



The Stakeholders say ...

a newsletter to help with strategic planning

March 9, 2009
Number 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community
Café
Conversation,
Miami U.,
Middletown

**Date/Time to be
Determined Soon.**

TO BE SCHEDULED

We want to hold
“Community
Café
Conversations”
in Hamilton,
Fairfield, and
West Chester as
well. Some time
before April 30.

We welcome
your ideas about
dates, times,
places.

Call or e-mail
Jack at 513-867-
5924 or
jackp@butlermrdd.org

“UNADDRESSED NEEDS” BEING REPORTED BY SUPPORT COORDINATORS

Two main things that Support Coordinators do are: 1) put together an Individual Service Plan for each person they support, and 2) work to get the Plan carried out. That means that Support Coordinators are in position to know about:

- Supports that someone needs but that can't be found
- Supports that are available but aren't of good enough quality for the person

We asked the Support Coordinators to tell us about people's unaddressed needs, as those needs are written down in Service Plans. Those reports are starting to come in from the SC's, and here's what we're hearing so far:

*Interesting and fulfilling jobs are hard to find for many people—especially for people who must or want to work part-time. Students are graduating from school and Project Search but there aren't jobs for them to take on, to start building careers.

*It's hard to find money to pay for fixing people's homes so that they're accessible to those who live there; waiver funds don't cover all that's needed.

*We lack a sufficient supply of emergency, short-term housing (with support) for people who find themselves in trouble for various reasons.

*Lots of people could use support-staff in ways that make scheduling difficult—flexible hours, intermittent blocks of time, etc. It's not easy for providers to find people to work these schedules.

*People who are moving into their first homes (e.g., from nursing homes, etc.)—there's little money to help them get furniture and other things they need to set up households.

*We don't have a way to find enough volunteer situations for people who want useful and personally interesting ways to spend their time.

*Bedbugs have gotten into some people's homes and they don't have enough money to pay for the needed treatments.

SUPPORTS THAT
REALLY FIT EACH
INDIVIDUAL
SITUATION ARE

SOME FAMILIES' DILEMMA

(reported by a Support Coordinator)

“Now and then I get a single mom with a child and not much local informal support or money. The problem is how for them to keep their kid at home and still work. If the kid's in school there are still early days, holidays, more than average doctor appointments, and summers off, which means that our best offer, a waiver, still doesn't help enough. Reason is that according to the DDP (Developmental Disabilities Profile), if a person is living at home with voluntary, family caregivers they're put in the lowest category usually, which only pays for maybe 19 hours a week of in-home staff assistance. More like 15-16 hours and mileage to drive the person around. This could be 3-4 hours per day, 5 days a week, which would probably work for most, if it weren't for the summers off.

This is a real rock and hard place for some single parents. Sometimes makes them want to look into things we don't normally like.”