

BUTLER COUNTY

Board of

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

E-NEWSLETTER

Hello! We send out e-newsletters periodically to families and individuals, informing you about Board events and news that is important to you. Please consider forwarding this email to your friends who also have loved ones served by our Board and ask them to join our mailing list. We are building up our email database and would like to reach as many of our families as possible.

Nominations for Awards accepted now



*Shawna Noble, winner of the
2016 Community Award*

Each year, we celebrate with the community at our Community Recognition Dinner. This is an event we've held the last 23 years! This year's dinner takes place Thursday, April 6, 6:00 p.m. at Receptions in Fairfield. An open invitation will be sent out in March. The guests at the dinner include Board staff, Board members, individuals served, families, volunteers, providers, local community leaders, and business leaders.

Nominations are being accepted now for the awards. Think of a community member who goes above and beyond to help someone with a disability ... or a local business who gave someone a job and the chance to show what they are capable of ... or a volunteer who donated their time to a family ... or a community member who was a friend and connection to fun ...

[The nomination form is available for download HERE.](#) You can

type right in to it, save it to your desktop, then email it to Dawn Hamblin.

The deadline for nominations is February 27. Nominate someone today.

There are different award categories: the Community Recognition Awards, and the nine bigger awards. Anyone nominated for a Community Recognition Award will receive that award, if the nomination criteria is met. A committee chooses one winner for each of the bigger nine awards. Descriptions of all of the awards are on the second page of the downloadable form.

[If you have a question please email us.](#)

Letter from the Superintendent



The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities published a Strategic Plan in 2014 outlining

initiatives for our service system over the next 10 years. The benchmarks (or goals) in the plan align with changes in federal and state regulations that focus on providing opportunities and support for people with disabilities to participate more fully in their communities along with people without disabilities. Our Board published [a three year strategic plan](#) that began in 2015 with goals that support the state-wide initiatives and local priorities. In 2017, our Board will review and refresh our strategic plan in order to continue momentum with

SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING

[Attend this special event March 7](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

[Check out ALL of the events happening in our community on our Calendar of Events page!](#)

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www.butlerdd.org

sustaining our mission while implementing the benchmarks in the state's strategic plan.

During 2016, our Board focused on phasing out of direct services at our Liberty-Fairfield Road location. This was the last center where we provided Adult Day services. Due to implementation of a federal regulation through the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), county Boards of developmental disabilities across the state must end providing direct services by 2024. Because county Boards are required to provide service and support administration (support coordination/case management), it is a conflict of interest for us to also provide direct services. The phase out of services in 2016 was difficult for many individuals and families who have attended Liberty Center for years. In addition, more than 40 employees were affected by this change. Our Support Coordinators continue to work with individuals affected by this change through the planning and monitoring process.

In 2017 we turn our focus to consolidating our employees into two locations by the second quarter of this year. This is another step in our long term plan to reduce the number of facilities we are operating and leasing in order to shift savings to supporting people through our mission. By re-locating all employees to the Janet Clemmons Center and our Liberty-Fairfield Road locations we will save \$200,000 annually in expenses for leases and utilities. Below you will find the

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details on timelines for the consolidation and where employees will be located.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission and we wish you all the best in the New Year!

Lisa Guliano
Superintendent

SSA and EI Staff Moving

Staff from each of our Team Offices in Hamilton, Fairfield and Middletown will be moving in March.

All Support Coordinators will be moving to the Liberty-Fairfield Road location, and Developmental Specialists, Speech Pathologists, and Physical Therapists from the Early Intervention Department will be moving to the Janet Clemmons Center.

Below is a list of when each move is expected to occur, please note these dates are subject to change.

Staff will have the same phone number and email address when they move.

Moving March 6:

Janet Clemmons Center Team Office staff

Moving March 13:

West Hamilton Team Office Staff

Moving March 20:
Middletown Team Office Staff

Moving March 27:
Fairfield Team Office Staff

All Butler DD staff will be housed in one of two locations:

Janet Clemmons Center
282 N. Fair Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45011

and

Liberty-Fairfield Road Location
5645 Liberty-Fairfield Road
Hamilton, OH 45011

New online tool: ROOMMATE FINDER

We understand how important it is to find a roommate who wants a similar lifestyle and who shares the interests of you or your loved one. We developed Roommate Finder as an easy and effective way to find a compatible roommate in your area.



Welcome to the Roommate Finder

We understand how important it is to find a roommate who wants a similar lifestyle and who shares the interests of you or your loved one.

Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities has developed Roommate Finder as an easy and effective way to find a compatible roommate in your area.

Are You Ready to Find a Roommate?

To find a roommate, simply fill out the questionnaire by logging in or signing up on the right-hand side of this page!

Once the questionnaire is complete, you will receive a prioritized listing of potential anonymous roommate character portraits. You may then select potential roommates and submit them to the Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities where the process will be completed.

GET STARTED

Sign-in or Create a New Account

[▶ SIGN IN](#) [▶ NEW ACCOUNT](#)

NOTE:

Signing in or creating an account allows you to save your entered information in the system, so you can come back later and edit as housing needs change. You can also enter more than one individual in your care, under the same account.

DISCLAIMER:

You may only submit a roommate search profile for an individual if the individual is currently receiving services from the Butler County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Also, by creating an account, you permit your name and contact information to be shared with prospective matches.

[▶ Click For Additional Resources](#)

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[Visit ROOMMATE FINDER now!](#)

*Empowering People.
Enhancing Possibilities.*