



The ALL-STAR Newsletter

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Jefferson County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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**Jefferson County
BDD**

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A Message from the Superintendent

Looking to the Past, Present and Future

First and foremost, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. May this year bring new happiness, new goals, new achievements and a lot of new inspirations to your life.

As our program is undergoing what might be the biggest change in 20-plus years, let's reflect on some of the accomplishments in 2018. There is new housing in Wintersville, Mingo and Richmond following the purchases of three homes and construction started at another location in Wintersville. We also have had a successful transition and growth of early intervention and started a pilot program with the Edison Local School District. In addition,

we have total privatization of our adult transportation system and received CARF accreditation for our Community Employment department. Other highlights include a successful union negotiation with Shaffer Plaza employees (SEIU), the establishment of a new residential provider and the announcement of a new day service provider.

In a period when our program is experiencing declining revenue due to the privatization of our adult program, downsizing of Shaffer Plaza and a decrease in local levy support, I am proud to report our program continues to remain financially stable thanks to our leadership team, board and

every single employee that continues to carry out our mission during a difficult time in our program's history.

Looking forward to 2019, we will continue adjusting and shifting our resources as the privatization unfolds. As that takes place, our board will continue to analyze the best use of our resources. Early intervention, preschool, accreditation, housing and the remodeling of the former workshop will be some of the priorities for the new year.

Let us continue to work together to bring forth a great program that is set up for the next 10 years, is financially stable and is meeting the needs of those we serve.

New Housing Grants Access to Independent Living

New housing is under construction in Wintersville that will give more developmentally disabled adults access to independent living.

Michael Zinno, superintendent of the Jefferson County Board of Developmental Disabilities, said the four-bedroom home is being built at 131 Orchard St. and is fully accessible. The residence will house up to four people and should be completed this spring.

"We are building it to upgrade our house stock in Jefferson County," Zinno said. "Our current stock is old, multi-level homes and there are not too many options for those in wheelchairs, so this opens up doors for them to have access to residential housing in the least restrictive environment rather than the most restrictive environment of Shaffer Plaza."



A new house is under construction in Wintersville which will include up to four developmentally disabled adults and provide more opportunities for independent living. The four-bedroom structure is fully accessible and should be completed this spring.

He added that three tenants at Shaffer Plaza may relocate to the site, and as a result the number of occupants at the apartment complex could be reduced to 20 people. At one time, the complex had

(Continued as HOUSING)



SBP Students Help the Animals

Secondary students at the School of Bright Promise are collecting items throughout the month of January to support the Jefferson County Humane Society. Pet food, treats, toys and cleaning supplies will be gathered in a basket which will be donated to the shelter on Jan. 25 and the students will spend time at the facility with the animals. Pictured with a few of the items are, front from left, Isabella Wright, Jaimie Anderson, Joven Galloway with teacher's aide Tomi Skeens in the back.

HOUSING

(Continued from Front)

33 residents but many have moved into smaller, more independent living facilities throughout the county.

Zinno added that the building project is the first for JCBDD since the apartment complex was created in the 1980s. Newark-based architectural firm Wachtel and McAnally serves as project manager and the house is owned by the Eastern Ohio Housing Corp.

Financing for the work comes from a mixture of JCBDD funds and part of a grant the board received last year from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DoDD). Officials received up to \$598,000 from the Community Capital Assistance Pro-

gram, which provides financing to county boards and non-profit organizations for the purchase, construction and/or renovation of community housing for persons with special needs.

The DoDD's Capital Housing Office is responsible for the program and three grants for up to \$130,000 each, or a total of \$390,000, were used to acquire homes with another \$318,000 to help construct fully accessible lodging to better serve consumers. Three additional houses were purchased in Wintersville, Richmond and Mingo Junction with the grant and all of the structures are owned by the Eastern Ohio Housing Corpo-

ration, a non-profit agency.

Zinno said there are no plans at this time to construct another house but he will seek more funding for projects in the future.

"The funding we received did not pay for 100 percent of the project. It's a substantial amount of Capital Housing Corporation funds with a combined match of county Board of Developmental Disabilities funding," he added. "This will make our 10th home in Jefferson County owned by EOHC for individuals with developmental disabilities. I am thrilled that JCBDD could help to provide better housing options for the adults that we serve."

Calendar of Events

Jan. 1: New Year's Day —Happy 2019!!!

Jan. 2: Movies at Carmike Cinema (Shaffer)

Jan. 3: School Resumes (SBP); Coleman Professional Services Mtg. (Employment Facilitator/Community Navigator)

Jan. 4: Game Night (Shaffer)

Jan. 6: Wii Bowling (Shaffer)

Jan. 7: Women's Club of Steubenville Mtg. @ YWCA (EN/CF); Ice Cream Social (Shaffer)

Jan. 8: JCBDD Leadership Team & Kiwanis Mtgs. (EN/CF); Safety Meeting & Watson (SBP); God's Choice Church Party (Shaffer)

Jan. 9: Jefferson County Chamber Coffee & Connections (EN/CF); Bowling at Steel Valley Lanes (Shaffer)

Jan. 10: Human Rights Mtg. (SBP); Craft Night (Shaffer)

Jan. 11: JCESC Special Educators Directors Mtg. (EN/CF); End of Second Quarter (SBP)

Jan. 12: Hot Cocoa & Movie Night (Shaffer)

Jan. 14: School of Bright Promise Visit (EN/CF); Wii Just Dance (Shaffer)

Jan. 15: Indian Creek High School Visit & Kiwanis Mtg. (EN/CF); Progress Reports Go Home (SBP); Movies at Carmike Cinema (Shaffer)

Jan. 16: School Behavior Mtg. (SBP)

Jan. 17: Steubenville HS Visit & BHJ-MPC Transportation Team Mtg. (EN/CF); Parent Support Group Mtg. and JCBDD Board Mtg. (SBP); Resident's Choice (Shaffer)

Jan. 18: Indian Creek Middle School Visit (EN/CF); Pizza Party (Shaffer)

Jan. 19: Game Night (Shaffer)

Jan. 20: Craft Night with Occupational Therapist (Shaffer A)

Jan. 21: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (NO SCHOOL)

Jan. 22: Kiwanis & Student Empowerment Tour Recap Mtgs. (EN/CF); God's Choice Church Party (Shaffer)

Jan. 23: Bowling at SVL (Shaffer)

Jan. 25: Toronto HS Visit (EN/CF); Curriculum Mtg. (SBP)

Jan. 26: Pajama Party w/ Popcorn & Movies (Shaffer)

Jan. 27: Resident Council Mtg. (Shaffer)

Jan. 28: Peer Leadership Mtg. (SBP); Wii Game Night (Shaffer)

Jan. 29: Kiwanis Mtg. (EN/CF)

Jan. 31: Multi-Agency County Transition Youth Team Mtg. (EN/CF); Valentine's Day Craft Night (Shaffer)