

BOARD MEETING

April 4, 2023



Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 – 6:00 p.m. 801 W. Union Street, Athens

The Mission of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to serve our community with compassion, innovation, and transparency

- 1. Call to Order Board President.
- 2. Board Member Roll Call Arian Smedley.
- 3. Reading of Mission Statement.
- 4. Motion to approve Agenda.
- 5. New Business:

Items for review and discussion:

- a. Presentation on the ACBDD's Transition Services.
- b. Budget update.
- c. Roof update.
- d. Emerging Leaders Program (Exhibit 1, Pages 1-3).
- e. New Administrative Policy 24a. Procurement (Exhibit 2, Pages 4-7).
- f. Reminders on future meetings/trainings:
 - i. Next board training: Tuesday, April 25, 5 p.m.
 - ii. Next regular meeting: Tuesday, April 25, 6:00 p.m.

Motions for vote:

- a. Approve February 2023 Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 3, Pages 8-11).
- b. Approve March 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 4, Pages 12-13).
- c. Approve proposal for student teacher stipends (Exhibit 5, Pages 14-15).
- d. Approve administration to take all necessary steps (including enter into an agreement with Ohio University, hire staff, etc.) in order to plan for a 2023 Summer Camp in partnership with Kids on Campus.
- e. Approve Service & Support Administration Phone System Proposal (Exhibit 6, Pages 16-17).

6. Board Reports:

- a. Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 7, Pages 18-61).
- b. Director of Finance, Scott Zielinski (Exhibit 8, Pages 62-68).
- c. Director of Human Resources, Gwen Brooks (Exhibit 9, Pages 69-71).

- d. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Chris Linscott (Exhibit 10, Page 72-73).
- e. MUI Coordinator, Stephanie Kendrick (Exhibit 11, Page 74).
- f. Director of Service and Support, Tristin Lawrence (Exhibit 12, Pages 75-77).
- g. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 13, Pages 78-79).
- h. Director of Employment Options, Angela Carter (Exhibit 14, Page 80).
- i. Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 15, Pages 81-84).
- j. Assistant Superintendent, Arian Smedley (Exhibit 16, Pages 85-89).
- 7. Comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
- 8. Comments from Unions relative to the agenda.
- 9. Comments from the Board.
- 10. Motion to enter into Executive Session per ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee.
- 11. Motion to return from Executive Session.
- 12. Motion to adjourn.

ACBDD Regular Board Meetings and Board Trainings for 2023

Board Meeting Trainings

Tuesday, April 25	Beacon School	MUI / UI	5 p.m.
Tuesday, May 23	Beacon School	TBD	5 p.m.

Regular Board Meetings

Tuesday, Jan. 24	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 28	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, March 28	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, April 25	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, May 23	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, June 27	Beacon School	6 p.m.
July	No meeting	No meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 22	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Beacon School	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 24	Beacon School	6 p.m.
November	No meeting	No meeting
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Beacon School	6 p.m.



Administration

801 West Union Street - Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: 740-594-3539 - Fax: 740-593-3189 Dr. Kevin Davis, Superintendent athenscbdd.org

2023 Emerging Leaders Program

We are happy to announce the staff members who have expressed interest and who have been accepted into our new Emerging Leaders Program. We were able to admit all who applied into the program for 2023. They are listed below in alphabetical order by last name:

- Amy Goldsberry, SSA & PGO 2nd Vice President
- Mary Howell, SSA Intake Specialist
- Stephanie Kendrick, MUI Coordinator
- Amy Sheridan, Medicaid Manager & Support Services Coordinator
- Arian Smedley, Assistant Superintendent
- Jerry Swackhamer, SSA & PGO President

This group will be discussing and learning about issues regarding leadership in a public setting. The group will meet one time per month (between March – November) from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Beacon School in the Beacon Conference Room.

This a program that is designed to help the County Board prepare for the future by providing professional development training to interested staff. Hopefully this program can help ensure successful programs for the County Board for years to come.

If you have any questions, please feel free to let me know.

Please join me in congratulating our Emerging Leaders.

Kevin Davis, ACBDD Superintendent

KenPlan





















Page 1 of



Emerging Leaders Program 2023



Time invested in our future is never time wasted

For those interested in a leadership position in the developmental disabilities field, we welcome you to consider participating in the ACBDD's first-ever Emerging Leaders Program.

This program is free and open to eligible staff.

Purpose:

The purpose of this program is to prepare current ACBDD employees for potential leadership roles within the agency. For those already in a management position, this is an opportunity to hone leadership skills.

Topics of the program include (but are not limited to):

- Setting standards in public work
- · Qualities of a leader
- Partnerships & collaborations
- The role of politics in public work
- Strategic planning
- Organizational culture
- And more!





Steve Long

Kevin Davis, Ed.D.

Instructors:

Sessions will be facilitated by Steve Long, Director of Operations of MEORC, who has over 20 years of experience; and the ACBDD's Supt. Kevin Davis, who has over 30 years of experience in the DD field.

Eligible staff must:

 Have an expressed interest in a leadership position or currently have one

This could be a management position, within a union, or within the local community

- · Have approval from direct supervisor
- Be in good standing with the agency
- Have a Bachelor's Degree (preferred)

Those without a Bachelor's Degree will be considered, based on available space and their Letter of Interest

Time & location:

Each session will be hosted at Beacon School from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. These times were deliberately selected so that all staff can attend.

Dates of the 2023 program:

- March 29
- April 19
- May 31
- June 21
- August 30
- September 20
- October 25
- November 15

Expectation:

Once accepted into the program, the expectation is that you will attend all of the sessions and complete all homework assignments. One absence due to an emergency or other unforeseen conflict is permitted.

How to apply:

Send your Letter of Interest to Gwen Brooks at gbrooks@athenscbdd.org by February 28, 2023.

CEUs:

Continuing Education Units will be provided for staff who attend.

Completion Certificate and Ceremony

Those who complete the program will receive a Completion Certificate and an invitation to attend an Award Ceremony at the end of the program.

Apply by Feb. 28, 2023

24a. Procurement

Adopted	Pending approval
Status	Draft – pending approval
Historical Versions	
Initiated by	Scott Zielinski, Director of Finance
Approved by	pending

Procurement of all supplies, materials, equipment, and services shall be made in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and/or regulations, the terms, conditions and policies of any applicable funding sources, and this policy.

The Athens County ACBDD of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD) shall maintain a procurement and contract administration system in accordance with accepted federal, state and local guidelines, including affirmative steps for small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises. The ACBDD shall maintain a contract administration system that requires contractors to perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.

All ACBDD employees, officers, and agents who have purchasing authority shall abide by the standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts pursuant to ACBDD policy and Ohio Ethics Laws.

The ACBDD will avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Additionally, consideration shall be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. And, where appropriate, an analysis shall be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach. These considerations are given as part of the process to determine the allowability of each purchase made with public funds.

To foster greater economy and efficiency, the ACBDD may enter into state and/or local intergovernmental agreements where appropriate for procurement or use of common or shared goods and services.

The ACBDD procedures for procuring items shall:

- Provide for free and open competition;
- Promote fairness and integrity;
- Have transparency in all transactions; and
- Maintain documentation of all procurement

Competition

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner that encourages full and open competition and that is in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment. In order to promote objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, the ACBDD shall exclude any contractor that has developed or drafted specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals from competition for such procurements.

Solicitation Language

The ACBDD shall require that all solicitations made pursuant to this policy incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description shall not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may

include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product or service to be procured and, when necessary, shall set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it shall conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided unless necessary in carrying out the process to satisfy the needs of the ACBDD.

When it is impractical or uneconomical to make a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements, a "brand name or equivalent" description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which shall be met by offers shall be clearly stated; and identify all requirements which the offerors shall fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

The ACBDD will not approve any expenditure for an unauthorized purchase or contract.

Procurement Methods

The ACBDD shall utilize the following methods of procurement:

A. Micro-purchases

Procurement by micro-purchase is the acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed \$10,000. To the extent practicable and if not resulting in any increased cost, the ACBDD shall distribute micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. Micro-purchases may be made without soliciting competitive quotations if the ACBDD considers the price to be reasonable.

B. Small Purchases

Small purchase procedures provide for relatively simple and informal procurement methods for securing services, supplies, and other property that does not exceed the competitive bid threshold of \$50,000. Small purchase procedures require that price or rate quotations shall be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources. "Adequate" in this context is not so defined as to mandate a number; rather, it is the ACBDD's discretion on the number (if any) of quotations that are administratively reasonable.

C. Sealed Bids

Sealed, competitive bids shall be obtained when the purchase of, and contract for, single items of supplies, materials, or equipment amounts to more than \$50,000.

In order for sealed bidding to be feasible, the following conditions shall be present:

- 1. a complete, adequate, and realistic specification or purchase description is available;
- 2. two (2) or more responsible bidders are willing and able to compete effectively for the business; and
- 3. the procurement lends itself to a firm fixed-price contract and the selection of the successful bidder can be made principally on the basis of price.

When sealed bids are used, the following requirements apply:

- Bids shall be solicited in accordance with the provisions of all federal, state and local laws. Bids shall be solicited from an adequate number of qualified suppliers, providing sufficient response time prior to the date set for the opening of bids. The invitation to bid shall be publicly advertised.
- 2. The invitation for bids will include product/contract specifications and pertinent attachments and shall define the items and/or services required in order for the bidder to properly respond.

- 3. All bids will be opened at the time and place prescribed in the invitation for bids; bids will be opened publicly.
- 4. A firm fixed-price contract award may be made in writing to the lowest responsible bidder if applicable. Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs shall be considered in determining which bid is lowest. Payment discounts may be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken.
- 5. The ACBDD reserves the right to reject any or all bids for sound documented reason.

D. Competitive Proposals

Procurement by competitive proposal may be used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids or in the case of a recognized exception to the sealed bid method.

If this method is used, the following requirements apply:

- 1. Requests for proposals shall be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Any response to the publicized requests for proposals shall be considered to the maximum extent practical.
- 2. Proposals shall be solicited from an adequate number of sources.
- 3. The ACBDD shall use its written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for selecting recipients.
- 4. If applicable, contracts shall be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered.

E. Noncompetitive Proposals

Procurement by noncompetitive proposals allows for solicitation of a proposal from only one (1) source and may be used only when one (1) or more of the following circumstances apply:

- 1. the item is available only from a single source
- 2. the public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation
- 3. the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the ACBDD
- 4. after solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined to be inadequate

Contract / Price Analysis

The ACBDD shall perform a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of \$250,000, including contract modifications. A cost analysis generally means evaluating the separate cost elements that make up the total price, while a price analysis means evaluating the total price, without looking at the individual cost elements. The method and degree of analysis are dependent on the facts surrounding the particular procurement situation; however, the ACBDD shall come to an independent estimate prior to receiving bids or proposals.

When performing a cost analysis, the ACBDD shall negotiate profit as a separate element of the price. To establish a fair and reasonable profit, consideration is given to the complexity of the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting, the quality of its record of past performance, and industry profit rates in the surrounding geographical area for similar work.

Suspension and Debarment

The ACBDD will award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed procurement. All purchasing decisions shall be made in the best interests of the ACBDD and shall seek to obtain the maximum value for each dollar expended. When making a purchasing decision, the ACBDD shall consider such factors as 1) cost; 2) contractor integrity; 3) compliance with public policy; 4) record of past performance; and 5) financial and technical resources.

The ACBDD shall have the authority to suspend or debar a person/corporation, for cause, from consideration or award of further contracts. The ACBDD is subject to and shall abide by all federal, state and local nonprocurement debarment and suspension regulations.

The ACBDD shall not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For contracts over \$50,000, the ACBDD shall confirm that the vendor is not debarred or suspended by either checking the federal government's System for Award Management, which maintains a list of such debarred or suspended vendors at www.sam.gov; collecting a certification from the vendor; or adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that vendor. (2 C.F.R. Part 180 Subpart C)

Bid Protest

The ACBDD maintains the following protest procedures to handle and resolve disputes relating to procurements and, in all instances, discloses information regarding the protest to the awarding agency.

A bidder who wishes to file a bid protest shall file such notice and follow procedures prescribed by the Request for Proposals (RFPs) or the individual bid specifications package, for resolution. Bid protests shall be filed in writing with the Superintendent within seventy-two (72) hours of the opening of the bids in protest.

Within thirty (30) days of receipt of a protest, the Superintendent shall review the protest as submitted and render a decision regarding the merits of the protest and any impact on the acceptance and rejection of bids submitted. Notice of the filing of a bid protest shall be communicated to the ACBDD and shall be so noted in any subsequent recommendation for the acceptance of bids and awarding of contracts.

Failure to file a notice of intent to protest, or failure to file a formal written protest within the time prescribed, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings.

Reconciliation

The ACBDD shall conduct a reconciliation either annually or at contract termination to ensure vendors, including the Food Management Service Contract vendor, have credited the ACBDD for the full value of all commodities received.

Maintenance of Procurement Records

The ACBDD maintains records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis).

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 28, 2023 – 6:00 P.M. Beacon School – 801 W. Union Street

The Mission of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to serve our community with compassion, innovation, and transparency

DRAFT UNTIL BOARD APPROVED

- 1. Margaret Demko, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- 2. Arian Smedley did roll call.

ALLEN Present
BOND Absent
CONNER Present
DEMKO Present
JOLLEY Present
LEWIS Present
OCHES Present

Staff / Others in Attendance:

Dr. Kevin Davis Superintendent

Arian Smedley Assistant Superintendent

Scott Zielinski Director of Finance

Gwen Brooks Director of Human Resources
Tristin Lawrence Director of Services & Support

Chris Linscott Director of Facilities & Transportation

Stephanie Kendrick MUI Coordinator

Becky Martin Director of Education

Angela Carter Director of Employment Options
Autumn Brown Director of Integrate Athens

Doug Mitchell Transition Coordinator

Jerry Swackhamer SSA, PGO

Crestlyn Chaney Instructor Assistant, ABEA

- 3. Dr. Allen read the Mission Statement.
- 4. Martin provided a tour of one of the renovated sensory rooms for board members.

5. Oches motioned to approve the agenda.

MOTION#: 2-28-23-1 MOTION: OCHES SECOND: ALLEN

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

New Business:

Items for review and discussion:

- a. Dr. Davis provided the board with a budget update focused on the agency's financial security measures (Handout). There was brief discussion about a recent situation at the county's metropolitan housing authority involving the alleged misappropriation of funds. This prompted Dr. Davis to put together a list of measures that currently exist that ensure a similar situation could not happen at the ACBDD.
- b. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the 2023 Managers List (Exhibit 1, Pages 1-2). It is different this year, in that the divisions involved in accreditation will focus primarily on a successful review. The other divisions will have a select number of objectives for the year.
- c. Dr. Davis reviewed the plans/activities for this year's Developmental Disability Awareness Month (Exhibit 2, Pages 3-7).
- d. Dr. Davis provided an overview of the Staff Engagement Survey (Exhibit 3, Pages 7-14). He highlighted the lower response rate and the lower scores (based on historical data). Overall, however, the scores were relatively high. Dr. Davis reminded board members the survey was launched on the heels of union negotiations and that some members of that union are still upset, which likely impacted the survey results. There was brief discussion about specific areas and ways to see improvement in the future.
- e. Board members discussed future meetings/trainings:
 - Next regular meeting: Tuesday, March 28, 6:00 p.m.

Motions for vote:

a. Dr. Jolley motioned to approve 2023 Organizational Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 4, Pages 15-17).

MOTION#: 2-28-23-2
MOTION: JOLLEY
SECOND: LEWIS

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

b. Dr. Allen motioned to approve 2023 January Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 5, Pages 18-23).

MOTION#: 2-28-23-3 MOTION: ALLEN SECOND: JOLLEY

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

c. Dr. Lewis motioned to authorize administration to explore the possibility of hosting a Beacon School Summer Camp, in partnership with Ohio University, dependent on health and safety protocols in place at the time (Exhibit 6, Page 24).

MOTION#: 2-28-23-4
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: ALLEN

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

d. Oches motioned to approve resolution expressing appreciation to the Albany VFW for hosting and organizing the fifth annual Polar Bear Plunge and their subsequent donation of \$15,000 to the Beacon School PTA (Exhibit 7, Page 25).

MOTION#: 2-28-23-5
MOTION: OCHES
SECOND: JOLLEY

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

e. Dr. Jolley motioned to approve FANs COMCorps Agreement, pending prosecuting attorney's approval (Exhibit 8, Page 26). Dr. Davis shared this was a position we considered not refilling. However, we received a grant through Ohio Sibs to launch a new program to support siblings of individuals with developmental disabilities. The FANs coordinator will focus on this project, and the grant will help offset the cost of the COMCorps fee.

MOTION#: 2-28-23-6
MOTION: JOLLEY
SECOND: ALLEN

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

7. Board Reports:

- Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 9, Pages 27-37).
 Report stands.
- b. Director of Finance, Scott Zielinski (Exhibit 10, Pages 38-45). Report stands.
- c. Director of Human Resources, Gwen Brooks (Exhibit 11, Pages 46-48). Report stands.
- d. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Chris Linscott (Exhibit 12, Page 49). Report stands.
- e. MUI Coordinator, Stephanie Kendrick (Exhibit 13, Pages 50-53). Report stands.
- f. Director of Service and Support, Tristin Lawrence (Exhibit 14, Pages 54-56). Report stands.
- g. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 15, Pages 57-58). Report stands.
- h. Director of Employment Options, Angela Carter (Exhibit 16, Page 59). Report stands.
- Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 17, Pages 60-62).
 Report stands.
- j. Assistant Superintendent, Arian Smedley (Exhibit 18, Pages 63-70). Report stands.
- 8. No comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
- 9. No comments from Unions relative to the agenda.
- 10. No comments from the Board.
- 11. Oches motioned to adjourn at 6:37 p.m.

MOTION#: 2-28-23-7
MOTION: OCHES
SECOND: JOLLEY

AYES: ALLEN, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES Special Board Meeting Minutes Monday, March 13, 2023 – 5:00 P.M. Beacon School – 801 W. Union Street

The Mission of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to serve our community with compassion, innovation, and transparency

DRAFT UNTIL BOARD APPROVED

- 1. Margaret Demko, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.
- 2. Arian Smedley did roll call.

ALLEN Present
BOND Present
CONNER Absent
DEMKO Present
JOLLEY Present
LEWIS Present
OCHES Present

Staff / Others in Attendance:

Dr. Kevin Davis Superintendent

Arian Smedley Assistant Superintendent

- 3. Dr. Lewis read the Mission Statement.
- 4. Dr. Jolley motioned to approve the agenda.

MOTION#: 3-13-23-1 MOTION: JOLLEY SECOND: ALLEN

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

5. Dr. Jolley motioned to enter into Executive Session per ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee at 5:04 p.m.

MOTION#: 3-13-23-2 MOTION: JOLLEY SECOND: OCHES

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

6. Dr. Jolley motioned to return from Executive Session at 7:42 p.m.

MOTION#: 3-13-23-3 MOTION: JOLLEY SECOND: LEWIS

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

- 7. No comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
- 8. No comments from Unions relative to the agenda.
- 9. No comments from the Board.
- 10. Bond motioned to adjourn 7:43 p.m.

MOTION#: 3-13-23-4
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: ALLEN

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES



Administration

801 West Union Street - Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: 740-594-3539 - Fax: 740-593-3189 Dr. Kevin Davis, Superintendent athenscbdd.org

PROPOSAL FOR STUDENT TEACHER STIPENDS

Beacon Instructors have a choice to receive either money or graduate credit for additional coursework for hosting special education teacher candidates from Ohio University. After the staff agree to host a student teacher, the University emails staff a form to choose whether they would like the stipend or credit. The stipend is based on the level of supervision provided for each as described below:

- 1. Early Field These are the mostly observational placements for Teacher Candidates, typically in their 3rd year
 - Mentor Teachers can choose between \$25 payment OR a waiver of 0.2 graduate credit hour (valid for 2 years)
- 2. Professional Intern 1 These are the two day/week placements for Professional Interns (Student Teachers) in the first semester of their final year
 - Mentor Teachers can choose between \$50 payment OR a waiver of 0.2 graduate credit hour (valid for 2 years)
- 3. Professional Intern 2 These are the full-time placements for Professional Interns (Student Teachers) in the second semester of their final year

Mentor Teachers can choose between \$300 payment OR a waiver of 2 graduate credit hours (valid for 2 years)















1002 E. State St., Suite 4

Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3416





801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539

ATCO Legacy Fund 801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539

Early Intervention 801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539

801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539

801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539

9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 8 Harper Street The Plains, Ohio 45780 Phone: (740) 592-6006

Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, we propose the following: If a staff member chooses to host a student teacher for the year, in agreement with the Director of Education, the stipend be awarded to the staff member for the additional effort and dedication to the profession. This would coincide with the availability of the graduate credit as well.

The supplementary funds will pass through payroll with appropriate tax deductions. Instructors would be limited to one Professional Intern 2 per school year and two Professional Intern 1, if both are available two different days per week.



801 W. Union Street

Athens, Ohio 45701

Phone: (740) 594-3539







Early Intervention

801 W. Union Street

Athens, Ohio 45701

Phone: (740) 594-3539

801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539

BEACON RAYS



801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539



9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539



Personnel Plus **Employment Options &** Personnel Plus

The Market on State 1002 E. State St., Suite 4 Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3416



Service & Support 8 Harper Street The Plains, Ohio 45780 Phone: (740) 592-6006



& Facilities 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-7489



SERVICE AND SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION PHONE SYSTEM PROPOSAL

As SSAs adapt to the new ways of providing services in a more technologically advanced world, the need for upgraded technology was identified to better support the needs of those served, their teams, and the SSA department.
This proposal for upgrading technology within the SSA department with Board- issued cell phones would allow SSAs to more effectively and efficiently conduct business operations both within and outside of the SSA office.

OVERVIEW

SSAs shared concerns with our current phone operating systems, leading to a collaborative committee discussion with Administration, SSAs, and a PGO union member. As a result of these discussions, a recommendation was made to Kevin Davis, Superintendent, to purchase upgraded smart cell phones and data plans for SSAs.

The following concerns were shared regarding our current system:

- Due to limited portability of the current system, SSAs are currently experiencing increased wear and tear on their personal phones.
- The current board-issued cell phones limit the ability for SSAs to be responsive via text. They cannot respond to teams (group text) or view MUI-related photographs.
- There are HIPAA concerns related to having individual personal information saved on personal phones.

The following benefits have been shared by the committee and SSA department regarding the upgrade of technology:

• A smartphone would provide compatibility with Brittco, which can be used to easily access planning and demographic information.

- A smartphone would provide better work/life boundaries so that personal SSA information is not shared.
- Smartphones with data plans include a hotspot that will provide internet
 access to allow work in tandem with the current computer system, allowing
 SSAs access to the Ohio ISP without needing to borrow someone else's
 home internet
- SSAs will be more accessible and responsive to individual and family needs by having greater access to on-the-go technology.

The Opportunity

While there is an initial cost and slight increase in annual costs to transition all SSAs from a standard desk phone or basic cell phone, the overall benefits of the upgrade will better support those served and provide SSAs with greater efficiency in their work and the ability to be more productive both in and outside of the office.

Current recurring costs		
OneTalk Service or flip phone	\$25.00	
Cost for 17 SSAs	\$425.00	
Cost for 12 months	\$5,100.00	

Proposed initial cost (equipment)	
iPhone SE w/case	\$30.99
Cost for 17 SSAs	\$526.83

Proposed recurring costs (service)		
iPhone service	\$50.05	
Cost for 17 SSAs	\$850.85	
Cost for 12 months	\$10,210.20	

Increase in annual recurring costs (proposed minus current recurring costs)

\$5,110.20

OUR PROPOSAL

It is proposed the ACBDD approve an initial equipment expenditure of \$526.83, which includes all of the iPhone SE phones with their cases. In addition, it is proposed the ACBDD approve an additional \$5,110.20 in annual on-going costs to cover service for the new equipment.



Administration

801 West Union Street - Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: 740-594-3539 - Fax: 740-593-3189 Dr. Kevin Davis, Superintendent athenscbdd.org

March Board Report

Kevin Davis, Superintendent

- Leadership Meetings Various leadership meetings were held during the month of March. Topics of interest to all managers were discussed including; updates on critical issues, preparation for events, sharing of common concerns, trainings, and board planning. The meetings were held on March 7th and 21st. At the meeting on the 7th, we held our first quarterly manager breakfast. This was our first in-person meeting since 2020.
- The Family Children First Council meeting was held on March 8th. Arian and I attended the meeting on behalf of the board.
- We continue to have regular (once a week or once every two weeks) individual meetings with all managers to ensure that everyone feels supported and that our new managers get started on a good note.
- On Thursday, March 9, Scott and I traveled to Columbus to attend the joint Superintendent/Business Manager Conference hosted by the OACBDD.
 Topics covered included: Remote Work, 5-year cost projection tool, Hardship Committee update, and the state budget update.
- Unfortunately, we had to cancel our March on Court due to the extreme weather conditions. The march was scheduled for Friday, March 3, 2023.
- We held our Disability Awareness Festival on Tuesday, March 21st. It was well attended, and we had multiple outside agencies set up tables to help







ATCO Legacy Fund 801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 Fax: (740) 593-3189



Beacon School 801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 Fax: (740) 593-3189



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Employment Options & Personnel*Plus* The Market on State

The Market on State 1002 E. State St., Suite 4 Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3416 Fax: (740) 593-8236



Service & Support 8 Harper Street The Plains, Ohio 45780 Phone: (740) 592-6006 Fax: (740) 594-5048



Transportation & Facilities 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-7489 Fax: (740) 594-5048

- support the effort. We also we fortunate to have the Athens County Community Singers kick off the evening.
- On Monday, March 6th, we held an "accreditation" planning meeting to help prepare for our "mock" accreditation event in April, and then our actual accreditation event in October 2023.
- On Friday, March 10th, we meet with Kids on Campus and Ohio University to begin preparations for our 2023 Summer Camp. We are in the process of hiring a camp director and the dates we are working towards for the camp are: June 12 – July 7th. Staff training will occur June 5-9th.
- We announced the first cohort of the Emerging Leaders Program, a firstever initiative to help the County Board prepare for the future by providing professional development training to interested staff. More will be shared during the board meeting.
- Attached are a number of articles of interest, including stories included in the 2023 ACBDD Special Edition for DD Awareness Month.
- On March 7th, we had our 2023 manager picture taken.









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Transportation & Facilities 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-7489 Fax: (740) 594-5048 https://www.athensmessenger.com/news/beacon-school-dedicates-sensory-rooms-thanks-vfw-post-9893-for-donations/article_1d8215a8-b69d-11ed-9267-23c12ab406ba.html

FEATURED

Beacon School dedicates sensory rooms, thanks VFW Post 9893 for donations

By Nicole Bowman-Layton Messenger Staff Writer Feb 27, 2023



Jessica Eckle, teacher of Primary 1, and student Ayden Mills gives VFW Post 9893 Commander Brian Johnson donations to Beacon School during a ceremony Friday at the school. The event dedicated the schools' two ser funds the VFW gathered through its annual Polar Bear Plunge.

Messenger Photo by John Halley

Privacy - Terms

Two sensory rooms in Beacon School offer students spaces to regulate their emotions and energy levels. The renovated spaces were dedicated Friday during a ceremony and ribbon-cutting at the school.

As part of the ceremony, the school thanked VFW Post 9893, located in Albany. The organization has donated over \$54,000 to the school, which in the past has funded field trips, the upgrades to the sensory rooms and other activities.

The school has had sensory rooms for at least seven years, at least as long as school Principal Becky Martin has been at the school.

One is a calming area for students who "just need to chill for a little bit. The other one it's more to get some energy out that also helps regulate students so they can bo back to the classroom and focus," she said.

With the VFW funds raised at the 2022 Polar Bear Plunge, the school repurposed the rooms, buying new equipment and giving the rooms a face lift.

The celebration included performances by the Beacon Singers, lead by Stephanie Morris, with Central Ohio Music Therapy.

The singers will next perform with the Athens County Community Singers on March 21 at the Development Disabilities Festival, which will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the Athens Community Center.

Each classroom — Preschool I (age 3), Preschool II (ages 4-5), Primary I (ages 5-7), Primary II (ages 8-10), Intermediate I (ages 10-14), Intermediate II (ages 14-17) and Young Adult (ages 17-21) — presented VFW members and Commander Brian Johnson, who organizes the annual Polar Bear Plunge, a card, sign or other token of their appreciation.

Young Adult instructor Samantha Dunlap thanked the VFW for thinking of the Beacon School students' needs.

"Most of all, thank you for putting smiles on all of our students' faces by giving them a room where all ages and all ability levels can participate," she said.

After the ceremony, cake was delivered to each classroom for students to enjoy.

The VFW members toured the activity-based sensory room, which has a huge custom-built structure for kids to climb on.

"There are things to punch. There are swings — with seats that when you sit in them, they squeeze you and give you pressure, which helps regulate students," Martin said. "There's a hopscotch on the floor in there that, when you step on it, it's got paint inside and the paint kind of splatters across the numbered square."

The room also features an interactive computer on the ceiling that has different games and things that are projected on the floor, she said.

"There's a piano you can walk across," Martin said. "There's a game that's similar to Hungry Hippos, where the kids step on the reindeer and they eat ping-pong balls. ... There's one where the ice breaks ... just all kinds of really neat stuff."

So far, the kids love the new sensory rooms.

The students who come to the rooms learn to regulate what could be a vast amount of sensory overload or an underactive sensory system, said Kendall Berry, a speech therapist at the school.

One of the advantages of the rooms is that time in them can be built into a student's daily schedule or it can happen as needed, if no one else in the room, Martin said.

During their time in the sensory room, students aren't just playing, Martin said.

They are given a "sensory diet," that includes a specific set of activities.

"The person that is with (the student), whether it be a paraprofessional or whoever, would go through this sensory diet with them, help them to get regulated and then they come back to the classroom," Martin said. "It's amazing how they can then focus and do their assignments."

The routine is very strict, Berry said.

"They'll work with a therapist and we'll give them a very strict routine of 'Hey, come in. You're going to up and down the slide five times and then we're going to swing for three minutes, jump 20 times, maybe finish with something a little bit more regulating," she said.

The goal is, as student get older and as they go to the sensory room more, they to be able to tell school staff what they need, Berry said.

The sensory room is a tool that helps students cope in a "world that can be kind of crazy and overstimulating sometimes," she said.

"Because of you guys, we have been able to add some really crucial tools to our children's repertoire for when they need to be able to regulate their bodies," Berry said to VFW members touring the activity sensory room.

Berry said the students have an unspoken understanding that the sensory rooms are not a place where they can just go a chill. Even if someone needs the room, they wait until their turn.

"I think they respect the fact it's here for the students who really need it," she said.

VFW Post 9893 donates funds to Beacon School that are raised through its annual Polar Bear Plunge. During the ceremony, the VFW presented a check of \$15,000 to the school, proceeds from the fifth annual event, held in early February.

Martin said part of the newly donated funds will go toward new hearing- and visionscreening equipment.

"We currently have hearing and vision equipment that's used in a typical school, which is not always the best for students with disabilities to get a clear idea of whether they're seeing or hearing properly," she said. "So we've investigated some new equipment, especially for students with disabilities that we would like to use part of those funds for this year. We're not sure about the rest of the funds at this point."

https://www.athensmessenger.com/news/athens-county-commissioners-declare-march-developmental-disabilities-awareness-month/article_c9f4cfd4-b2a0-11ed-8860-a39378b82ce7.html

Athens County Commissioners declare March Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

By Nicole Bowman-Layton Messenger Staff Writer Feb 22, 2023



From left, Autumn Brown, director of Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities Office of Integrate Athens; Athens County Commissioner Lenny Eliason; Jason Licht, local artist and advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities; Commissioner Charlie Adkins; and Commissioner Chris Chmiel celebrate the month of March being declared as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Athens County.

Messenger Photo by Nicole-Bowman Layton

Privacy - Terms

The Athens County Board of Commissioners declared March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month during its meeting Tuesday in the courthouse annex.

This year's theme, Athens County Together, "provides an opportunity to highlight the ways in which Athens County residents can work together for the benefits of all," said Commissioner President Lenny Eliason while reading the proclamation.

Autumn Brown, director of Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities Office of Integrate Athens, and Jason Licht, local artist and advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities, attended the proclamation signing.

Brown and William "Billy" Peacock, president of Athens County People First Chapter, were scheduled to attend a similar proclamation signing by Athens Mayor Steve Patterson Wednesday afternoon.

During the month, Athens County Board of Development Disabilities will host several events celebrating the month.

March on Court Street for Disability Awareness will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 3. The march begins begins at Ohio University's Baker Center, upper level entrance (where Court Street, Park Place and Mulberry Street intersect).

Participants are asked to arrive a few minutes before 10 a.m. to organize. Signs and banners are welcome.

From the meet-up location, participants will travel to the Athens County Courthouse, where there will be a brief presentation by Peacock and other public officials.

Reservations are requested, so organizers can alert participants of weather-related changes. Reservations can be made by emailing khynes@athenscbdd.org or calling (740) 541-9600.

Developmental Disability Awareness Fest will be held from 6-8 p.m. March 21 at the Athens Community Center.

The festival is a chance for everyone to come together and celebrate this year's Development Disability Awareness Month theme.

The Athens County Community Singers will start the event with a performance. They will be followed by remarks from special guests.

Tables must be reserved at the event by Friday, March 10. Reservations can be made by emailing Karen Hynes at khynes@athenscbdd.org or calling (740) 541-9600.

Table set-up starts at 4:30 p.m., with the event opening to the public at 6 p.m.

For information, contact Autumn Brown, of Integrate Athens, via email at abrown@athensscdd.org or by calling (740) 541-9600.

March 2, 2023

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Albany VFW Post 9893 members tour one of Beacon School's sensory rooms it, and others, helped bring to fruition. Keri Johnson / Athens County Independent

CULTURE

Veterans plunge in to support Beacon School



ATHENS, Ohio — Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9893 is more than a social club for U.S. military veterans and their families. The Albany post is a major community benefactor, raising funds for everything from college scholarships to a new digital sign outside the Albany Fire Department on Washington Road.

And for the past five years, the post has been especially generous to Beacon School at 801 W. Union St. in Athens.

Last Friday, Feb. 24 the post presented Beacon School with \$15,000, thanks to 72 participants in the fifth annual Polar Bear Plunge at Lake Snowden on Feb. 5, organized by the VFW and WSEO 107.7. That donation brings the Albany VFW's support for Beacon School to \$54,000.

Smiling through tears, Beacon School Principal Becky Martin presented a plaque to the Albany VFW Post 9893, which read:

"The Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities congratulates the Albany VFW Post 9893 for their success and the fifth annual Polar Bear Plunge hosted Feb. 4, 2023 at Lake Snowden. Your actions to bring awareness to the mission of the ACBDD community and the financial contributions [will] impact the students of Beacon School for generations to come. We thank you all so much for your support."

Tokens of gratitude quickly piled up as Beacon students and staff presented cards, posters and expressed their gratitude to Albany VFW Post 9893 Commander Brian Johnson and the VFW.

"When you turn around and you look at all these beautiful faces and smiles, it makes it all worthwhile," said Johnson. "As long as you guys have a need, we will be here."

Proceeds from the 2023 plunge "will be used to purchase updated vision and hearing equipment so we can appropriately and accurately measure our students' abilities in those areas, and make referrals as needed," according to Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities Assistant Supt. Arian Smedley

The VFW's donations have already made a difference at the school. Recent renovations of the sensory rooms were "completed largely with the proceeds from last year's Polar Bear Plunge," Smedley said. The rooms were dedicated to the VFW, as part of last Friday's event.

Friday's celebration included tours of the current sensory rooms at the school and a ribbon cutting for another sensory room, made possible in part by support from the VFW and Polar Bear Plunge participants.

Albany VFW Post 9893 members watch Beacon School students and staff present gifts to the post.

Becky Martin and Brian Johnson stand with the \$15,000 check.

A Beacon School student and staff member present Brian Johnson, commander of the Albany VFW Post 9893, with a card.

Last Friday's ribbon cutting.

The more "active" sensory room. This piece of playground-like equipment was made possible last year by the prior Polar Bear Plunge.

A scene from the other sensory room.

Kendall Berry, a speech therapist at Beacon, explained how the school can help children regulate themselves through experiences that meet their sensory needs.

"While somebody might not like nails on a chalkboard, or the feeling of Styrofoam — that might be really frustrating — a lot of our students might be overstimulated by lights or loud noises, or just having a lot of expectations placed on them throughout the day — the feeling of keeping clothes on at school," Berry said. "It really could be a vast amount of sensory overload, or an underactive sensory system."

The school's two sensory rooms cater to both "overload" and "underactive" sensory needs, Berry explained.

The rooms differ noticeably. One is dark with special lighting, and includes a "crash pad" and tent-like structure, and a rainbow-lighted bubble machine. The other has bright colors, with ocean imagery and a slide/playground-like structure, hop-scotch, swings and more. The brighter room has playground-like equipment made possible by last year's Polar Bear Plunge, Berry said.

Sensory overload refers to becoming overwhelmed by one's sensory input. According to Insider, it is associated with certain health conditions more than others, such as autism, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder, though anyone can experience it.

Kids who are feeling more "underactive" may need more sensory input to liven up, Berry said. This can include playing or swinging, before ending in a more regulating activity.

Berry estimated that Beacon School has had sensory rooms for around a decade, though they have varied in what they contain. Sensory rooms not only help students regulate themselves during the school day, but also to help the students identify and meet their needs over the long term.

"So, over time we're really teaching them that in our lives [as] they get older, they know, 'OK, I can either go for a walk, I can go try to find a swing somewhere available," Berry said.

"They've got their toolbox of things that are ready to use."

Everyone has strategies for sensory or emotional regulation, Berry said. "Some of us use weighted blankets, some of us take medication. All of those are ways to help us regulate," she said. "Everybody's got their own thing ... It's just a matter of, does that sensory need rule your life."

Berry has seen the difference the sensory rooms make in her work as a speech therapist.

"When I've seen students [here] in the past, I've actually gotten way more language out of them," she said. "Because when you're regulated, you can communicate better."

The VFW can't take all the credit for the post's donations to Beacon School, commander Johnson said. He and other post members stressed that "without the local fire departments and EMS rescue units, it couldn't happen."

Ultimately, Johnson said, the post is a conduit for the generosity of many.

"The big thing is that it's not the VFW giving them the money," Johnson said. "It's the community. We're just the coordinator of the event. But it's actually the community that's given the money."

Stay up to date with Beacon School and Albany VFW Post 9839, located at 3025 Dickson Rd. in Albany, on Facebook.

Photos by Keri Johnson / Athens County Independent.

TAGGED ACBDD ACCOMMODATIONS ALBANY ALBANY VFW **ALBANY VFW POST 9893** ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARIAN SMEDLEY BEACON SCHOOL **BECKY MARTIN BRIAN JOHNSON CELEBRATION CHILDREN CHARITY** CULTURE **EDUCATION COMMUNITY DISABILITY EVENTS HUMAN INTEREST KIDS** LAKE SNOWDOWN NEWS LAKE SNOWDEN POLAR BEAR PLUNGE POLAR PLUNGE VETERANS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS **WEST UNION**

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PREVIOUS POST

NEXT POST

after former director's arrest

members

Keri Johnson

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/acbdd-celebrates-athens-county-togetherness-for-this-year-s-dd-awarenessmonth/article_bd9d043e-bae0-11ed-94b9-fbaa7bba3068.html

ACBDD celebrates Athens County togetherness for this year's DD Awareness Month

By Kevin Davis Superintendent, ACBDD Mar 6, 2023



ACBDD Supt. Kevin Davis, front row on the left, poses with Beacon School students and Athens Middle School Student Council repri donated holiday gifts for students at Beacon School, yet another example of Athens County working together to support one anoth

Every year, March is designated as Development Disabilities Awareness Month, which focuses on people's diverse abilities and celebrates their contributions to our communities. For those of us at the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD), we do this every day, all year round. But, for the month of March, we take extra time to promote who we are and what we do to a wider audience.

Every year we pick a theme to capture what has been going on in the DD field locally or nationally. This year's theme is "Athens County Together." We chose this theme in order to help capture all the ways our county works together to support one another, especially those with developmental disabilities.

Athens County works together in helping to raise over \$50,000 for the Beacon School PTA through their efforts with the Polar Bear Plunge. We work together to support Mitzi Lou's, a social enterprise business that provides training and professional opportunities to those with developmental disabilities. We see our sense of togetherness in the acts of one student at Tri-County who went above and beyond to help a fellow student with cerebral palsy. We see our supportive spirit in the individuals who organized a new swimming education program specifically for youth with disabilities.

We are fortunate to share these stories and more in this year's ACBDD Special Edition. New this year is our partnership with the Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program. Students in this program have written stories on our behalf – yet another demonstration of community partners working together to enhance the lives of others by shining a spotlight on their contributions to the community.

We are proud to live and work in Athens County where incredible things happen every day to support, protect and empower our neighbors with developmental disabilities. After reading these stories, we hope you have a deeper understanding and appreciation of this profession and feel just as proud to support our work.

Thank you.

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/tri-county-student-invents-apparatus-to-help-student-with-cerebral-palsy/article_d5b5bbb4-bae1-11ed-b9d3-c30eade79583.html

Tri-County student invents apparatus to help student with Cerebral Palsy

By August Steinmetz 360 Journalist Mar 7, 2023



Jake McMichael demonstrating the welding assist apparatus he built for classmate Aaron Rumer. By August Steinmetz 360 Journalist NELSONVILLE — Aaron Rumer is one of the hundreds of Tri-County Career Center and High School students. The 18-year-old from Logan applied in his sophomore year to the school, which offers everyone opportunities — regardless of age, sex, race, or disability — the chance to further a career.

Rumer lives with Cerebral Palsy, which affects a person's ability to move and maintain posture as it deteriorates muscles. Rumer is a student in Building and Property trades. Just like everyone else in his starting class, he was taught the basics of welding. Cerebral Palsy makes the length of time it takes to properly weld more difficult for Rumer but, with a steel resolve, support from his teacher and a little help from his classmate, Jake McMichael, Rumer has adapted and learned to perform these trades exceptionally well.

"My cerebral palsy kind of makes it a little bit harder to weld. I have a problem with jerking — it makes it not straight. And he kind of helped with that," Rumer said of McMichael.

After noticing that Rumer was having some trouble supporting his own wrist while welding, McMichael began to brainstorm an idea for an arm support that would help Rumer with his arm strength to weld. McMichael took two days to brainstorm the idea for the device, which would help Rumer's arm pivot in different directions and support his forearm with a brace that tilts forwards and backward. Additionally, nuts and bolts inside the apparatus allow for the device to be moved up and down to different heights and shifted into different positions.

After multiple drafts for the idea, McMichael got to work.

For McMichael, this is the first project he's ever created with the intent of aiding someone else and helping a fellow classmate.

"I made an arm stand at the beginning of my junior year long before I was actually good at welding," McMichael said. "I ended up scrapping it."

McMichael used his creativity and compassion to begin working on another armstand. His second attempt at this stand was guided by his previous knowledge of attempting to craft it. However, this attempt was successful.

In only two and a half school periods, McMichael surprised Rumer with the concept and approached him with the device. He then showed Rumer how to use it. From there, the two of them worked together to create an optimal device for both function and comfort.

"It was fun figuring the project out," said McMichael. "It kept me busy and I wanted to help."

The welding program's instructor, Brian Withem, was surprised by McMichael's kindness and initiative. Described by Withem as a "kind and compassionate kid," McMichael is seemingly always crafting something in the welding lab in order to enhance his skills and create something. In this case, the device welded a deeper bond between the boys.

"I'm very appreciative that he was able to come up with something that could possibly help. The fact that it has helped me at all is amazing," Rumer said.

"I never thought that with this disability I would be able to get out in the workforce and Tri-County has given me that opportunity. People like Jake help me get one step closer to helping me find my own path," he added.

Since the crafting of the device was successful, McMichael says that he is "really glad to see that he was able to use it." McMichael also hopes to help Rumer improve the design, if possible, in the future.

Labs like Welding and Building and Property Trades help open students up to all kinds of opportunities. From job offers to friendships, all of it can be found within the walls of Tri-County. And in McMichael's case, Tri-County offers a call to action that can change the course of someone's life and career.

August Steinmetz is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

August Steinmetz

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/job-club-at-beacon-school-is-a-pathway-to-employment/article_27bd9f4e-bae2-11ed-ae41-33ef4fcaf735.html

Job Club at Beacon School is a pathway to employment

By Luke Duncan 360 Journalist Mar 8, 2023



Job Club learning takes place in and out of the classroom. A recent field trip took the students to a dining hall on Ohio University's caread a question to the dining hall manager.

Four divisions of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD) have joined forces to create a pivotal opportunity for Beacon School students. They call this creation "Job Club." Its purpose is to help the young adult students, ages 14–21, prepare for life after school.

Technically, Beacon has always had a Job Club. However, representatives from various parts of the agency pooled resources to make it into the fleshed-out and community-minded program it is today.

The club takes place once a week and teaches life and work skills such as hygiene, appropriate behavior and dress at work and more.

A recent addition to the curriculum is a mock store, which is connected to a previously constructed mock apartment. Students can learn to stock shelves, scan items and work the cash register. In the mock apartment, they can practice hospitality skills by making beds. Eventually, the program will prepare students to manage a coffee cart within the school. They will prepare coffee and snacks to sell to staff from the cart, which will give them practice selling items and handling money. For students interested in the food service industry, learning these skills plus the proper methods for processes like hand washing and wearing hair nets is invaluable.

Besides the in-classroom experiences, Doug Mitchell, the ACBDD's transition coordinator, helps the class set up field trips into the community once a month. These trips are an opportunity for the students to see what different types of jobs look like, as well as learn how to order and pay for their own food.

"I think it's been a wonderful addition to the curriculum at Beacon School, and it's been great to see the divisions within the agency have been able to pull together to create this great experience for our kids," said Becky Martin, principal at Beacon.

Between PersonnellPlus, Transition Services, Integrate Athens and Beacon School, each division of the ACBDD plays a part in Job Club's success. Their unique jobs make for a diverse curriculum.

PersonnelPlus is the employment services arm of the ACBDD. They help individuals in the community gain and maintain employment. PersonnelPlus originally developed Job Club, and is responsible for constructing the club's curriculum each month.

In the two weeks out of the month that they teach, they have three employment specialists who talk to students about different jobs, job applications and job interviews. The two remaining weeks of the month are taught either by Integrate Athens or Transition Services.

Transition Services' goal is to reach students as early as possible to prepare them for life after school and to help them get as many experiences as possible. It doesn't matter what kind they are — community engagement (volunteering), job training, or something else — the goal is to learn about as many jobs as possible before graduation, so they can make a decision about what to do once they're out of high school.

"We're not telling them what the next step is, but we're helping them figure out what they want it to be," said Mitchell.

Integrate Athens' area of focus is community connections and inclusion. They partner with other divisions of the ACBDD to get students into volunteering opportunities.

Integrate's main goal is to get students connected with resources within the community that can help them to provide for themselves. Graduated students can take these opportunities to do things like open a small business. Integrate Athens also partnered with the Dairy Barn Arts Center for a project to make greeting cards. This gave students an experience with art, the opportunity to learn a skill, and got them into the community.

The fruit of the four divisions' labor has created an opportunity for students to not only learn about jobs but also witness them firsthand and be prepared for life after high school. According to Angela Carter, director of PersonnelPlus, Job Club started at Beacon as a pilot program since it is part of the ACBDD. However, the agency plans to expand and offer it in other schools within the area as well.

Luke Duncan is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

Luke Duncan

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/project-search-of-southeast-ohio-celebrates-five-years-ofoperation/article_0447046e-bae3-11ed-9276-3b64acfd9e93.html

Project SEARCH of Southeast Ohio celebrates five years of operation

By August Steinmetz and Luke Duncan 360 Journalists Mar 9, 2023



Vermonica Warrener, 19, (right) interns in the nutrition department at OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital, with manager Dawn Bennett

ATHENS — Since its inception, Project SEARCH has over 600 sites spanning 42 states and 11 countries. One of those locations is in Southeast Ohio — which just celebrated its five-year anniversary. This particular location, which operates out of OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital in Athens, is the only Project SEARCH branch in Southeast Ohio. Tri-County Career Center,

O'Bleness, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) and Capabilities (another Athensbased organization that aims to help those with disabilities) all make the program what it is today.

The celebration of the five-year partnership was held in the form of an open house at O'Bleness on Oct. 24, where both current and prospective Project SEARCH interns were in attendance. Tri-County staff members, Project SEARCH associates and employees of the businesses who help fund Project SEARCH were all gathered at the celebration for a tour and plaque ceremony.

"We are proud to host the Project SEARCH program again this year," said LeeAnn Lucas-Helber, president of OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital. "Our associates work closely with the Project SEARCH interns and ultimately we all benefit from the relationships that develop over the course of the program. The students gain valuable career skills and our hospital gains from the many contributions the students make. The program gives our associates the opportunity to practice one of our core values, inclusion, every day."

Before the presentation, prospective Project SEARCH students were given a pre-assessment to gauge the students' general knowledge of the program. Afterward, Kelly Smith, the lead instructor and program coordinator for the Athens branch, presented an award for O'Bleness for five years of partnership with Project SEARCH. The award was accepted on the hospital's behalf by Brianna Edwards, who is its benefits and compensation manager.

In the presentation, viewers were shown what a day in the life of a Project SEARCH student looks like at O'Bleness. Students learn daily life skills and the Project SEARCH curriculum before going to internship areas in the hospital. Before leaving for the day, the students return to the classroom to reflect on experiences at the job sites.

Despite the job-like structure of the program, Project SEARCH still functions as if the interns were in school. They follow their school's schedule for breaks, cancellations and delays. It does not run on a graded basis like a normal high school program, because eligible students have already completed all the necessary credits to graduate high school. All they have to do in Project SEARCH is prove they can commit to the program. Success or failure in the program is directly linked to their ability to show initiative and show up every day, not proficiency in the academics they learn.

Project SEARCH started with an idea. Erin Riehle was the director of Cincinnati Children's Emergency Department, where Project SEARCH was founded. The hospital, for as long as it has been in operation, has served individuals with disabilities. However, despite all of its services offered, Riehle still felt that Cincinnati Children's Hospital was missing an important element: disabled employees who could represent and advocate for their clientele. The positions that Riehle was looking to fill involved tasks that required lots of systematic thinking. These positions were entry-level and had a high turnover rate.

Riehle took her idea to Susie Rutkowski, who was the special education director at Great Oaks Career Campuses, and their partnership was instantaneous. Together, they launched Project SEARCH.

After the presentation was finished, two former interns of the Athens Project SEARCH branch spoke about their experience in the program. Nicholas Roberts, who was an intern in the 2021-2022 school year, learned good communication skills, eye contact, responsibility and money management. Roberts worked at the front desk and in the gift shop. Currently, he works at Holiday Express in Athens and lives in his apartment with fellow former intern, Vin Haddox, who spoke after Roberts finished. Haddox worked in the radiology, nutrition and facilities departments. He learned to pay bills, do laundry, manage money, drive and care for himself.

During the tour, attendees were shown the possible departments potential interns could intern at throughout the program's three 10-week internship rotations. Those departments are nutritional care, environmental work, volunteer work, Procedural Care Unit training, radiology training, storeroom work, facilities training, sterile processing experience, physical therapy and emergency room training. Students can rotate between areas to gain a more robust set of skills and are encouraged to develop personal independence and confidence within the workforce.

Vermonica Warrener, 19, interns in the nutrition department. Guided by its manager, Dawn Bennett-Roach, Warrener operates in complete independence while at the job site. Not only does Warrener prepare meals and other food, but she also does dish work and maintenance duties in the kitchen without any problems.

"It's been good," Warrener said. "It made me want to go to college for culinary arts and start my own business."

When students choose to pursue an internship with Project SEARCH, they are offered valuable benefits such as multiple internships, marketable job skills, gained independence, confidence, self-esteem, job coaching and professional links to other agencies for career opportunities.

August Steinmetz and Luke Duncan are student journalists with Tri-County Career Center and High School's Sports Journalism and New Media program.

August Steinmetz

Luke Duncan

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/freezing-for-15-000-reasons/article_4be393b4-bae3-11ed-95b9-4739ddeb0dfa.html

FEATURED

Freezing for 15,000 reasons

By Achilles Wesney 360 Journalist Mar 10, 2023



On Feb. 4, 2023, the Albany VFW Post 9893 held the 5th Annual Polar Bear Plunge at Lake Snowden in Albany, Ohio, raising \$15,000 in the process.

During the Polar Bear Plunge, community members enter a freezing cold body of water in order to raise awareness and funds for a charitable cause. This year's charitable cause was the students of Beacon School, which is a part of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD).

Participants pledge a sponsoring amount and ask others to sponsor them as well, before the event. Community members wait their turn before going and taking off any coats or robes they had been wearing. Most would mentally prepare themself for the shock they will soon experience. But of course, others will run right in and think later.

As they get in the water, it becomes obvious just how cold it is based on the twisted and exaggerated expressions of "oh no" flash onto participants' faces. Some members of the community will even hold bets between themselves to see who will stay in the longest.

A few of the groups that participated this year include Ohio University students, veteran services, Larry's Dawg House, sponsoring organization WSEO/WAIS radio personnel and many more.

Attendees are advised to wear loose-fitting and lightweight clothing so they can get the clothing off easily even with numb fingers. They also advise this so they can get out of the water quickly and not be weighed down.

This year, unlike others, the Albany VFW decided to sell polar bear hats, each for just \$10.

After the selling of hats and over 200 members signing their warmth away to the plunge, the Albany VFW raised a total of \$15,000.

Previously, the money was used for school field trips and supplies, although the recent funds were used to make the school's two sensory rooms a better experience.

Achilles Wesney is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

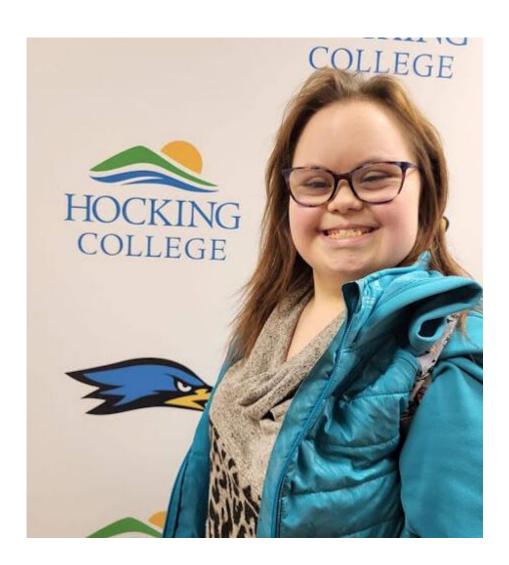
Achilles Wesney

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/albany-teen-becomes-newest-hocking-college-enrollee/article_d325f23c-bae7-11ed-9528-6f204193efad.html

FEATURED

Albany teen becomes newest Hocking College enrollee

By Addison Wright 360 Journalist Mar 13, 2023



Submitted photo

College.

"It is a life experience that most young adults go through: moving on, learning new things, being more independent," said Margaret Demko, mother to Emily Demko.

When experiencing life, teens often go through the process of high school and applying for college. This is no different for Demko, 18, of Albany, one of the newest Hocking College Hawks studying Canine Assistance Services.

Demko enjoys her life just as any other teen would; she also just happens to have Down syndrome.

"Emily's disability does not affect her to the point where she is more different than others her own age. She is much more alike than not," her mother said.

Demko enjoys listening to Taylor Swift, Justin Bieber and One Direction along with some '80s rock. When she's not on her feet working, she can be found in her room sporting her Beats headphones, crafting, surfing the internet or coloring.

Demko has Trisomy 21, the most common type of Down syndrome. The syndrome affects her cognitive abilities, to a certain extent, and her hearing.

Demko does not let her disability affect her everyday life. When she's not at home or school she can be found at Applebee's bussing tables. Her evenings and weekends are spent on East State Street in Athens working 12-15 hours a week.

Demko says she loves her job at Applebee's, especially when someone she knows walks in. She said she has become proficient at bussing tables. By far her favorite thing about working there, though, is the free burger and her share of the tip jar.

"Emily is very determined and knows what she likes and what she doesn't like, and is strong-willed in making things happen for herself," said Margaret.

In the past, Demko has been the Albany Fair Junior Miss, an Alexander Spartan cheerleader and holds her cadet status in the Girl Scouts of America.

In a study from 2015, the most recent year of study conducted, the National Center for Education Statistics revealed that of the 20.2 million students enrolling in colleges in 2015, 2.42 million or 11.1% of students have some kind of disability. This includes Down syndrome.

Demko's mother made a post on Jan. 28 announcing that Emily had been accepted into college.

"College – Something that seemed so out of reach and like a pipedream for 'a kid like her," Margaret wrote.

"I just smiled," Demko said.

Margaret feels this is a good start for daughter, who works better in a smaller class setting where she is able to concentrate on one thing that she loves - dogs.

She explained that Emily was excited, curious and joyful on their visit to the classrooms, grooming center and boarding kennel at Hocking.

"Honestly, I was so happy for her I was crying, but then I was scared to death for her. Scared she would get lost, scared she would be so nervous she would freeze up and not be able to reach out by phone or by asking for help," Margaret said of Emily. "But, this is an incredible experience for Emily and I know she will power through the way she always has."

Emily will start at Hocking this fall and will spend the next two years learning canine therapy and dog grooming. She said she was most excited to tell everyone she was now a "Hocking College Hawk" and has been sporting her new school colors ever since.

"I am thankful to everyone who has helped get her where she is able to have this opportunity in front of her. Her teachers, her supporters, her county board of DD support, her friends. Everyone that has shaped her into who she is, and a person who is being afforded this chance to succeed at Hocking," said Margaret.

Demko says she is unsure what the future holds for her, an uncertainty shared by many young adults as they embark on a new adventure like college. But, she says she is excited to continue her education.

Addison Wright is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

Addison Wright

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/beacon-school-custodian-loves-his-work-sets-examples-forothers/article_6564194e-bae8-11ed-ae05-1b4c1068f504.html

FEATURED

Beacon School custodian loves his work, sets examples for others

By Addison Wright 360 Journalist Mar 14, 2023



"I've been at that school a long time. It's my favorite school."

Wade Bullock, 50, alumni of Beacon School in Athens and current employee, takes pride in his work and enjoys the time he is able to spend at Beacon.

Beacon School, a branch of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD), provides special education to five school districts in Athens County for those with developmental disabilities ages 3-21.

As a custodian at Beacon, Bullock spends his time cleaning up after current students.

"They sure know how to make a mess. That's why I call them little piggies," Bullock said while chuckling. "It's a good job. I clean floors and tables and chairs, mop the floor. I do the gym, too."

When the sun is shining and the weather nice, Bullock can be found cleaning the pavement, which is sometimes covered in chalk dust and drawings.

Chris Linscott, facilities and transportation director at the ACBDD, is Bullock's supervisor. He supports Bullock by answering questions and ensuring he has what is required to go about his work day.

"Wade is a really remarkable guy, and I think the more you get to know him, the more likable he is. It's hard not to like Wade. He's a funny guy, and he likes to joke around," Linscott said. "He's just a really positive influence to everyone around him, and we're grateful that he's a part of the county board."

Linscott explained that Bullock is friendly, welcoming and a pleasure to supervise.

"He's good at telling jokes but also works hard to make sure that all the students at Beacon have a clean and sanitary place to eat and the gym remains clean and safe," he said.

Linscott talked about Bullock's friendliness and how he is typically smiling and laughing.

"He's very welcoming, even while he's working. He takes time to greet people, ask how they're doing, how their day is going," Linscott said. "Just a very encouraging person to know."

Mary Howell, Bullock's temporary service and support administrator (or SSA), provides support to Bullock by helping him with anything he needs, such as adding services to his plan.

"I am proud of Wade for his self-advocacy. I think it's great to see him take pride in his home and his community. I'm also proud of him for all the success he's had with this job as a janitor at ACBDD," Howell said.

Linscott said the ACBDD is lucky to have Bullock and the opportunity to be able to see his successes over the years.

When Bullock isn't at work, he can be found pitching a tent, reeling in a rod, striking down bowling pins or shooting hoops.

His plan is to work at Beacon until he retires and enjoy his ability to give back to his community.

"I don't wanna work no more jobs," Bullock said. "That's the only one I'll get."

Addison Wright is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

Addison Wright

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/choosing-careers-in-the-developmental-disabilities-field/article_d6bac0a2-bae8-11ed-8bd4-931ee6ff0ec5.html

FEATURED

Choosing careers in the developmental disabilities field

By Luke Duncan 360 Journalist Mar 15, 2023



Davey McNelly Lifetouch National School Studios Inc. Imagine a world without the caretakers, caseworkers and teachers who care for the people in the world living with disabilities. Jobs within the developmental disability field are crucial and in high demand.

Service Support Professional, Intervention Specialist, Direct Support Professional and Paraprofessional are just four of these jobs. Two require college degrees, and two don't.

Jobs that require a college degree:

Service and Support Administrators (SSA) help those with developmental or intellectual disabilities and their team to access necessary services or funding, as well as map out a life plan so they can be successful.

To be an SSA, a college degree in social work, education, special education or other associated degree is required.

Davey McNelly is an SSA with the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD) and has been for a decade.

As an SSA, the relationship with an individual can continue for years. Some have been with McNelly for around a decade. He said it's amazing to watch their growth and change over the years and support them through different stages of the life process.

According to McNelly, some of the best things he's been able to do as an SSA were helping people move out of care facilities and into community living. He has also helped people get vouchers to purchase or rent their own home and live independently.

If not housing vouchers, an SSA can assist people in finding and paying for a caretaker to provide support to them, as well.

Intervention Specialists, also known as special education teachers, specialize in modifying and adapting school material and curriculums to fit the needs of the students they teach. They work to meet educational and sensory needs as well as language and communication needs.

In order to be an Intervention Specialist, one must have a degree in education or special education. However, there are some non-traditional pathways the Department of Education has allowed because of a shortage in the field. Even without those degrees, a degree in

another field can have possible pathways to work towards an intervention specialist license.

Susan Cablish-Kristofco acted as a substitute teacher at Beacon School while completing her master's in moderate to intensive special education, and went to school specifically to work as an intervention specialist at Beacon.

Cablish-Kristofco has been serving on the ACBDD for eight years. A highlight of her time with the ACBDD was when she heard a nonverbal student read independently the first time.

"We contacted the mother, and we told her. We were like, 'This student is reading,' and she cried. She's like, 'They told me she would never talk.' We were like, 'Well guess what?" said Kristofco with a laugh. "She did read and is reading."

Jobs that do not require a college degree

While an SSA handles more administrative-oriented tasks, the Direct Support Provider (DSP) works closely and personally with the individual in person and frequently. They are the front line, going into their homes, building a relationship and learning the individual's needs, as well as taking them out of the house for trips like shopping. DSPs can offer both physical and mental care.

While only a high school diploma is needed for any educational requirements, there is still necessary training for the job. DSPs can be hired from private agencies such as The Sech-Kar Company, Havar, Inc., or Echoing Hills. They can also work independently. An SSA does the paperwork to make sure an individual who needs a Direct Support Provider gets one.

When Michala Ashley, a DSP for Echoing Hills in Athens, was younger, she would skip school by pretending to be sick and spend the day at her mom's office, which was also Echoing Hills. She spent lots of time there and eventually decided to make it her job in her senior year of high school. She has been a DSP for more than seven years now.

A paraprofessional is an instructor assistant. They help teachers prepare their lessons and help students with their personal hygiene, eating or academic needs. Anything a teacher or student could possibly need, a paraprofessional has it covered.

Chris McLain is a paraprofessional at Beacon and has been for 10 years. She's there to help teachers in any way necessary. She aids students in swimming, toilet and diaper procedures, instructional events, feeding, teaching and more. McLain has seen kids who were nonverbal when they arrived come in and start using their first words. She gets to watch their confidence and potential grow with each passing day.

"I could've quit working a long time ago, but I've stuck around for the fun." McLain said.

Every one of these positions is in high demand and some are suffering from shortages. Without the people in these jobs, so many resources and opportunities are lost to those who desperately need them.

"We hear things like 'Oh, working in the field of developmental disabilities is challenging but rewarding!' It really is, on a daily basis," said Cablish-Kristofco. "It's amazing, like, we do amazing things, and we see kids do amazing things. I think people don't fully realize the risk-to-reward kinda thing, you know? I wouldn't want to do anything else. I love it."

Luke Duncan is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

Luke Duncan

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/cox-turns-disability-into-limitless-possibility/article_7ba22ea2-bae9-11ed-aa68-474827ce1394.html

FEATURED

Cox turns disability into limitless possibility

By Cade Stoneman 360 Journalist Mar 16, 2023



When it comes to football, most people want to be a quarterback, running back, wide receiver or even a big defensive player. Many do not ever think about one of the most important players on the team - the kicker.

Caden Cox is the first-ever individual with Down syndrome to play college football and score a point in college, kicking his way into the history books. Cox, 22, graduated from Hocking College in December, but not before making his mark in many different ways.

"It's awesome to feel included," stated Cox referring to his team.

Cox was at football practice at Fremont Ross High School in northern Ohio, practicing his kicking skills during high school. At the time, Cox had never played the game of football.

Caden's father, Kevin, heard the head coach say, "You know what? Put Caden in to let him kick in the JV game."

The fathers reaction was, "What!?"

Cox then went on to get cleared with a sports physical and became the starting junior varsity kicker for the football team.

In Cox's high school and college career, he never missed an extra point attempt.

"There was one game he actually kicked seven for seven, so their team won 49-0. So I said you basically scored a touchdown with your kicks," stated Cox's Mother, Mari.

His longest field goal is 35 yards. Cox's football career was inspired by his big brother, Zane, a kicker and punter in college.

Cox currently lives in Nelsonville with his mother, Mari, and father, Kevin. His dream is to one day be able to move to Los Angeles.

Cox's accomplishments have received a lot of attention and love the past couple years. He even got the opportunity to meet the Ohio State football team, along with head coach Ryan Day, with ESPN featuring him on live television.

Cox is a bright young man, excelling in and out of the classroom. In college, he finished with a 3.72 grade point average. Cox is loved all over the world on social media and in school. Currently, he has around 325,000 followers on TikTok. He was crowned Homecoming King both in high school and in college for the annual homecoming football games to kickoff the Homecoming activities, including the dances.

"I don't think Caden knows how much he has accomplished," Mari said.

Cox not only did football for a sport. In high school, he did shot put and discus for track and field. He swam at Ohio State University and became a gold medalist. He also became a black belt in Taekwondo. The National Junior College Athletic Association Foundation awarded Cox the Champion award in North Carolina. In addition, he has four NIL contracts.

Cox loves to be a performer and spokesperson. He was inducted into the International Thespian Society for drama and acting. He has been given the opportunity to speak in West Virginia, Virginia, and Michigan for the Down Syndrome Association. Cox was also granted the opportunity to speak at the Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools in Ohio, and he received the Youth of the Year award in Virginia because of his leadership.

Want to find Cox's socials? He is most popular on TikTok and Instagram. His username for both platforms is "kickinitwithcaden."

"Using your abilities to show possAbilities" is Cox's motto that he stands by everyday.

Cade Stoneman is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

Cade Stoneman

https://www.sjnm360.com/acbdd/shining-a-spotlight-on-dsps-the-backbone-of-the-developmental-disabilities-field/article_2f733a48-baea-11ed-8795-2b82881e4161.html

FEATURED

Shining a spotlight on DSPs — the backbone of the developmental disabilities field

By Achilles Wesney 360 Journalist Mar 17, 2023



The developmental disabilities field in Ohio has many professions that function to make a robust support system for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. One field in particular is considered the backbone of this field — those are Direct Support Professionals,

or DSPs.

"As a DSP, we are mentors, leaders and emotional caretakers," said Brenda Bailey, an employee of ResCare —a trusted community living service — for nearly four years.

"It's a very rewarding career but yet some days can be very hard. They truly depend on us for all their needs," Bailey said.

Direct support professionals may have tasks such as taking an individual to a doctor's appointments, teaching them how to cook, using computers and other electronics, doing crafts, cleaning, and transferring them from place to place.

Tiffany Bush, also a DSP at ResCare, said she enjoys watching individuals learn and be successful.

"Being a DSP is a job that requires a lot of compassion, empathy and patience," she said. "I like being able to do things with them that make them happy."

Whether it be baking, taking individuals to look at Christmas lights, going to church, or even going to Zoombezi Bay for a fun outing, DSPs work to provide any number of experiences.

"There are a lot of intrinsic rewards that come with this job, so it isn't just fulfilling a financial need, but the job also helps you find a purpose," said Bush. "You are impacting these individuals with everything that you do, and there are very few jobs that are so fulfilling."

Bailey agrees.

"It's a rewarding job but some days you have to go above and beyond for your people. They depend on us to be there for them because some have no family for support and sad to say some have a family with still no support at all."

Although the career can be challenging at times, both Bailey and Bush enjoy their jobs and suggest others consider it for themselves.

Achilles Wesney is a student journalist with Tri-County Career Center and High School's New Media+ program.

Achilles Wesney



March 5, 2023

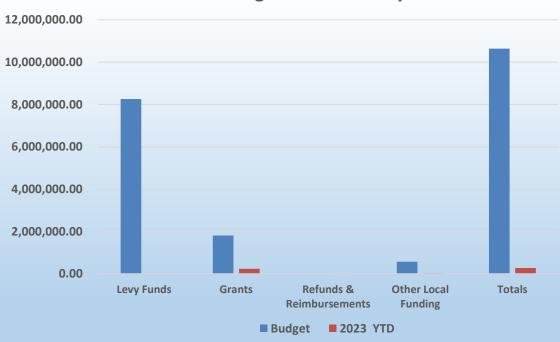
Notice to the Board and all Stakeholders:

The followings schedules detail the financial performance of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities as of March 5, 2023. All schedules are reconciled with the financial records of the Athens County Auditor's office as of this day.

February 2023							
Revenues	Revenues Expenditures						
General Tax	-	Salaries - Employees	279,650.30				
Trailer Tax	-	Medical Insurance	414.52				
Homestead & Rollback	-	Health Insurance	73,173.02				
Grants	112,241.80	Dental	14,073.16				
Sales & Copies	596.40	Vision	2,990.18				
Other	98.27	Life Insurance	553.17				
Refunds	-	Medicare	3,738.92				
Reimbursements	19,931.04	Workers Compensation	-				
Gifts & Donations	1,496.65	Public Empl Retire	40,105.29				
Other Non-Revenue (Misc)	-	Contract Services	19,771.95				
Transfers In	14,078.96	Non-Waiver Supported Living	52,388.07				
Capital Improvement Rev.	-	Rentals	2,550.00				
		Repairs / Maintenance	856.00				
Bond Investment Income	4.40	Supplies	9,386.78				
		Equipment	-				
	_	Other Expenses	30,723.79				
		Medicaid Waiver Match	-				
		Utilities	12,710.83				
		Advertising/Printing	155.00				
		Travel	1,170.72				
		Election Expense	· -				
		Fees-Settlement	-				
Total General Revenues	148,443.12	Total Expenditures	544,411.70				
		Revenues less Expenditures	(\$395,969)				



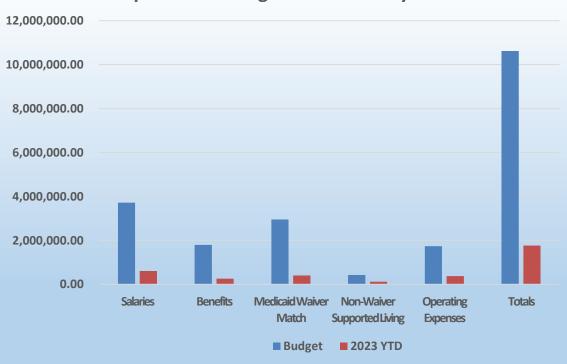
Revenue to Budget YTD February 2023



Revenue Groups	Budget	2023 YTD
Levy Funds	8,259,522.49	0.00
Grants	1,808,928.51	235,090.90
Refunds & Reimbursements	0.00	14,078.96
Other Local Funding	565,630.98	23,866.97
Totals	10,634,081.98	273,036.83



Expenses to Budget YTD February 2023



Expenditure Groups	Budget	2023 YTD
Salaries	3,716,723.14	609,161.90
Benefits	1,795,046.22	258,273.28
Medicaid Waiver Match	2,950,321.54	405,254.83
Non-Waiver Supported Living	425,411.20	119,368.64
Operating Expenses	1,736,967.81	370,954.28
Totals	10,624,469.91	1,763,012.93



2023	January	February	March	April	Мау	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Beg. Fund Balance	4,417,922.85	3,328,581.02	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75
Revenues	124,593.71	148,443.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenditures	1,213,935.54	(549,077.39)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ending Fund Balance	3,328,581.02	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75
Funds Transferred Out	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Adjusted Ending Balance	3,328,581.02	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75	2,927,946.75
Minimum Fund Balance (25%)	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48	2,656,117.48
Variance from Min Fd Bal	672,463.54	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27	271,829.27
Carryover Percentage	31.33%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%	27.56%

	Fund Number, Name	Balance
401	General Fund	2,927,946.75
403	Supported Living Fund	-
015	Beacon Bond Fund	2,825.66
404	Capital Improvement Fund	1,417,322.53
405	Waiver Reserve Fund	3,913,717.63
	Total Funds	4,348,094.94

Prepared by:

Scott Zielinski Director of Finance Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities 740-541-8473 szielinski@athenscbdd.org

ACBDD Expenses February 2023						
General 3401.520100 Medical Insurance 20230198 20230198 Medical Insurance Total: 414.52	Medical Mutual of Ohio Medical Mutual of Ohio	Claims for the Week Ending 2/3/2023 - HRA deductibles Claims for the Week Ending 2/17/2023 - HRA Deductibles	02/06/2023 02/17/2023	\$312.00 \$102.52		
3401.520101 Health Insurance 20230192 Health Insurance Total: 73,173.02	Stark County Educational Service Center	February, 2023 - Health insurance premiums less two employee deduction (February 2023)	02/24/2023	\$73,173.02		
3401.520300 Dental 20230208 Dental Total: 14,073.16	Stark County Educational Service Center	February, 2023 - Dental Insurance Premiums	02/24/2023	\$14,073.16		
3401.520400 Vision 20230214 Vision Total: 2,990.18	Stark County Educational Service Center	February, 2023 - Vision Insurance Premiums	02/24/2023	\$2,990.18		
3401.521100 Life Insurance 20230218 Life Insurance Total: 553.17	Stark County Educational Service Center	February, 2023 - Life Insurance Premiums of \$725.79 less employee premium payments of \$172.62	02/24/2023	\$553.17		
3401.522100 Medicare MEDICARE2023 Medicare Total: 3,738.92	Athens County Auditor	Medicare Contribution - February 2023	02/15/2023	\$3,738.92		
3401.525100 Public Empl Retire PERS/STRS2023 Public Empl Retire Total: 40,105.29	Athens County Auditor	PERS / STRS Contribution - February 2023	02/15/2023	\$40,105.29		
3401.530100 Contract Services 20230245 20230277 20230266 20230275 20230282 20230282 20230286 20230288 20230288 20230288 20230289 20230289 20230289 20230289 20230289 20230289 20230294 20230297 Contract Services Total: 19,771.95	Aramark Dallas Lockbox BCI Biancone, Sally Britto, LLC Career Connections, Inc. Career Connections, Inc. Career Connections, Inc. Career Connections, Inc. Cintas Corporation Cintas Cor	January, 2023 - Food Services January 2023 - BCI/FBI webchecks, rapback services January 2025 - February 13, 2023 - 21 hours of photography at \$25/hr - Polar Plunge, website, swimming, staff photos, Joe Burrow's Day, classroom pictures Brittos Software Monthly Subscription January 9 to 20, 2023 - 32 hours @ \$12.28/hr - Kitchen Assistant - K. Connor January 23 to February 3, 2023 - 32 hours @ \$12.28/hr - Kitchen Assistant - Conner February 6 to February 17, 2023 - 40 hours @ \$12.28/hr - Kitchen Assistant uniforms mats - PersonnelPlus mats - PersonnelPlus mats - PersonnelPlus mats - FersonnelPlus mats - PersonnelPlus mats - Beacon uniforms mats - Beacon mats - SSA mats - Beacon mats - SSA Amats - Beacon mats - PersonnelPlus mats - Beacon mats - SSA Total Total (1/20/23 - 2/22/23 1/12/2023 - Professional/Legal Services Athers Mobility Management 2023 Local Match Amount 1/2/27/2022 - Employee Physical - M. Walker February, 2023 - Brokerage and Consulting Services TCM review and billing for last month (January)	02/09/2023 02/06/2023 02/14/2023 02/13/2023 02/23/2023 02/23/2023 02/23/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/01/2023 02/01/2023 02/01/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/14/2023 02/08/2023 02/14/2023 02/08/2023 02/08/2023 02/14/2023 02/08/2023	\$7,765.48 \$293.25 \$525.00 \$1,480.00 \$479.88 \$479.88 \$533.20 \$42.97 \$19.26 \$19.26 \$19.26 \$93.29 \$42.97 \$19.26 \$36.11 \$93.29 \$19.26 \$36.11 \$93.29 \$19.26 \$19.26 \$19.26 \$19.26 \$19.26 \$36.11 \$93.29 \$19.26 \$19.2		
3401.530104 Non-Waiver Supported Living 20230139	Athens Metropolitan Housing Athens on Demand Blake-Morrison, Alexandra Blake-Morrison, Alexandra Blake-Morrison, Alexandra Blake-Morrison, Alexandra Blake-Morrison, Alexandra Blake-Morrison, Alexandra Budget Pest Control %Thomas Bailey Budget Pest Control %Thomas Bailey Capital One - Walmart Capital One - Walmart Charter Communications Operating LLC Circulo Health Services, Inc. Days Inn Athens Goodwill Industries of South Central Ohio, Inc. Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Athens Jago, Susan Jago, Susan R.H.D.D., Inc. R.H.D.D., Inc. Ripple, Thomas E. SOAR (Southern Ohio Adventures Recreation) Treasurer of State, %OH Dept of DD Treasurer of State, %OH Dept of DD	Tenant damaged stove, removed Broken window replaced on November 11/10/2022 754 ride tickets February 14-17, 2023 - HPC February 6-9, 2023 - HPC January 31 - February 3, 2023 - HPC January 24-27, 2023 - HPC January 24-27, 2023 - HPC First bed bug treatment Second bed bug treatment clothing, hygiene products, cooking utensils and food basic needs purchase due to relocation - clothing and hygiene products January 18, 2023 thru February 17, 2023 - Internet 2/18/23 - 3/17/23 - Internet December 6-15, 2022 - HPC 7 night stay at Days Inn (2/9 to 2/16) January 6-30, 2022 - Day Rate and transportation Emergency overnight accomodation pest control CHECK will be VOIDED 2/15/2023 This check was written to wrong vendor - VOID check January 23-31, 2023 - HPC and January 4-31 HPC Transportation Jan 17-31, 2023 - NMT and January 4-31 HPC Transportation September 13-17, 2022 - HPC January, 2023 - Mar Canada January 3-31 - 2023 - NMT January 12 and 26 - two one hour massage therapy treatments September 13-17, 2022 - HPC January, 2023 - Warrensville Developmental Center 6 of 89 January, 2023 - Warrensville Developmental Center 6	02/24/2023 02/01/2023 02/09/2023 02/22/2023 02/06/2023 02/09/2023 02/09/2023 02/01/2023 02/01/2023 02/14/2023 02/14/2023 02/24/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/21/2023 02/23/2023 02/23/2023 02/23/2023 02/23/2023 02/09/2023 02/09/2023	\$60.00 \$254.98 \$754.00 \$538.72 \$538.72 \$538.72 \$538.72 \$538.72 \$150.00 \$169.51 \$269.74 \$54.99 \$482.23 \$371.00 \$156.00 \$156.00 \$150.00 \$150.00 \$140.00 \$140.00 \$140.00 \$150.00 \$10		

20230139	Treasurer of State, %OH Dept of DD	January, 2023 - Gallipolis Developmental Center	02/09/2023	\$10,783.97
20230139	Treasurer of State, %OH Dept of DD	January, 2023 - Gallipolis Developmental Center	02/15/2023	\$10,783.97
20230139	Treasurer State of Ohio	January, 2023 - Gallipolis Developmental Center - WRITTEN TO WRONG VENDOR - CHECK #842298 VOIDED	02/09/2023	\$10,783.97
20230139 20230139	Treasurer State of Ohio Your Fresh Start Cleaning Services	This was written to wrong vendor - check #842298 voided on 2/15/2023 Maintenance Clean and dumpster fee -	02/15/2023 02/24/2023	-\$10,783.97 \$2,300.00
Non-Waiver Supported Living Total: 52,388.07				- ,
2404 F2040F Bentale (Other Ermanes Bent)				
3401.530105 Rentals (Other Expense - Rent) 20230151	Athens Community Center	3/21/2023 - Gym Reservation for DD Awareness Fest	02/06/2023	\$50.00
20230154	B & C Communications	March, 2023 - Repeaters	02/21/2023	\$100.00
20230160	City of Athens	March, 2023 - parking spot 30 in parking garage	02/17/2023	\$150.00
20230170 Rentals (Other Expense - Rent) Total: 2,550.00	Southeastern Ohio Management Company	March, 2023 - PersonnelPlus rent - 1002 East State Street Suite 5	02/02/2023	\$2,250.00
3401.530200 Repairs/Maint. (Contract Repairs) 20230053	National Deckaround Check, Inc.	Applied Duplings Cumpart & Majetanogas for Cafe Distances auctors 2/7/02 2/6/04	02/47/2022	\$740.00
20230055	National Background Check, Inc. Ohio Pest Control	Annual Business Support & Maintenance for SafePrintscan system 3/7/23-3/6/24 02/22/2023 - Beacon	02/17/2023 02/23/2023	\$740.00 \$55.00
20230055	Ohio Pest Control	1/26/2023 - SSA	02/09/2023	\$61.00
Repairs/Maint. (Contract Repairs) Total: 856.00				
3401.540100 Supplies				
20230312	AED Brands, LLC	Philips FRx AED (case, 8 year warranty, 4 year battery, Adult AED pads, AED Inspection Tag; and AED On-SIte Windows sticker)	02/22/2023	\$3,945.50
20230316 20230311	Amazon Capital Services Amazon Capital Services	two Microsoft Surface Docks post it flags and self stick envelopes	02/06/2023 02/01/2023	\$265.98 \$71.82
20230301	Amazon Capital Services Amazon Capital Services	positi ingo and sen suce interespes Cabinet Locks Child Safety Latches - Beacon	02/08/2023	\$15.98
20230308	Amazon Capital Services	Gorilla Grip Wire Shelf Liners - Beacon	02/21/2023	\$39.96
20230328 20230328	Amazon Capital Services Amazon Capital Services	Baby Steering Wheel Toy with Card sound; Hot Glue Gun and UNIH Spinning Top Sensorty Chew Necklaces; Sensory Chew Toys for Kids; and speech pathology associates chewy Q knob	02/06/2023 02/06/2023	\$56.45 \$51.92
20230328	Amazon Capital Services Amazon Capital Services	Thick It Instant Food And Beverage Thickener	02/06/2023	\$87.30
20230328	Amazon Capital Services	construction paper, binders; Music & Movement; Crayola Washable Tempera Paint; Mollybee Kids outdoor scavenger hunt cards - Preschool II	02/16/2023	\$92.63
20230328 20230312	Amazon Capital Services American Red Cross - Training Services	Mollybee kids toddler action cards and construction paper - Preschool II 3 CPR Practi-Shields	02/17/2023 02/09/2023	\$26.44 \$42.50
20230312	Classic Solutions	SUPPLIFICATION BUS Garage building supplies - Bus Garage	02/09/2023	\$60.73
20230336	Classic Solutions	building supplies- Beacon	02/02/2023	\$339.98
20230308 20230342	Johnstone Supply - Parkersburg Lowe's Home Centers, Inc. (Athens)	motor and capacitor - HVAC at Beacon building supplies - Beacon	02/14/2023 02/21/2023	\$644.01 \$11.34
20230342	Lowe's Home Centers, Inc. (Athens)	oniding supplies - Beacon building supplies - Beacon	02/21/2023	\$73.73
20230342	Lowe's Home Centers, Inc. (Athens)	building supplies - Beacon	02/01/2023	\$29.89
20230324 20230346	Ohio Cat Randy V. Moore Petroleum Distribution LLC	vehicle part 275 als of unleaded delivered on 2/1/2023 @ \$4.20/aal	02/02/2023 02/06/2023	\$94.52 \$1,155.00
20230346	Randy V. Moore Petroleum Distribution LLC	273 gals of timeaded delivered on 2 /1223 등 약-201gal 360 gals of diesel delivered on 2 /14/2023 ⑥ \$4.12(gal	02/00/2023	\$1,483.20
20230351	Staples Business Advantage	office supplies - PersonnelPlus	02/08/2023	\$89.24
20230351 20230312	Staples Business Advantage TFH	office supplies - PersonnelPlus Vibrating Sensory Pad	02/14/2023 02/06/2023	\$7.99 \$499.00
20230312	The Sherwin Williams Co.	violanii Genisoly rau paint - Beacon	02/02/2023	\$6.62
20230347	Uni-Select USA, Inc.	vehicle parts	02/01/2023	\$110.66
20230347 20230308	Uni-Select USA, Inc. USI	vehicle parts parts to fix Beacon laminator	02/02/2023 02/09/2023	\$35.80 \$48.59
Supplies Total: 9,386.78	031	parts to tix beacon raminator	02/09/2023	φ40.39
2404 560400 Other Evenese				
3401.560100 Other Expenses 20230060	American Red Cross - Training Services	2/8/23 - 4 Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED with Anaphylaxis & Epinephrine Auto-Injector	02/22/2023	\$144.00
20230060	Athens City-County Hlth. Dpt.	2023 Application for a License to Conduct a Food Services Operation	02/10/2023	\$567.00
20230060	Athens County Treasurer	2022 - Property Taxes at 801 West Union	02/24/2023	\$202.84
20230060 20230060	Athens County Treasurer Athens County Treasurer	2022 - Margarets Creek assessment - 801 W. Union 2022 - Margarets Creek Assessment - W. Union Street	02/17/2023 02/17/2023	\$519.42 \$24.15
20230060	Capital One - Walmart	snacks for OACB visit	02/14/2023	\$59.39
20230060	Integrated Services for Behavioral Health	ATCO LEGACY FUND - HIVE-ATCO 2022	02/08/2023	\$4,500.00
20230060 20230060	Kroger - Columbus Customer Charges MD Computer Services, Inc.	bottled water 3 plaque - VFW, Play Set, Polar Plunge	02/06/2023 02/22/2023	\$5.49 \$105.00
20230062	OACBDD	2023 OACB Membership Dues	02/06/2023	\$23,475.00
20230060 20230060	OSCBDD Passion Works Studio	OSCBD Annual Dues - 2023 - K. Davis Medium Official Passion Flowers	02/22/2023 02/06/2023	\$75.00 \$160.00
20230060	Southern Ohio Council of Governments	wedum United rassort Flowers 2023 - Advocacy Meeting Services and Representative Payee Services	02/00/2023	\$750.00
20230060	Treasurer of State of Ohio	1/15/23 boiler inspection	02/14/2023	\$68.25
20230060 Other Expenses Total: 30.723.79	Treasurer of State of Ohio	1/15/2023 - boiler inspection	02/14/2023	\$68.25
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
3401.560142 Family Support Services	Assessed Oscillat Oscilla	Advantage of the state of the s	00/47/000	#00 t 00
20230239 20230239	Amazon Capital Services Amazon Capital Services	Adorneve LED Bed Frame with outlets and bookcase - family support services NYZNIA Kids Sneakers; Japanese Blanket; Nintendo boys briefs, Tsmolluy sock and BDUCOK gaming sheets - family support services	02/17/2023 02/17/2023	\$334.98 \$140.96
20230239	Amazon Capital Services	Japanese Blanket; NYZNIA tennis shoes; Boys Fruit of the loom socks; DHP twin over full bunk bed; Hoomquing bed pillows; BDUCOK gaming sheets; & Pokemon Boys' underwear - far	02/17/2023	\$347.94
20230239	Amazon Capital Services	Transformers books - family support services	02/14/2023	\$416.50
20230239 20230236	Amazon Capital Services Athens County Juvenile Court	Apple 2021 10.2 inch iPad and case - family support services Custodial Guardian Documentation - family support services	02/14/2023 02/23/2023	\$427.90 \$115.00
20230236	Athens County Sewer	Custodial Guardian Documentation - Taminy support services Water 11/26/22 - 12/30/22 - family support services	02/23/2023	\$91.59
20230238	Capital One - Walmart	four phone cards - family support services	02/06/2023	\$160.00
20230238 20230238	Capital One - Walmart Capital One - Walmart	microwave - family support services cell phone and case - family support services	02/01/2023 02/15/2023	\$169.00 \$158.08
20230238	Capital One - Walmart	cen proter and uses - rating support services hygiene products and cleaning supplies -family support services	02/15/2023	\$200.00
20230238	Capital One - Walmart	groceries - family support services	02/15/2023	\$375.00
20230238 20230238	Capital One - Walmart Capital One - Walmart	clothing and groceries - family support services clothing - family support services	02/16/2023 02/17/2023	\$263.49 \$191.63
20230238	Capital One - Walmart	clothing - family support services	02/17/2023	\$175.31
20230238	Capital One - Walmart	depends - family support services	02/24/2023	\$49.36
20230236 20230236	Chauncey Water Department Huddle Tire & Auto	water bill - family support services tire - family support services	02/16/2023 02/14/2023	\$135.73 \$102.49
20230236	HuddleTire Discounters	repairs to power steering - family support services	02/23/2023	\$500.00
20230236	Menard, Inc.	four surround heaters - family support services	02/01/2023	\$139.96
20230236	Ohio University	Three month parking pass - family supper 67 of 89	02/21/2023	\$45.00

20230236		Rutland Bottle Gas	bottled gas - family support services	02/02/2023	\$125.77
	port Services Total: 4,665.69	Ruland Bottle Gas	bouled gas - railing support services	02/02/2023	ψ125.77
,,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				
3401.560186	6 Utilities				
20230016		American Electric Power	8 Harper Street electric from 1/13/23 - 2/10/23	02/16/2023	\$413.72
20230016		American Electric Power	Beacon electric 1/11/23 - 2/7/23	02/14/2023	\$991.72
20230016		American Electric Power	Bus Garage electric from 1/12/23 - 2/8/23	02/14/2023	\$207.50
20230467		AT & T Mobility	January 23 to February 22 - hot spots	02/06/2023	\$167.40
20230019 20230022		Athens-Hocking Co Recycling Centers, Inc	February, 2023 - SSA recycling	02/06/2023	\$15.99
20230022		BFS Petroleum Charter Communications Operating LLC	700.9 gals of LP PersonnelPlus internet 2/3/23 to 3/2/23	02/23/2023 02/09/2023	\$1,441.80 \$289.47
20230025		Charter Communications Operating LLC Charter Communications Operating LLC	Personnei Pus Internet 23/23 to 3/2/23 Bus Garage internet from 21/123 to 2/28/23	02/09/2023	\$289.47 \$602.40
20230023		City of Athens	Beacon water from 1/5/23 - 2/8/23 - 56,000 qals	02/09/2023	\$774.74
20230033		Columbia Gas	Beacon qual from 1/2/22 - 2/0/23 - 50,000 gais Beacon qual from 1/2/9/22 - 1/11/23	02/17/2023	\$711.73
20230036		Columbia Gas	PersonnelPlus gas from 1/16/23 - 2/14/23	02/17/2023	\$142.23
20230039		Frontier	February, 2023 - PersonnelPlus 740-593-8236	02/08/2023	\$70.62
20230039		Frontier	February, 2023 - SSA 740-797-0001	02/08/2023	\$45.98
20230039		Frontier	February, 2023 - MUI ad alarms 740-592-1098	02/08/2023	\$200.76
20230039		Frontier	February, 2023 - Beacon Fax 740-593-3189	02/08/2023	\$45.98
20230039		Frontier	February, 2023 - SSA 740-594-5048	02/06/2023	\$34.00
20230047		Gator Enterprizes and Document Shredding, Inc.	2/16/23 - Beacon	02/16/2023	\$72.10
20230041		Interstate Gas Co (IGS)	January, 2023 - Beacon gas	02/23/2023	\$1,155.63
20230044		Le-Ax Water Dept.	Bus Garage water 12/13/2022 - 01/10/2023 - 826 gals	02/02/2023	\$21.25
20230046		Shred-IT USA, LLC	FINAL BILL - Picked up tots for all locations	02/06/2023	\$276.12
20230048		SmartestEnergy US LLC	8 Harper Street electric 1/12/23 - 2/10/23	02/14/2023	\$1.80
20230048		SmartestEnergy US LLC	8 Harper Street electric 1/12/23 - 2/10/23	02/14/2023	\$113.67
20230048		SmartestEnergy US LLC	Bus Garage electric from 1/11/23 - 2/8/23	02/14/2023	\$90.50
20230048		SmartestEnergy US LLC	Beacon electric 1/10/23 - 2/7/23	02/14/2023	\$791.91
20230049		The Plains Water & Sewer District	Harper Street water from 1/3/23 - 1/30/23 - 1100 gals	02/15/2023	\$46.02
20230030		Time Warner	SSA and Garfield Internet 2/1/23 - 2/28/23	02/08/2023	\$554.90
20230030		Time Warner	Beacon internet 2/1/23 - 2/28/23	02/08/2023	\$603.00
20230051 20230052		Verizon Wireless Waste Management	January 8 to February 7, 2023 - phones February, 2023 - SSA Garage	02/16/2023 02/02/2023	\$2,424.09 \$97.97
20230052		Waste Management Waste Management	rentiarly, 2023 - SSA Garage Garbage	02/02/2023	\$118.30
20230052		Waste Management	reulualy, 2023 - Beacon Garbage February, 2023 - Beacon Garbage	02/02/2023	\$187.53
Utilities Tota	al: 12 710 83	waste management	rebruary, 2023 - Deacon Garbage	02/02/2023	\$107.55
Otinico roti	ai. 12,7 10.00				
3401.560200	Advertising/Printing				
20230059		First National Bank Omaha	Advertising on Indeed - #74016590	02/06/2023	\$66.00
20230059		Minuteman Press	500 Business Cards for Doug Mitchell	02/13/2023	\$89.00
Advertising	Printing Total: 155.00				
2404 E60200	Travel				
3401.560300	Travel	Dealer Minds A	Territ 1/10/00 - 0/17/00	02/22/2023	607.00
20230058 20230058		Drake, Nicole A. Goldsberry, Amy	Travel 1/9/23 - 2/17/23 Travel 1/13/23 - 1/27/23	02/22/2023	\$97.99 \$123.93
20230058		Hart, Jamie	Tave 1/12/23 - 1/2/1/23	02/07/2023	\$123.93 \$159.49
20230058		Medicaid Billing Solutions, Inc.	11342 11425 - 1131/23 SSA Bot Camp - January/February 2023 - M. Walker	02/02/2023	\$500.00
20230058		Mitchell, Jodi	Travel 1/3/23 - 1/3/123	02/01/2023	\$134.80
20230058		Putnam-Young, Stevie	Travel 1/3/2023 - 1/31/2023	02/01/2023	\$131.26
20230058		Walker, Melissa	Travel 1/11/23 - 1/23/23	02/02/2023	\$23.25
Travel Total	: 1,170.72	,			7-0.20
	•		General Total: 269,427.09		
	Supported Living				
3403.580100	Transfer Out				
2023Fund40			Transfer Out from Fund 403 to close out account	02/15/2023	\$14,078.96
Transfer Ou	t Total: 14,078.96		Owners of Michael Translated A 1770 00		

Supported Living Total: 14,078.96

Grand Totals:

\$283,506.05



Administration

801 West Union Street - Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: 740-594-3539 | Fax: 740-593-3189 | athenscbdd.org Dr. Kevin Davis, Superintendent

Human Resources Board Report March 2023

Gwen Brooks, Director of Human Resources

Searches in progress:

- Substitute Bus/Van Drivers
- Bus/Van Driver
- **Bowling League Coordinator**

New Hires:

- Brittany Stammler, Instructor Assistant, 2/27/2023
- Hannah Rowan, Camp Program Director (Temporary), 3/13/2023
- Tracy Clem, Custodial Worker, 3/20/2023



801 W. Union Street

Athens, Ohio 45701

Phone: (740) 594-3539









Phone: (740) 594-3539



F.A.N.s Program

9033 Lavelle Road

Athens, Ohio 45701







Phone: (740) 592-3416

Fax: (740) 593-8236







STAFF COUNT MARCH 2023

41			SUB/	Grand
Row Labels	FT	PT	TEMP	Total
Administration				7
Admin Support	1			1
Administration	6			6
Beacon	22	2	6	30
Admin Support	1			1
Administration	1			1
Adult Services	1			1
Dept. of Ed.	19	2	6	27
Early Intervention & Transition	2			2
Certification for El	1			1
Dept. of Ed.	1			1
Employment Options	3	3		6
Admin Support		2		2
Administration	1			1
Adult Services	2	1		3
Facilities/Transportation-Lavelle	7	6	2	15
Admin Support	1			1
Administration	1			1
Facilities	3	2	1	6
Transportation	2	4	1	7
Integrate Athens-Lavelle	1			1
Administration	1			1
SSA-Harper	21			21
Admin Support	1			1
Administration	3			3
Case Management	17			17
Summer Camp			1	1
CAMP			1	1
Grand Total	63	11	9	83

NEW HIRES MARCH 2023

NEW HIRES WARCH	1 2023		_
Row Labels	FT	SUB/ TEMP	Grand Total
Beacon			1
Dept. of Ed.	1		1
Facilities/Transportation-Lavelle	1		1
Facilities	1		1
Summer Camp		1	1
CAMP		1	1
Grand Total	2 2	1	3

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Human Resources Board Report Summary MARCH 2023

	Jan	Feb	Mrch	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov- Dec	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	Avg	Avg	Avg	Avg	Avg	Avg
STAFF COUNT	82	81	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		89.2	89.9	91.3	90.1	108.5
Full-time	61	61	63		20				38	200		61.7	63.8	66.1	67.7	68.3	76.7
Part-time	12	12	11									11.7	14.2	11.6	11.6	10.4	11.8
Sub/Temp	9	8	9									8.7	11.2	12.3	12.0	11.3	10000
												2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
									-			Totals	Totals	Totals	Totals	Totals	Totals
SEPARATIONS	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	33	34	4	21	25
Voluntary	1	3	1		60		, ,	100	20	65	n -	0	33	32	4	13	25
Involuntary	0	0	0					- 8	- 8		3		0	2	0	8	0
NEW HIRES	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	. 0	0	7	27	33	4	9	15
Full-time	1	1	2	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	4	8	8		6	1 70.70
Part-time	0	1	0		0).	3 3			- 35	20		4	2	8	2	0	1970
2/10/20/20/20		0	1			a 8					9 .	1		17	0	-	17.5
Sub/Temp	1	U	- 1		<.		, ,		- 39	6	b)	2	17	1/	0	3	8
TOTAL								10			.01				0 10		
GRIEVANCES	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0
ABEA In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arbitration	0	0	0	0	0	. 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABEA Resolved	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PGO In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Arbitration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
PGO Resolved	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	1	3
Teamsters in Progress	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0
Arbitration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Teamsters Resolved	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	,	1	1	0	2	
													2 2				
Workers Comp Claims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	4	5	0

Exhibit 10 Facilities and Transportation Board Report February 2023

- There has been a substantial increase in requests for use of Beacon facilities primarily the gym, though the pool has also been in use 4 days per week, outside of regular school activities. The gym is booked every weeknight through March, and we have had to turn away several local sports groups due to an inability to accept additional reservations.
- The Appalachian Family Center for Autism and Disability Resources and Education completed the first water safety and swim lesson program for ACBDD enrollees on February 25th, and celebrated the completion with a pizza party in the Beacon cafeteria! The partnership went very well, and we are in discussions to offer another program in the near future.
- Chris Linscott and Scott Zielinski visited Fairfield County Board of DD to view and discuss the Revolution lift chair as a possible addition to Beacon School pool.
- Facilities staff assisted in preparing Beacon for a wonderful Valentine's Day celebration in the gym. A great time was had by all!
- ACBDD and Beacon School successfully renewed our annual Food Service license with the Athens City County Health Department.
- Connie Benz resigned her position as a custodian with the ACBDD. Connie had been working part-time hours, however, her position will be posted with the full-time hours she was originally hired to fill.
- Chris Linscott and Gwen Brooks continued to conduct phone and in-person interviews for the open Custodian and Van/Bus Driver positions throughout the end of February.
- Facilities and PersonnelPlus staff completed the move of the store from The Market on State to Beacon school.
- Transportation staff provided bus transportation to the young adult class for a fieldtrip to Kroger on February 8th.
- Transportation staff provided bus transportation for a fieldtrip to Donato's Pizza on February 15th. This was Betsy Morgan's first fieldtrip with Beacon. Betsy is doing a wonderful job driving for the ACBDD, and we are grateful to have her as part of our team!
- Repairs and painting have begun in the maintenance space at Beacon School, which will be converted to school-based SSA space Summer 2023.
- Facilities staff continue planning for the first phase of moving PersonnelPlus to Integrate
 Athens (Bus Garage Lavelle Road). Phase One of the move is scheduled for the week of
 Beacon Spring Break.
- Chris Linscott is working with the State of Ohio DOE Transportation Division to ensure potential van purchases can meet long-term needs of Beacon and the greater ACBDD, while also adhering to ORC.
- Facilities staff met with Phil Griffith and staff from Kramer Engineers to discuss the Beacon roof project. Pemco Thermal Imagining has been contracted by Kramer to
- Completed a 3-D thermal scan of the entire roof for the Beacon facility to identify areas of damage in furtherance of the bid process. This scan was conducted Sunday, February 26th.

Exhibit 10 Facilities and Transportation Board Report February 2023

• Facilities and Transportation has begun using a newly created internal shared drive that will house Standard Operating Procedures for essential functions and services of ACBDD facilities. This shared drive should also increase efficiencies throughout the department and allow for an increased ability to seamlessly track and transfer information to various ACBDD departments and staff.



UI/MUI Board Report March 2023

Active MUI investigations: 24
Investigations Closed since Feb. 14th: 11
New MUIs filed 2/14/2023 through 3/13/2023: 14

Type of Investigation by Category	Filed Since 2/14/2023	Total Open
Attempted Suicide	0	0
Death	1	2
Law Enforcement	0	0
Neglect	1	2
Misappropriation	0	0
Exploitation	0	0
Failure to Report	0	0
Missing Individual	0	0
Physical Abuse	4	6
Verbal Abuse	3	4
Sexual Abuse	1	1
Peer to Peer	2	3
Significant Injury	0	1
Unapproved Behavior Support	1	1
Unanticipated Hospitalization	4	6
Medical Emergency	0	0

*Some MUIs have multiple categories & multiple individuals

MUI Department Updates:

State Filing System has been updated: **Ohio ITMS**Stakeholder Report now extended to July
Reminder that in-person UI/MUI Training always available
Working with interns on MUI Guide for Individuals & Families

Stephanie Kendrick

ACBDD UI/MUI Coordinator







ATCO Legacy Fund 801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 Fax: (740) 593-3189



Beacon School 801 W. Union Street Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 Fax: (740) 593-3189



F.A.N.s Program 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 Fax: (740) 593-3189



Integrate Athens 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-3539 Fax: (740) 593-3189



Employment Options & Personnel Plus

The Market on State 1002 E. State St., Suite 4 Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3416 Fax: (740) 593-8236



Service & Support 8 Harper Street The Plains, Ohio 45780 Phone: (740) 592-6006 Fax: (740) 594-5048



Transportation & Facilities 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-7489 Fax: (740) 594-5048



Board Submission By: Tristin Lawrence

Area of Supervision: Service and Support Administration

March 15, 2023

Department Highlights:

• Monthly collaboration meetings continue to occur between the SSA Department and Hopewell. March's meeting occurred on March 1st and the next meeting is scheduled for April 5th.

- On February 21st, MEORC hosted their first provider meeting at the Integrate Athens Office.
- On February 23rd several individuals from the SSA department attended the Tech Ambassadors Meeting at the Community Center. In addition to SSAs, there were attendees from other County Board Departments, those served, and providers.
- On March 2nd, the SSA Department had an in-person department meeting. Presenters for the meeting included Stephanie Kendrick, MUI; and Pennie Chapel from MEORC presenting on Medication Administration rules, regulations, protocols and best practices.
- On March 6th, the SSA Department was represented at the monthly Family and Children First Council meeting. SSAs working with children are attending, as availability allows, to provide up-to-date information for those engaged in DD services and cluster.
- On March 8th SSA Director participated in a Region 5 SSA Director's Meeting, discussing DODD updates, Ohio ISP updates, and regional supports. A meeting was also held on February 8th.
- On March 15th, three SSAs met with Ross County SSAs to share information learned through their experiences transitioning to the Brittco system for the Ohio ISP.

Developmental Center Updates:

- Planning meetings have continued for 4 individuals currently placed in developmental centers and for those admitted for stabilization. Discharge planning includes coordinated efforts between ACBDD, the Developmental Center(s), Providers, and Individual support teams.
 - o 1 individual was admitted for a stabilization on September 2, 2021. Due to current court orders, his discharge date is yet to be determined. ACBDD continues to work with DODD and his team in the search for ICF placement. A status review meeting was held on February 15th.
 - o 1 individual was admitted to GDC on February 22, 2022, for stabilization following a series of high-risk activities that affected her health and safety. A status review meeting was held in February and the next meeting is scheduled for March 16th. The team is seeking alternative options for housing and staffing supports following a change in plans to move to Brown County with provider supports.
 - o 1 individual was admitted to GDC on May 26, 2022, for stabilization after a series of incidents that posted a risk to his health and safety. The team met for a status review on February 17th and March 1st. At this time, community placement would not be safe for this person or others. The team is working towards stabilization and increasing independence. Once stabilized, the team plans to seek ICF placement.
 - o 1 individual was re-admitted to GDC on November 1st due to a series of incidents involving law enforcement which posed a risk to his health and safety and the safety of his staff. A status meeting was held on March 13th. This team is currently seeking ICF placement.

o 1 individual, identified as a long-term placement at GDC, continues to have increased instability which has changed scheduled status meetings from monthly to quarterly. ACBDD will continue engaging in these team meetings to discuss updates and potential future discharge options. A status meeting was scheduled for December 12th.

Incarcerations and Juvenile Delinquency:

1 active adult incarceration

1 Juvenile is currently placed in a Juvenile Detention Center in Washington County.

OhioISP:

- O SSAs began using Brittco to complete Ohio ISPs in January. SSAs have begun using the online platform for new service plans and annual service plans. As a result, ISPs with span dates starting in March/April 2023 will be on the online OhioISP platform. SSAs are working to transition all plans prior to the required timeline and will work to transition plans chosen for the upcoming accreditation review in October 2023.
- Director Hauck, DODD, announced that the Ohio ISP timelines have been extended as a result of system delays. All counties will now be required to have all Medicaid plans in the Ohio ISP on or before June 30, 2024

Other Updates:

- The work force crisis is an on-going issue that creates deficits in staffing for those served by ACBDD. SSAs and teams are continuing to work creatively to increase usages of remote supports and assistive technology, when applicable. Additionally, teams continue to look at ways services can be consolidated through shared service models and roommate opportunities.
- The respite home currently has two occupants. The two occupants are currently receiving supports from a local provider following an emergency placement and service need. Due to the respite home being at capacity, we have one person currently receiving emergency housing supports at an extended stay hotel.

SSA Staffing:

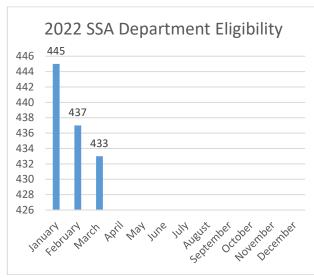
- Danielle Ward joined the SSA Department on February 27th. Danielle is currently going through the onboarding and training process. Once orientation is completed, Danielle will work primarily with those engaged in waiver services. She brings to the SSA Department experience in case management services. Welcome, Danielle!
- The SSA Department currently has one SSA working out of the office intermittently due to a non-work-related injury. We wish this SSA all the best towards a speedy recovery and appreciate her on going work to the teams she works with and team.

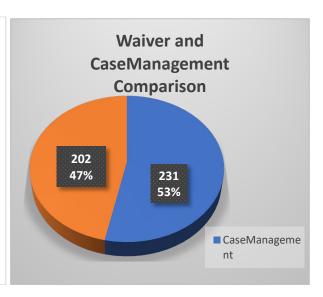
Department Openings:

• There are no current SSA Department openings.

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Individuals Receiving SSA Services	433
Ohio ISP's submitted (digital DODD submissions)	50
Ohio ISPs completed (paper format)	166
Eligibility Referrals	
# Determined Eligible	5
# Determined Not-Eligible	1
Annual ISP's Completed	22
ISP Addendums and Revisions	20
Waiver Enrollments (IOW)	0
Waiver Enrollments (LV1W)	0
Waiver Enrollments (SELF)	0
Total Enrolled (LV1W)	45
Total Enrolled (IOW)	154
Total Enrolled (SELF)	3
Waiting List Assessments Completed	5
# Agency providers	45
# Independent Providers	48





Additional Information: January

Case Management Changes:

• 5 people enrolled in CB services, 3 disenrolled from SSA services, 2 transferred out of county and 1 person transitioned to FSS only services.

Waiver Changes:

- 1 new IO Waiver was re-enrolled due to a Nursing Facility discharge, note this enrollment also moved one person from the case management only count to the waiver services count
- 1 IO Waiver dis-enrollment occurred due to individual's death
- 4 IO Waivers are currently in the allocation process. 1 involves an individual currently admitted into a DC planning a move to Brown County, 1 involves a new waiver enrollment, and 1 involves an Exit Waiver.

Potential Waiver Changes

- 4 individuals are expected to be awarded waivers in the near future
- 1 individual has been assessed as having need, needs are currently met in a nursing facility, discharge is likely



Beacon School

801 West Union Street - Athens, Ohio 45701
Phone: 740-594-3539 - Fax: 740-593-3189
Becky Martin, Director of Educational Services
athensebdd.org
Report to the Board
March 28, 2023

Beacon staff and students have had the pleasure of hosting Morrison-Gordon preschool for a structured play setting in the gym for peer interaction. Now we are hosting two of their special education programs to join our Primary One classroom during swim time. All three groups are scheduled to come to Beacon twice during the months of March and April. We are also planning a trip to Morrison-Gordon flower garden where their nurse will give our students a tour and talk to them about gardening. We are certainly looking forward to visiting their school as well, and appreciate the opportunity to collaborate.

On Friday, February 24, we held a celebration for the Albany VFW and a dedication ceremony for our new sensory room. The celebration began with the Beacon Singers singing "We Are the World" and "Stayin' Alive," followed by the presentation of the plaque and the \$15,000.00 check. Each classroom made cards for the VFW and students and teachers spoke their heartfelt appreciation to the VFW for their generosity. The program concluded with a ribbon cutting ceremony and a tour of the Sensory Room. Cake and punch were served to all present.



















Valentine parties were held on February 14. The students exchanged Valentines, and the staff prepared activities in the gym that included crafting a heart tree, a Valentine wreath and a tic tac toe game. A dance followed the planned activities and the sensory tent was available for those students needing extra support. Thanks to Preschool 1 and 2 for planning the party, and to parents who were kind enough to donate food items.

Beacon Singers presented their Spring concert on Friday, March 10. Song selections included, "Me," "Staying Alive," "We Are the World," and others. The students also had the opportunity to play percussion instruments throughout one of the songs and did a great job! Thanks again, to Stephanie Morris for everything she does to make Beacon Singers possible for our students.

March 22nd will mark the end of the third quarter of school for the year. It is hard to believe we are ³/₄ of the way through the year! Progress reports will be going home to parents on March 29th.

The school celebrated Dr. Seuss Week during the week of February 27-March 3. There were activities planned daily: Silly Sock Day, Hat Day, Pajama Day, Wocket in Your Pocket Day. In tradition, the week wrapped up with a celebration of food and fun. Sam Dunlap read <u>The Cat in the Hat</u> to the students, while Thing One and Thing Two created havoc in the cafeteria. The students were served Dr. Seuss themed snacks and enjoyed the celebration.









Upcoming:

April 6 – Egg Hunt April 10 - **No School** – Beacon PD Day





Employment Options/Personnel *Plus*Board Report February 2023





Staff have been busy packing, sorting and organizing these past weeks in preparation for our move in May from East State. Several car loads of boxes were taken to Lavelle Road and unpacked. With Spring Break coming in March, Facilities and Transportation Director, Chris Linscott, has been working with EO/PP Director, Angela Carter, to schedule moving some items the week of break.



EO/PP will be having its first Quarterly Employment Provider Meeting on Tuesday, March 14th at 10:00 am. The meeting will be virtual and will bring providers to-

gether to discuss concerns, explore what supported employment is, address concerns and strengthen connections between employers and Athens County residents. Anyone interested in joining should contact Angela at acarter@athenscbdd.org.

Employment Specialists provided the follow:

- 77.5 hours training with 5 individuals at the OU Dining Halls
- 51 service hours for Job Clubs at Beacon, Tri County and Federal Hocking
- 28 hours of follow alongs provided for 52 community workers, with 37 of those being in person.
- 10 hours Job Development with 6 individuals.
- Organized a meeting for the PersonnelPlus Advocacy and Advisory for Monday, March 13th.
- Continued to schedule intakes for ACBDD enrollees for employment services.

We want to thank Administrative Assistants, Myriah Lewis and India Mitchell, for all their work with EO/PP. They will be missed as they transition to their positions at Beacon School March 1st.









Exhibit 15 Integrate Athens Board Report March 2023

DD Awareness Month 2023

We unfortunately had to cancel the March on Court Street due to weather. Next year we will secure an indoor space as a "Plan B" for the event. To the left is COMCorps members sharing their support for DD Awareness Month.

March 21st will be the festival, and I will provide a summary of how that event went in the April board report due to the



timing of this submission. We are still excitedly waiting for our first inperson community wide event since the pandemic. We have RSVP's from many of our community partners as well as provider network who will be joining us for the event. The Athens County Community Singers are also going to be there to kick of the evening with a performance.

Inclusion Pledge Initiative

As part of our efforts of community support, we have introduced and inclusion pledge for our community partners to consider signing and selecting actions for the coming year to help them be more inclusive related to the needs of community members with disabilities.

The City of Athens Mayor Steve
Patterson has submitted a signed
Pledge. I will be working through our
community partnerships to present the
pledge and offer support to help them
find meaningful and achievable actions
for their specific organization.



FANS Coordinator Recruitment 2023

Thank you to our board for committing to another year hosting a COMCorps Member to provide the FANS Coordination efforts in our community.

We will now partner with Ohio University to begin recruiting for our next member that will begin in August of this year.

These positions are open to anyone in our community who is interested in a year of service. We will be seeking candidates for our FANs Coordinator. If you know anyone with our without a disability interested in serving our community in the next year, please share this information with them or email boylek1@ohio.edu.





Beacon Summer Camp Planning Begins

We have hired Hannah Rowan to be the 2023 Summer Camp Director. Hannah was the Assistant Director last year and in past years has been employeed as a camp counselor as well. We are lucky to have her experience and knowledge of camp to help us begin the process of developing the 2023 plan for camp. We have

also had a first meeting with Ohio University Kids on Campus to work on details of the camp partnership that will support hiring college students to serve as camp counselors. We will share info regarding camp as it gets pulled together. Enrollment for campers will be available in early April.

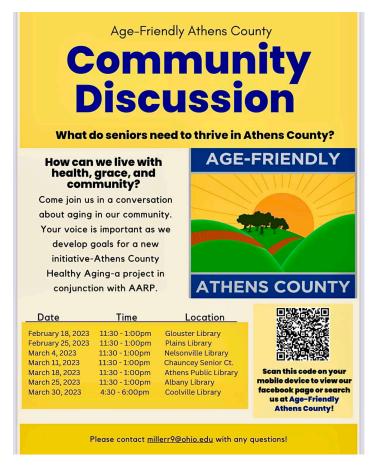
ATCO Idol 2023 - Hosting 2 Events

Thursday May 18th at Stuart's Opera House & Sunday June 25th at Arts/West

We had so many people sign up that we will need to offer 2 performances to accommodate everyone. There is a practice schedule that will offer everyone a chance to practice before the performances. The next few months with be helping people select songs, learn about stage presence, and practice, practice, practice.

Atco Idol is free and open to the public, so please mark your calendar and invite friends and family to come enjoy these fabulously fun evenings!





Age Friendly Athens County

Integrate Athens is a community partner that sits on the planning team for Age Friendly Athens County. A community team focused on ensuring all citizens feel a sense of belonging as they age and transition throughout the many phases of life.

As part of their efforts to gather information and reach everyone in our community, they are hosting community conversations at community spaces to gather the many needs within our community.

Some needs that have been identified align with the needs of those we serve, including accessible and affordable housing, transportation, and social connection. We will be an ongoing partner to help expand opportunities in those targeted needs that will help build an inclusive model that will naturally include people with I/DD.

Please share this information,or consider attending one of the remaining events.

Community Fair Collaboration

In the past Integrate Athens and Personne/Plus have worked together to host an Athens Connects event. In an effort to build on community collaboration, we have partnered with other community organizations to begin hosting resources fairs together throught the year. We are excited to be a part of this collaboration and the way in which it builds connection and reduces the silos we tend to work in.

People First of Ohio

Athens County Social Service Resource Fair April 20, 2023 **Market On State** 2 PM - 6 PM Information on area resources: Employment Services Mental Health Addictions Overall Wellbeing · Physical Health · Child Health Services Aging Services And More **Event Community Partners** OhioMeansJobs-Athens County, Integrated Services, OU Heritage College Community Health Programs, PersonnelPlus, COAD, Athens County Children Services, Athens City-County Health Department, Athens Public Library, OhioHealth, Buckeye Hills Regional Council, Athens County Board of Developmental Disability, Athens County Department of Job & Family Services

March 31st Advocacy Day- Bixby Road

The Athens County People First Chapter will be attending the March 31st Advocacy Day to connect with our State Representatives. Several local advocates will attend and share their stories and concerns related to those they represent in Athens County.

Beacon School Advocacy Day March 24th

I will be working with the staff at Beacon; Doug Mitchell, Transition Coordinator; and Arian Smedley, Asssitant Superintendent, to create a fun advocacy experience for the students at Beacon School. We will be inviting community leaders to join us for a morning session where students learn about our community leaders, learn about decision making, representation and how community make choices together.

We are excited to have an opportunity to help the students of Beacon explore advocacy and hopefully this leads to a regular experience that we all enjoy together!

DD Awareness month always helps me take a moment to reflect on our work, our mission, and our vision. I am grateful to work for the ACBDD. I appreciate your commitment as a board to help us continue to change the lives of people we serve, to change the thoughts of our community, and to continue to open doors to new expriences and better opportunities! **Thank you for your srvice to our community and our mission!**

- Autumn Brown, Director, Integrate Athens



Administration

801 West Union Street - Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: 740-594-3539 - Fax: 740-593-3189 Dr. Kevin Davis, Superintendent athenscbdd.org

Early Intervention and Transition Services Board Report

March 2023

Prepared by Arian Smedley, Assistant Superintendent

High-level updates for EI

- Jodi Mitchell, Developmental Specialist, and I continue to meet monthly for check-ins. She continues to work well independently and mostly remotely.
- We completed our meeting with the state EI consultant to do an in-depth review of the comments from the MEORC off-year accreditation review final report. After this review, we identified an opportunity for additional training – outcomes. A detailed training on outcome writing is scheduled for April. Both ACBDD and Hopewell staff will attend.

High-level updates for Transition

- After reviewing results from a recent Teen Time survey, we have made changes to this program. Teen Time is now open to any enrollee age 13-21. The time of the event has also changed, based on feedback. We are hopeful this better fits the needs and interest of the community.
- Doug continues to make connections throughout the community to better understand the options available for transition-age youth.

Additional program-specific highlights on the following pages.



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ATCO Legacy Fund

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Early Intervention

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Personnel Plus Employment Options & Personnel Plus The Market on State 1002 E. State St., Suite 4

Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3416







Phone: (740) 592-6006

& Facilities 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-7489



Early Intervention Highlights

Caseload as of March 17, 2023:

Total: **10**Additions: **0**Exits: **0**

Evaluations/Assessments for February 2023:

Eligibility Evaluations: **0** Redeterminations: **1**

Trainings and/or Meetings Attended:

- Monthly Meeting with Arian: 2/22/2023
- Weekly El Team Meeting: 2/6, 2/13, 2/27
- Attended VFW Appreciation Ceremony & Sensory Room Ribbon Cutting Celebration:
 2/24/2023

Respectfully Submitted, Jodi Mitchell Developmental Specialist

















Personnel Plus

Employment Options & Personnel Plus

The Market on State

The Market on State 1002 E. State St., Suite 4 Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 592-3416







Transportation & Facilities 9033 Lavelle Road Athens, Ohio 45701 Phone: (740) 594-7489



Transition Services

"Planning Early for Tomorrow's Dream"

Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD)

Board Report-February 2023



Doug Mitchell
Transition Coordinator

Transition Services

- Transition services are provided to individuals who are enrollees of the ACBDD.
- Individuals served are ages 14-21.
- Serve Athens, Alexander, Beacon, Federal Hocking, Nelsonville-York, New Story, Trimble, Tri-County Career Center schools.
- Transition Coordinator will attend IEP and ISP meetings upon invitation.
- Transition Coordinator connects and coordinates services for families and students.
- Transition Coordinator reports to the Assistant Superintendent and located at Beacon School.
- Transition Coordinator works in conjunction with Integrate Athens, SSA Department, PersonnelPlus and Beacon School.
- Transition Coordinator is available for community presentations.

Transition Focus Areas

While transition services are person centered, the new transition process will offer students and families 4 focus areas to choose from. It may be that more than one focus area is chosen or that a student moves from one focus area to another. The purpose of the focus areas is to help students and families know what services are available and how to access them. These areas are highlighted in the new transition booklet. The 4 focus areas are:

1. Independent Living Skills, 2. Working Skills, 3. Education/Training, 4. Getting to Know Your Community.

Transition Services-February 2023-Numbers Served And School Districts

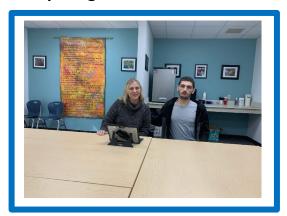
The number of transition-age youth that have been identified and are either participating or are in process of receiving transition services.

- 8 students attend Athens City Schools
- of students attend Beacon School
- 9 students attend Tri-County Career Center
- of individuals Do not attend school
- students attend New Story School
- 2 students attend Federal Hocking School
- 3 students attend Trimble Local
- O students attend Nelsonville-York
- 2 students attend Alexander School



ACBDD Transition Services February 2023

Preparing for Life After School



Jared is an example of a student who has participated in various transition services at Beacon school. The goal is to reach transition age students no later than age 14 and afford them as many experiences as possible. These experiences, whether employment, community engagement or something else, will help students make decisions about what they would like to do after they finish school. Jared has participated in:

Job Club
Step Into Work
Career Exploration
Career Discovery Services
And now, Job Development

Job Developer Andrea Keefer, from Capabilities, is currently working with Jared twice a week to find employment that he desires and matches his skills and abilities.



Bobby, posing as a customer, asks where he can purchase postage stamps in the store while Ms. Dunlap, posing as a store clerk, appears to use her phone for personal reasons and not assisting the customer.



Students Participate in Role Play to Learn how to Handle Problems in a Work Setting.

The transition coordinator provided training at the February Job Club centered on "Customers First" training. The focus was primarily on working in a retail store teaching students how to react to situations they might encounter while working in this setting. Themes included:

- 1. Gossiping at work
- 2. Inappropriate and appropriate reactions to a customer's question
- 3. Helping a customer with a problem when it may be something the position is not responsible for

Students were then given an opportunity to participate in "role playing" with Teacher, Samantha Dunlap, and Instructional Assistant, Tammy Harter, based on different problems they might face in that type of work setting.

More Transportation Training Provided to Beacon School students.



Mr. Hinkle and students high-five each other as they answer Mr. Hinkle's questions correctly.

Transition-Page 3

The transition coordinator has worked closely with HAPCAP Mobility Coordinator Bryan Hinkle during the 2022-23 school year at Beacon. Mr. Hinkle has been providing ongoing Transportation Training to Beacon students. On February 22, 2023, Mr. Hinkle covered: 1. Why we use public transportation, 2. How to access doorto-door transportation 3. Special grants that takes people with disabilities on fun trips, such as the Columbus Zoo, 4. Routes available, and 5. Popular bus stops. Actual training riding the bus will take place in the next couple of months.

UPDATES-Serving Transition-Age Students And Families February 2023

2/1/23	Working with Athens H.S. to assist student applying for County Board services.
2/14/23	Conducted Job Club with Beacon students on the topic of being a good employee in a store.
2/15/23	Met with and supported Beacon student in OOD/Capabilities Inc. Intake meeting for employment.
2/15/23	Met with new enrollee/parent to present transition options. Will attend OOD meeting with them.
2/15/23	Met with Trimble student/parent to present transition options and refer to OOD.
2/22/23	Supported Beacon student in 1st Job Development meeting with employment vendor, Capabilities
2/24/23	Supported Beacon student in Job Development session.

Transition-Collaborating With ACBDD Departments And County/State Agencies February 2023

2/6/23	Participated in Disability Awareness Committee meeting.
2/7/23	Interviewed by Tri-County Career Center student for Disability Awareness Month.
2/22/23	Coordinated transportation training with HAPCAP Mobility Coord. for Beacon Young Adult class.
2/23/23	Attended Athens-Meigs ESC Business Advisory Council meeting at Ohio Means Jobs.
2/23/23	Attended DODD Tech Ambassador Presentation at the Athens Community Center.
2/24/23	Met with Beacon Young Adult Class teacher/ SSA to discuss plans for student once school finishes.
2/27/23	Participated in Teen Time planning meeting.
2/28/23	Conducted monthly transition meeting with various ACBDD departments.



Transition Services

Planning Early for Tomorrow's Dream

Doug Mitchell, Transition Coordinator



Athens County Cash Flow Projections Through The Year 2032

Year	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Projected 2023	Projected 2024	Projected 2025	Projected 2026	Projected 2027	Projected 2028	Projected 2029	Projected 2030	Projected 2031	Projected 2032	Notes Ref #
REVENUES:													
Local Tax Levies Existing, N/A, Continuing, 1.8 Voted Mills, 1.14 Est Effective Mills, Passed 2001, Collected 2002, End X Existing, N/A, Continuing, 2.85 Voted Mills, 2.07 Est Effective Mills, Passed 2005, Collected 2006, End X Existing, N/A, Continuing, 1.5 Voted Mills, 1.28 Est Effective Mills, Passed 2014, Collected 2015, End X Existing, N/A, Term, 1.8 Voted Mills, 1.54 Est Effective Mills, Passed 2017, Collected 2018, End 2026 New, Renewal, Term, 1.8 Voted Mills, 1.54 Est Effective Mills, Passed 2025, Collected 2026, End 2035	\$1,519,817 \$2,753,541 \$1,710,619 \$2,052,769 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0	\$1,557,836 \$2,828,703 \$1,749,150 \$0 \$2,104,446	2 3 4
Subtotal Local Tax Levy Revenue	\$8,036,746	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	\$8,240,134	13
Local Revenue Other State Revenue DODD State Revenue ODE State Revenue Other Federal Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue TOTAL REVENUES	\$100,609 \$0 \$679,515 \$0 \$1,128,638 \$1,078,796 \$11,024,304	\$601,608 \$75,100 \$821,926 \$95,263 \$1,021,975 \$0 \$10,856,006	\$568,412 \$100 \$801,285 \$1,562 \$1,022,589 \$0 \$10,634,082	\$576,938 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,265,887 \$0 \$10,884,244	\$582,707 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,281,710 \$0 \$10,905,836	\$588,534 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,297,732 \$0 \$10,927,685	\$594,420 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,313,953 \$0 \$10,949,792	\$600,364 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,330,378 \$0 \$10,972,161	\$606,368 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,347,008 \$0 \$10,994,795	\$612,431 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,363,845 \$0 \$11,017,695	\$618,556 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,380,893 \$0 \$11,040,868	\$624,741 \$0 \$801,285 \$0 \$1,398,154 \$0 \$11,064,314	15 16 17
EXPENSES: Personnel Expenses Locally Funded Services Other Expenses Waiver Match TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,932,611 \$980,869 \$2,865,396 \$1,871,309 \$9,650,185	\$4,078,531 \$1,268,892 \$3,002,669 \$1,839,700 \$10,189,792	\$4,286,425 \$1,258,759 \$2,860,087 \$2,219,198 \$10,624,469	\$4,326,914 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,450,280 \$10,843,040	\$4,456,721 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,581,544 \$11,104,111	\$4,590,423 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,659,218 \$11,315,487	\$4,728,135 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,736,923 \$11,530,904	\$4,869,979 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,814,658 \$11,750,483	\$5,016,079 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,892,424 \$11,974,349	\$5,166,561 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$2,970,222 \$12,202,629	\$5,321,558 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$3,048,050 \$12,435,454	\$5,481,205 \$1,258,759 \$2,807,087 \$3,086,971 \$12,634,022	22 23
TRANSFERS: Transfers In Transfers Out NET TRANSFERS	\$0 \$1,727,380 (\$1,727,380)	\$0 \$1,000,000 (\$1,000,000)	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$465,550 \$0 \$465,550	\$1,035,500 \$0 \$1,035,500	\$1,250,850 \$0 \$1,250,850	\$1,161,818 \$0 \$1,161,818	\$0 \$0	
DEMOGRAPHICS: Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	76	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	9 29
Individual Options (IO) Waivers Level One (LV1) Waivers Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) Waivers TOTAL WAIVERS	158 48 4 210	48 3	161 48 3 212	49 3	166 49 2 217	49 2	171 48 2 221	174 47 2 223	176 49 2 227	179 49 2 230	181 49 2 232	48 2	4 30 3 31 2 32 4 33
Non-Waiver Individuals Served TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED	493 703		520 732		525 742		529 750	531 754	533 760	535 765	537 769		9 34 3 35
CHECKLIST: Do you operate a school? (Y/N) Are you privatized? (Y/N)	Yes Yes												36 37
Beginning Operating Cash Balance, December 31	\$5,104,970	\$4,751,709	\$4,417,923	\$4,427,536	\$4,468,740	\$4,270,465	\$3,882,663	\$3,301,551	\$2,988,779	\$3,044,725	\$3,110,641	\$2,877,873	38
In-Year Variance In-Year Variance in Mills (if Negative) Net Transfers	\$1,374,119 (\$1,727,380)	\$666,214 (\$1,000,000)	\$9,613 \$0	\$41,204 \$0	(\$198,275) 0.15 \$0	(\$387,802) 0.29 \$0	(\$581,112) 0.44 \$0	(\$778,322) 0.58 \$465,550	(\$979,554) 0.74 \$1,035,500	(\$1,184,934) 0.89 \$1,250,850	(\$1,394,586) 1.05 \$1,161,818	(\$1,569,708) 1.18 \$0	40
Ending Operating Cash Balance	\$4,751,709	\$4,417,923	\$4,427,536	\$4,468,740	\$4,270,465	\$3,882,663	\$3,301,551	\$2,988,779	\$3,044,725	\$3,110,641	\$2,877,873	\$1,308,165	42
Percent of Ending Cash Balance Projected Against Next Year Expenses	46.6%	41.6%	40.8%	40.2%	37.7%	33.7%	28.1%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	22.8%		43
NON-OPERATING CASH BALANCE, DECEMBER 31: Reserve Balance Account Capital Improvements Account Council of Government (COG) Cash Balance Other Cash Balances TOTAL NON-OPERATING CASH BALANCE	\$3,913,718 \$538,785 \$0 \$16,728 \$4,469,231	\$3,913,718 \$1,450,174 \$0 \$16,896 \$5,380,788	\$3,913,718 \$605,174 \$0 \$2,852 \$4,521,744	\$3,913,718 \$605,174 \$0 \$2,887 \$4,521,779	\$3,913,718 \$605,174 \$0 \$2,923 \$4,521,815	\$3,913,718 \$605,174 \$0 \$2,958 \$4,521,850	\$3,913,718 \$605,174 \$0 \$2,993 \$4,521,885	\$3,448,168 \$605,174 \$0 \$3,028 \$4,056,370	\$2,412,668 \$605,174 \$0 \$3,063 \$3,020,905	\$1,161,818 \$605,174 \$0 \$3,098 \$1,770,090	\$0 \$605,174 \$0 \$3,134 \$608,308	\$0 \$605,174 \$0 \$3,169 \$608,343	45 46 47

Document 00 11 13 - Public Bid Advertisement State of Ohio Standard Forms and Documents

Beacon Schools Roof Replacement Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities

801 West Union Street Athens, Athens County, Ohio

BIDS DUE: <u>Tuesday April 25, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.</u>, at Beacon Schools, Administration Offices 801 West Union Street, Athens, Ohio 45701 when all Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid tabulations will be posted no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day bids are opened.

EDGE Participation Goal: Not required on this Project. **PREVAILING WAGE** Rates requirements are applicable to this Project. **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** Requirements are applicable to this Project. **DOMESTIC STEEL** Use as Required Per Code Section 153.011.

CONTRACT ESTIMATED COST
Prime Contract \$600,000.00
Construction Allowance \$45,000.00
Unit pricing per square foot for damaged areas \$28.50

PRE-BID MEETING: Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. until approximately 11:30 a.m., at Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Beacon School Site, 801 West Union Street, Athens, Ohio 45701. The walk through will start in the main entrance lobby. **All those wishing to bid are strongly encouraged to attend.**

Addenda:

Addenda will be issued to all known plan holders registered at Key Blueprints. No addenda will be issued after 11 o'clock a.m., Wednesday, April 19, 2023, unless a bid extension is included.

BID DOCUMENTS: The Contract Documents are available for purchase from **Key Blueprints**, 195 E Livingston Ave, Columbus, OH 43215, Phone: (614) 228-3285, **website**: <u>www.keycompanies.com</u>. **All Contract Documents and shipping costs are at the requestor's expenses.**

end	of advertisement	:—do not publish this line	
APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION In: The Athens Messenger On: 4/1/2023, 4/8/2023, 4/15/2023		APPROVED BY:	
		Type or print name of authorized owner representative	
Name Project Coordinator	Date	Signature Date	

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