

Guernsey County Board of DD

Eagles Wing

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FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER



- 11/17/2015 – GCBDD BOARD MEETING
- 11/11/2015 - VETERANS DAY -CLOSED
- 11/26/2015— 11/27/2015 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- 12/23/2015— 1/1/2016 CHRISTMAS BREAK

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Golden Rule Takes a Tour of McDonalds Corn Maze

On a warm sunny day on October 20, 2015, the students of the Golden Rule School went on their favorite trip of the year. With great weather and eager students and staff, we were on our way to explore the Corn Maze in Zanesville, Ohio. We arrived at the Corn Maze and were greeted by the friendly staff. Our first stop was to jump on the hay ride. Our driver was Pat and she directed the loading of our students. After a fun hay ride, we played on the slide and petted the animals (pigs, hens, ducks, sheep, rab-

bits and goats). Now it was time to feed our faces with the lunches prepared by our wonderful cook, Angie. After lunch, we headed to the largest swimming pool filled with corn that I have ever seen. What a sensory sensation! Noah, Leeland and Katie thoroughly enjoyed themselves as they played in the corn. Now it was our time for adventure, the Corn Maze. I told our staff we need to do two things: get lost and tire out the students. Well I am happy to report that we accomplished both goals and a little more. After our time in the corn maze, we headed for the Enchanted Forest where we ended up at the Teepee for a

group picture. What a nice picture we took to capture the great day that we had. After our photo op, we were off to pick out our pumpkins. David, Noah, Leeland, Haley and Katie all picked out gorgeous pumpkins that they were to decorate the next day. Leah and Alex were absent from the trip, so the other students helped the staff pick out a pumpkin for them. All throughout the day and all throughout the year, the staff and students have been working as a team, "The Golden Rule". Well it was getting late and we boarded the bus, driven by Dorothy, the friendly bus driver. We finally arrived back to the Golden Rule School feeling happy, tired, and of course plenty of corn down our pants.



GCBDD Staff Presenters at Training

On October 20, 2015 a training was held for all Type B certified day care providers at Guernsey County Jobs and Family Services about how to obtain services for children with developmental disabilities, how to recognize a potential delay in development, and how to help a child with unique behavioral needs. Presenters were Jessica Smith, Early Childhood Manager, Susan Blum, Behavior Consultant, Tanya Hitchens, Director of SSA/ Medicaid Services, Joe Rosen, Early Intervention Specialist, and Ashley Flanagan, Help Me Grow Service Coordinator. Eight day care providers participated in the training as part of their annual continuing education .



MEET THE TEAM NIGHT

An informal chance to meet us all in one place and get to know us. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday, November 19, 2015

5:30 p.m.

Golden Rule School Gymnasium



2015-2016
Guernsey Eagles
Basketball

Gadgets In The School

Golden Rule gets new assistive gadgets in the classroom. Recently, the MHI classroom at Golden Rule received an iPad holder. This gadget has strong clips that clips onto desk or wheelchairs while it holds the iPad at eye level. Now students can work with the iPad in more of a hands on way. The device is adjustable and will rotate 360 degrees. Haley is pictured with Bobbie Mason working with the App, Brain Pop Jr



Watch your thoughts;

They become words.

Watch your words;

They become actions.

Watch your actions;

They become habits.

Watch your habits;

They become character.

Watch your character;

It becomes your destiny.

Lao Tzu



REM Ohio's New Community Opportunities Program

REM Ohio's new Community Opportunities Program offers individuals with I/DD a great way to transition from school or sheltered settings to community employment. This 12 week "centerless" program combines internship and volunteer opportunities with skills training to build job skills, discover work preferences, and build a fantastic portfolio and resume.

The first hour of each day will be spent in a classroom type setting learning skills that will help promote independence, problem solving, communication, customer services, and overall job skills. Each day will end with a brief de-briefing and journaling period for reflection. Sessions may occur at REM Office, School, local library, community job centers, etc

Participants will get the opportunity to experience a variety of intern & volunteer opportunities daily throughout the program. Experiences in a variety of fields will be included and tailored to the interests of the group. These experiences may include food service, factory work, light construction/maintenance, janitorial, lawn care, and more. All experiences will occur in the community.

Each week will end with an opportunity for team building and community engagement. Participants will work together to plan these activities throughout the week, and then end the week doing something fun in the community!

We are proud to tell you about one of our participants, Matt Slay who has gone through the program and is now hired in the community at Guernsey County Board of DD as a Janitor. Matt attended our Vocational Program where he learned transferable work skills. Matt participated in our morning lessons each day, he was able to work a variety of jobs and learn life skills. With these skills and lessons, Matt was able to obtain a job. Matt soon became a familiar face, his bright smile and positive attitude would make anyone's day better. Matt worked with a job coach from REM-Ohio for the first month that he worked at the Guernsey County Board of DD. The job coach assisted him learning his job tasks, time management and how to interact with his supervisor and co-workers. Matt's positive attitude and drive to do the best he can helped him maintain his employment and work through barriers that he had to keep the job. Another person successfully employed person is Randy Sudduth. He has been working at Salt Fork as a dish tank operator for 5 months. Through the REM-Ohio program, we have assisted him with filling out applications, creating a resume, interviewing skills, learning job skills, time management, interpersonal skills and maintaining a positive attitude while at work. Randy has done such a great job that he is scheduled to learn how to cook in the near future.



On 10/27/2015 Help Me Grow and Early Intervention held a Fall Family festival event at the Cambridge City Armory. Families in Guernsey County with at least one child under the age of three and local agencies were invited. Agencies that attended were Regional Infant Hearing, Crossroads Library, Open Arms Pregnancy Center, Southeastern Ohio Counseling, People to People, Drug and Alcohol, Guernsey County Department of Job and Family Services, and WIC. Children were able to jump on the bounce house, make ice cream, decorate cookies, fish for ghosts, decorate masks, spray water colors on leaves, decorate pumpkins, make scarecrows, blow up punch balloons, string fall shapes, get their face painted, and eat dinner. Door prizes were given away every half hour to children under the age of three. 32 Families attended the event which included 61 adults and 69 kids. The Event was a lot of fun for everyone.



2015 Halloween Fundraiser Dance at Guernsey Industries

Approximately 130 people attended this first of many annual community outreach events at Guernsey Industries. Parents, providers, staff, DD individuals and friends enjoyed a fun filled evening. A DJ was brought in and a concession stocked with candy, chips, drinks and pizza was enjoyed by all. The space was decorated with lights, carved pumpkins, spooky scenes and many of those attending were decked out in costumes of all kinds.

After 1 1/2 hours of dancing fun the 50/50 prize, door prizes and trophies were handed out with Santa, yes Santa winning 1st place. Funds raised will be used for new service development in the coming years. We look forward to another successful Halloween next year. Hope to see you there!



Meadowbrook Art Class Decorates Guernsey Industries Windows

This year Guernsey Industries held a Halloween fundraiser that was open to the public and all DD providers. Adding to the décor were the front entry windows that were painted to depict pumpkins, black cats, ghost clowns and spiders. The art class of Meadowbrook High School was contacted and graciously accepted an invitation to paint the windows. This was a first for our program and the windows we enjoyed by all of the GI staff and individuals. All of us here at Guernsey Industries would like to thank the students for their hard work and imagination. What fun!

Annual milestone awards were handed out at staff

in-service

Donna Miller –30 years

Phil Hayes—25 years

Kelley Burkhardt –10 years

Steve Bush –5 years

2015 - 2016 GUERNSEY EAGLES LEAGUE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	TEAM	HOME/AWAY	TIME
12/9/2015	Jefferson	Away	5:00
12/15/2015	Muskingum	Away	6:00
1/6/2016	Tuscarawas	Away	6:00
1/12/2016	Carroll	Away	6:00
1/14/2016	Belmont	Home	6:00
1/20/2016	Jefferson	Home	6:00
1/26/2016	Muskingum	Home	6:00
1/28/2016	Coshocton	Home	6:00
2/2/2016	Belmont	Away	6:00
2/9/2016	Holmes	Away	6:00
2/10/2016	Tuscarawas	Home	6:00
2/16/2016	Coshocton	Away	6:00
2/27-2/28/16	Area 9 Tournamen	Away	TBA
3/5-3/6/16	East Section Tourn	Away	TBA

GCBDD Board Members 2015

Charles Fair, President
 Christine Veselenak, Vice President
 Melinda Yerian, Secretary
 Judith Perkowski
 Attorney Lindsey Donehue
 W. Thomas Green, O.D.
 Scott Woods



Improving lives of people with ASD

Today, one in 68 children is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Just a few years ago, that number was one in 88 – and the numbers have been steadily increasing over the last decade, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As awareness of autism increases, Ohio started to look for new solutions to: one, increase the number of trained service providers to meet growing demand, and two, provide more consistent, broad-based community support for parents and families. By filling these critical gaps, we can increase the quality of life for both individuals and families. Ohio's leadership role in autism made it a natural fit for the State to take on this task.

That solution is ASD Strategies in Action, a groundbreaking online video training program that provides practical information and skills, demonstrated with real-life examples, filmed in a variety of settings, for those who interact with individuals with ASD. The mobile-friendly video training program is free to all Ohioans and available anywhere.

"This program gives families and service providers – even in the most rural areas of our state – the tools they need to effectively care for, support, educate, employ, and work with individuals on the autism spectrum from early childhood to young adulthood," said Shawn Henry, Executive Director of OCALI (the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence). "With this new program, we are empowering Ohio families and exporting hope to families across the country and globe. This is just the beginning of this exciting program"

Powered by OCALI, ASD Strategies in Action is a collaborative effort across multiple state agencies to put information into the hands of more people with the goal of making life better for the individuals, parents, and families we serve together. The program was funded under the leadership of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Health Transformation.

"ASD Strategies in Action takes Ohio's leadership in autism to the next level," said DODD Director John Martin. "A better trained support staff means a better quality of life for individuals and families."

Martin said that making the program easily accessible and free for Ohioans is key to empowering all Ohioans to take part.

Anyone who interacts with individuals with ASD – either now or in the future – can benefit from the program.

"This is a great resource for County Board staff and providers who are new to the field, or who haven't had the opportunity to work with individuals with autism," said Martin. "It's also a great – and free – resource that County Boards and providers can share with families – it gives them another tool to add to their toolbox when working with families."

Martin said he would encourage providers and County Board staff to complete the training so they can expand their knowledge around working with individuals with autism, and to connect families with the program.

Visit www.autismcertificationcenter.org for more information, and to access ASD Strategies in Action.