are so thankful for everyone who attended our playground unveiling. We had the privilege of hosting Beacon alumni, families, friends, school district representatives, public officials, community members, and of course our staff. We could only make these improvements with the support of our community. Thank you to Athens County for helping us make one of the finest sets of playgrounds in the region. Our students deserve it.



Board completes its state accreditation review

We recently completed our state accreditation review, and we are grateful to our staff for all of their hard work. The state surveyors were especially complimentary. The Mid-East Ohio Regional Council stated our entrance conference was the most inspiring one they had ever seen. Of the many items reviewed, only four citations were identified. This means we are expected to receive the highest accreditation status possible (3 years). However, the official report is not expected until later this month. We are proud of what we were able to accomplish.



PersonnelPlus celebrates its clients and new location

We appreciate everyone who came out to our Open House for Employment Options/PersonnelPlus. Although our new location is slightly smaller in size, the new location puts us in an active business district, which is beneficial for both employee and employer clients. The new space also has a professional look and feel and improves communication between staff. When clients walk into our new office, they will see our focus is not on their disabilities. Our focus is on new opportunities to help individuals reach their potential.



More images from Beacon playground unveiling



More images from Employment Options Open House



PPAAC 25th Anniversary Celebration slated for Oct. 19th

The PersonnelPlus Advocacy and Advisory Council (PPAAC) is celebrating its 25th year of advocacy and support of community employment in association with PersonnelPlus. To recognize and celebrate this anniversary, we are hosting an afternoon event on Thursday, Oct 19th, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., in The Plains Church of the Nazarene multi-purpose room.

In addition to recognizing current and former members of the PPAAC, PersonnelPlus will give out its annual Trailblazer Awards. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. We would love to have you all there.

The PPAAC is designed to give the individuals who received services and supports from the board a forum to provide feedback on those services, as well as a way to be more included in their community.



Event Details:

Day: Thursday, Oct. 19th

Time: 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: The Plains Church of the Nazarene

Board participates in Athens City's Comprehensive Planning

Our very own Autumn Brown made a point to attend a workshop at the Athens Community Center to offer input on what the city of Athens' "vision" should be as it updates its comprehensive plan. She attended representing the Board and the needs of those we serve. If the needs and desires of those with developmental disabilities are at the forefront of the city's planning process, it will make a better and more accessible community for everyone.

At least 70 other Athens area residents, business owners and government officials attended, as well. This meeting was the first of many that will take place over the next several months to gather information, feedback and ideas for the city's plan. Those who are interested in receiving updates should send an email to plan2017@ci.athens.oh.us.





**FACTS
ON
ISSUE**

4

Facts about Issue 4 and ACBDD

- Issue 4 will be on the ballot for Athens County in November, 2017.
- This is a 1.8-mill levy **renewal** and requires **no additional taxes** from the taxpayers of Athens County.
- The levy is expected to generate approximately \$1,753,487. This represents roughly 15% of our annual budget.
- This is one of the agency's four levies. Nearly 60% of the agency's revenue comes from local taxes that are solely spent on individuals who live in Athens County.
- The funds will be used for the maintenance and operation of programs and services of the ACBDD.
- Our programs and services for individuals range from early childhood through adulthood. These include Early Intervention Services, Beacon School, Employment Options/Personnel*Plus*, Service and Support Administration, Transportation Services, and Adults Day Services through ATCO until December 2018.
- When ATCO does close, ACBDD will still be responsible for covering the costs of these services at an independent provider. ATCO is closing in order to comply with a federal mandate.
- This renewal levy will allow us to continue supporting individuals with developmental disabilities in Athens County at the level of care they need.
- Issue 4 is designed to help ACBDD fulfill its mission of serving, supporting, and integrating individuals with developmental disabilities in Athens County.
- This levy was originally passed in 2010.

www.athenscbdd.org

Job opening—help spread the word

Substitute Vehicle Operator (Van and Bus Drivers)

Duties include (but not limited to):

- Van Drivers: Inspects, maintains and operates passenger vehicle (1 to 15 passengers) to transport passengers enrolled in all ACBDD programs to & from programs/services for various activities
- Bus Drivers: Inspects, maintains and operates passenger bus to transport up to 84 passengers (e.g., students and adults) to & from programs/services for various activities
- Performs facility related duties, i.e. cleaning, snow removal, mowing, trimming, weed eating.



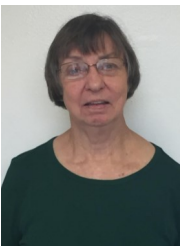
For more information about this position or any future postings, please visit the agency's website, www.athenscbdd.org.

Please welcome our recent hires!



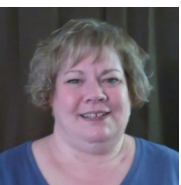
Marcus Dobro – Job Developer

Marcus Dobro has recently joined the Employment Options Division as our new Job Developer. He started September 25th. He comes to us after working as a Senior Panel Interview Facilitator with Cielo Talent Solutions in Cleveland. Prior to that, he worked as a Retail Merchandiser and Event Specialist. Welcome, Marcus.



Pat Morris—Substitute Adult Services Aide

Some of you may recognize Pat Morris. She is a returning retiree and is our new Substitute Adult Services Aide. It's always great to have a familiar and friendly face around. Pat re-started with us on September 18th. We are thrilled to have her on board.



Janet Wallisch – Bowling Coordinator

Janet Wallisch is our new Bowling Coordinator, which is a supplemental position. Janet previously served as the store manager and clerk for C&E Stores in The Plains. She also is a mother of a special needs child. We are fortunate to have Janet join the board, and we look forward to the continued success of our bowling team.

Board members tour new Beacon School bus

Our new 2018 Thomas conventional school bus was on display after a recent Board meeting.

Once other updates are complete, we plan to put the new bus on our Glouster/Chauncey route. This will allow us to bring an older bus in as a spare route bus.

As always, we wish to thank our Board for supplying our Transportation Department with a great fleet of vehicles to transport those we serve.



Birthdays

David McNelly —Oct. 3

Leslie Perry —Oct. 14

Andres Munoz —Oct. 15

Jennifer Trotta —Oct. 15

Mark Cullison —Oct. 27

Doug Mitchell —Oct. 30

Rex Maccombs —Nov. 1

Letha Conner —Nov. 2

Tyler Sisson —Nov. 4

Butch Withem —Nov. 7

Lindsey Bogatay —Nov. 9

Jamey Marcus —Nov. 9

David Sincoff —Nov. 10

Scott Crum —Nov. 13

Steve Kramer —Nov. 15

Becky Martin —Nov. 19

★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

Miriah Park —Nov. 19

David McKee —Nov. 21

Clayton Ray —Nov. 21

Timothy Jones —Nov. 26

Megan Stack —Nov. 28

Tracy Gillum —Nov. 28



Anniversaries

CONGRATULATIONS



October

Tami Harter —16 years

Jayne Hart —1 year

Zeke Hutchison —1 year

Tristin Lawrence —7 years

Mary Ann Smathers —20 years

Butch Withem —20 years

Audra Harrison —15 years

Jack Wilson —30 years

Cressie Chaney —19 years

Debbie Dixon —26 years

Mark Shrivvers —18 years

Ruth Robertson —4 years

Angela Carter —1 year

November

Jodi Mitchell —16 years

Steve Kramer —4 years

Constance Davis —1 year

Kevin Davis —2 years

Tracy Gillum —2 years

Margaret Casey —4 years

Autumn Brown —20 years

Kendall Dearing —2 years

Chase Brackley —2 years

If your birthday or work anniversary is incorrect, please just let me know, and we'll update our records. Thanks!