

MORROW DD
STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2024 Progress Summary Report - 2023

PRIORITY: COMMUNITY

GOALS:

- Ensure transition options are available and appropriate for individuals throughout their life
- Increase support of providers to ensure opportunities for Community Connections, Self-Determination, Self-advocacy and Employment

STRATEGIES:

- Work collaboratively with schools to assist students of all ages in the transition process
- Work collaboratively with Family Children First Council (FCFC) to ensure transition supports are available to children at all stages of transition
- Work collaboratively with providers to increase community involvement and/or employment for individuals
- Educate individuals, families and providers of the benefits and availability of assistive and supportive technology
- Increase awareness in our community of the risk for abuse of persons with developmental disabilities

INITIATIVES:

- CB will participate in the Morrow County Business-Education Partnership Action Team
- Restore transition school-age workgroup
- Explore ideas to expand resources to support families' transition from EI to school
- Explore developing an Employer Advisory Council to collaborate with the county board and providers to ensure successful business-employee relationships
- Explore other county boards for ideas to expand employment opportunities, navigation and provider support

PROGRESS:

- **Joined membership to provide access and invited Individuals, Providers, and DSPs to participate in “We Thrive Together” programming**
- **Developed personalized SSA magnets for distribution to individuals/families**
- **Increased focus on assistive and supportive technology through the Prior Authorization review process.**
- **Engaged in meetings with adult services provider to develop team process that supports an increase in community-based services.**
- **Hosted Solar Eclipse Awareness and Preparation Training for Providers – Sep 2023**
- **Distributed gifts to all Direct Services Professionals during DSP Appreciation Week**
- **Coordinated and distributed “Giving Thanks” Christmas baskets to all providers and several county officials**
- **Participate in new (started March 2023) Morrow Workforce Alliance, to advocate the need for DSPs and the availability of workers with DD**

PRIORITY: COLLABORATION

GOAL:

- Increase the number of quality service providers to meet the needs in Morrow County

STRATEGIES:

- Work with the Clearwater Council of Governments (COG) to expand provider capacity into Morrow County
- Provide training opportunities for current and new providers
- Work with the local transportation collaborative to increase affordable and appropriate transportation options

INITIATIVES:

- Participate at job and resource fairs to share CB resources, DD employment career paths (e.g. DSP)
- Host a Recognition lunch/resource fair for local providers and survey topics of interest for 2023 training
- Offer trauma-informed training for providers
- Participate on two advisory boards: Regional Transportation Advisory Board and the local transportation collaborative

PROGRESS:

- **Participated in Career Expo & invited self-advocates to present – May 4, 2023**
- **Hosted Provider & DSP recognition luncheon – March 30, 2023**
- **Participation in “Real World, Real Money” at Highland, Cardington & Highland Schools – May 17, 18, 19, 2023**
- **Participation in “Reality Store” at Northmor – April 9, 2023**
- **Assisted SSAs in identifying and increasing Ohio Shared Living opportunities**
- **Participation in quarterly COG DSP Appreciation Meetings**

PRIORITY: CONTINUITY

GOAL:

- Ensure sustainability of county board services

STRATEGIES:

- Increase local funding by at least 25% by seeking approval of additional local funding
- Seek alternative funding like grants and other available resources to extend local funding
- Reduce the number of individuals in the county waiting for services

INITIATIVES:

- Evaluate the possibility of a levy request for November 2023 ballot
- Evaluate the possibility of applying for a BWC safety grant for improved workplace safety
- Collaborate with local agencies to partner in gaining grant funding for local resources
- Explore ways to provide services and supports more cost effectively, to increase resources and maximize local funding available, to address: the growth in number of people supported (emergencies and the wait list) within the constraints of the county board's resources
- Seek other grants to strengthen local resources

PROGRESS:

- **Applied for a BWC safety grant (was not awarded) and consulted with emergency management representative to ensure safety and wellness in our facilities**
- **Reduced the number of individuals on the Waiting List for HCBS waiver services**
- **Secured a grant for \$5,000 (first & second half of the fiscal year) to provide needed resources and supports to children/youth with complex behavioral needs to remain in their homes**
- **Partner with Family Children First Council to provide approved funding for community resources, services, and supports.**
- **Gained Commissioners' approval to seek a replacement levy on the November 2023 ballot (request did not receive voter approval).**
- **Received a significant grant through an application with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, to utilize ARPA funds for local projects to expand community access and engagement**
- **Completed requirements for DODD Accreditation and was awarded 3-year certificate (maximum available) with no citations**
- **Participation in Medicaid Administration Claiming reimbursement program, reducing the percentage of local funds used for administrative positions**

PRIORITY: COMMUNICATION

GOAL:

- Improve messaging throughout the county

STRATEGIES:

- Improve the county board's presence in school districts and community
- Create a Speaker's Bureau and empower Ambassadors to share messaging in the community
- Expand the use of social media, enhance our website, and use expanded technology to be useful resources for our community

INITIATIVES:

- Plan and implement a 2nd grade reading awareness project, partnering with individuals with DD
- Plan and track opportunities to share messaging in the community
- Explore the use of our building as a polling site for county elections

PROGRESS:

- Individuals read to all 2nd graders in the community about "Inspiring Kindness"
- Began the use of Mail Chimp to send information in a more targeted method
- Recognition/proclamations with Edison Mayor, Mt. Gilead Mayor, Friends of Cardington Community Group
- Hosted 1st Assessable Easter Egg Hunts in Morrow County – April 2023
- Participated with Parent in United Way "Radiothon"
- Distribution of monthly "Community Happenings" flyer
- Established our building as a county election polling site, which increases public awareness
- Coordinated and hosted "Guardianship and Eligibility Training" for school personnel
- Hosted two summer Camp PEPA sessions – June 12-16 & July 31-Aug. 4 for school transition-age students (16 total). Camp consisted of introducing school transition age students or young adults to 23 different community agencies, community businesses, service organizations and to meet with various county officials. Additional groups, businesses and organizations donated money and materials.
- Participated in Community Health Day at Hidden Lakes – June 7
- Participated in "Game Connection" day hosted by Family & Children's First Council- Sept. 23
- Participated in Tomorrow Center Resource Fair – Oct. 12th
- Participated in "Trunk or Treat" – Oct. 18th
- Participated in Tri-Rivers Career Fair – Oct. 25
- Participated in Morrow County Career Expo – Oct. 27th

- **Outreach staff along with several individuals volunteered for Salvation Army Bell Ringing campaign – Nov. 2023**
- **Coordinated 1st Sensory Friendly visit with Santa during Cardington’s Christmas in the Village**
- **Developed booth for display and a community game “spin the kindness wheel” at Morrow County Fair 2023**
- **Coordinated several social media posts showing individuals and their community jobs for National Disability Employment Awareness month– Oct. 2023**
- **Participation in bi-monthly OACB Communications Group meetings**
- **Participation in monthly Morrow County Community Service Meetings**

PRIORITY: COMMITMENT

GOAL:

- Ensure commitment to our community

STRATEGIES:

- Commit to individuals and families to ensure they receive services and supports they need (as resources permit)
- Commit to strengthen person-centered planning by focusing on the individual and their vision for the future and putting them at the center of their ISP, thus reinforcing the vision that all people with developmental disabilities lead fulfilling lives;
- Commit to support the opportunity for community inclusion for individuals with developmental disabilities;
- Commit to support the providers' ability to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities;
- Commit to being good stewards of tax payers dollars

INITIATIVES

- Restructure SSA capacity to provider increased support to school-age families
- Explore retention ideas to stabilize SSA staffing
- Participate in *We Thrive Together* to broaden opportunities for individuals to meet others, establish friendships and expand knowledge
- Explore the use of available technologies to improve efficiencies and expand the availability of resources

PROGRESS:

- **Increased the wage range for Service and Support Administrators (SSA) to stabilize the department, reduce turnover and provide more consistent and longer term relationships with individuals and their families**
- **Increased the time dedicated with school-aged families to locate and coordinate community resources to meet the needs of families to utilize OhioRise, Multi-System Youth, Family Children First Council (FCFC), and Angel Sense GPS Tracking System**
- **SSA Department has transitioned to the *new* Ohio Individualized Support Plan (OISP) that focuses on Person Centered Planning & Charting the Life Course tools. The new OISP promotes and encourages SSAs and teams to “dig deeper” to determine what is truly important TO the individual and important FOR the individual**
- **Hosted “Guardianship and Eligibility Training for school personnel**