

## Star Award winners announced

The 2015 Community Star Award winners have been announced and will be recognized at the Awards Banquet on Wednesday, October 7th, at Villa Milano.

"We have some amazing and uplifting stories of accomplishment in this year's group of winners," stated Superintendent Morison. "They were selected amongst some outstanding nominations."

The 2015 winners will be recognized beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road. The Dave Powers Trio will provide entertainment and News Reporter Marcus Thorpe will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Over 600 are expected to be present for the event.

Included in this issue of Dateline is a registration form for the event. Registrations will be accepted on a first come first served basis.



### ***The 2015 Community Star Award Winners***

**Cathy Ticknor, Adult Participant**

**Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Lusk, Youth Participant**

**Larry Olszewski, Parent/ Family Member**

**Brad Breedlove, Adult Services Staff**

**Rayjeanna Stowe, School Staff**

**Hilltop YMCA/ AI Obayuwana, Provider Organization**

**Ken & Judi Mongeau, Volunteer/ Good Neighbor**

**Bill Ryan, Transportation Staff**

**Laura Billingham, Early Childhood Staff**

**Sarah Chapman, Residential Staff**

**Nan Burns, Management Staff**

**Nikole Loew, Support Services**

**James Turner, Jr., Service Coordination Staff**

**Abacus Staffing/ Genco Dell, Employer**

# Broadening horizons in Adult Services

by Bob Gaston, Adult Services Director

**Editor's Note: With so much happening at the state and federal level regarding employment, day services and options for adults with developmental disabilities, we thought we should provide an update of FCBDD adult services. The following article was written by Bob Gaston, FCBDD Adult Services Director.**

The mission of the Adult Services department is to provide accessible, responsive and innovative systems of support that empower people with disabilities to become lifelong learners and contributing citizens of our community.

The department's services and supports have always been about inclusion, increased independence and community presence and participation. With new initiatives, directives and changes at both the state and federal levels however, the challenge has been issued now more than ever, to think outside the box and develop supportive options for individuals in the community.

We are well positioned to meet those challenges and are aligning and refining our programs and services to facilitate community participation based upon each individual's desired outcomes as expressed through the person-centered planning process.

In addition to the efforts from the county board, the ARC Industries board has been actively developing key strategic initiatives to promote and support individuals on the path to employment through a variety of innovative and evidence-based approaches.

Since September 2013, all new enrollees go through Discovery, which is a person-centered process culminating in the development of a Discovery Profile. The profile identifies and highlights an individual's abilities and desires and seeks to connect the individual with opportunities in their community which support those abilities and desires. Several service options have been developed to provide individuals with community based services. The opportunities that are being offered include but are not limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Over 800 people currently placed in competitive or group/enclave employment positions in the community.</li><li>◆ Project SEARCH – Partnership with DSW to offer internship and training at their distribution warehouse and preparing individuals for careers in the rapidly growing logistics field in Central Ohio.</li><li>◆ Discovery Training – 25 Adult Services staff received Discovery training and will begin Discovery process with individuals currently receiving center-based services with the goal of connecting them with employment and other options outside the traditional facilities.</li><li>◆ OSU PIECE Pilot – Pre-Vocational Integrated Education and Campus Experience for 12 individuals and 6 staff members. This project is the first of its kind in the state of Ohio.</li><li>◆ Farmer Paul – Gardening program at the Living Skills Centers to help with career exploration, horticulture therapy and integrated opportunities. Plans are also underway to expand community-based horticulture options for individuals through a partnership with UFCO (Urban Farms of Central Ohio).</li><li>◆ Sunapple Kitchens – Multiple partnerships with local start-up food vendors to utilize our commercial kitchens in exchange for training and employing individuals interested in food service.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Sunapple Studios – Individuals employed by Sunapple Studios are exhibiting and selling their artwork around the community at numerous venues. This spring two Sunapple artists presented at the YAI International Conference in New York City and shared with conference goers information on our exciting, interactive art installation planned for this fall at the Columbus Cultural Arts Center.</li><li>◆ Health and Wellness Initiative – Promoting healthy lifestyles and connecting individuals from our facility- based programs with local YMCA's and other resources and options available in our community.</li><li>◆ Groveport Town Hall / Recreation – Individuals served have regular opportunities to participate in community classes.</li><li>◆ Continued quality pre-vocational and habilitation services, including community based opportunities provided through ARC North, ARC West, ARC East and the Living Skills Centers.</li><li>◆ Tuition Assistance – Providing need-based financial assistance for individuals wishing to pursue post-secondary educational opportunities at Columbus State Community College.</li><li>◆ Volunteer experiences – Identifying volunteer opportunities and assisting individuals with connections based upon individual interest and desire to give back to our community.</li></ul>
--	--

These initiatives coupled with long-time community partners like Meals on Wheels, Lifecare Alliance, Franklin Park Conservatory, the Godman Guild Gardens, Animeals, and many others have combined to create more options than ever before for individuals to be supported in the community.

Our partnership with ADD's Community Connections is continually evolving and providing many with community inclusion on both individual and small group levels. We believe that all of these opportunities will help to nurture and grow relationships with the community that are vital to fulfilling our mission to empower individuals to be contributing citizens of our community.

For details on these and other initiatives of the FCBDD Adult Services operations or ARC Industries, call (614) 475-7007 or go to the FCBDD Adult Services web site at <http://as.fcbdd.org>.

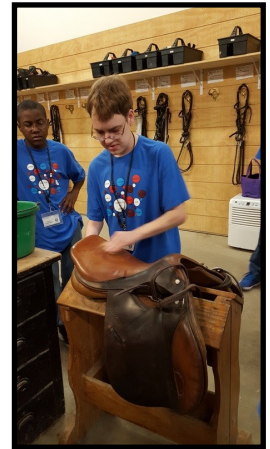
# Schools Summer Transition Pilot Successful

The FCBDD School-age Program, in collaboration with Columbus City, South-Western City, and Reynoldsburg City School Districts, recently completed the first year **“Transition to Work”** summer program.

By contract with **SPARK, LLC**, a Supported Employment – Community provider agency, 42 students from several county school districts participated in training and community exploration activities designed to enhance awareness of employment opportunities, assess through direct experiences students’ interests and aptitudes for various careers, and to learn the social skills and communication skills needed to seek and keep a job. Pre-employment experiences included: Vaughn Hairston YMCA, Urbancrest; Columbus Metro Library Operations center; Otterbein University Horse Barn; Community Computer Alliance and JoAnn Fabrics. Independent skills training included: COTA travel training; YMCA North Fitness class; and Project STIR self-determination training.

FCBDD Transition Resources Coordinator, Lilian Beck reports: “Some parents noted in their surveys that they saw their student’s social skills improve during the course of the program, that the students were always eager to come to the program, and that they have started thinking differently about the transition opportunities available to their students. We are looking forward to next year and the possibility of expanding the program into other areas of the county.”

This pilot program adds to the traditional Summer Center program offered at FCBDD’s West Central and Career Camp, offered in collaboration with Columbus Schools. Plans for next summer are already underway.



*Caleb Welday and Jacobi Vargo at the Otterbein University Equestrian Center assisting with the cleaning of saddles.*

---

## ADA celebration

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was well represented at the 25th Anniversary celebration of the American’s with Disabilities Act.

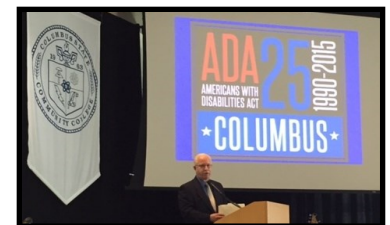
On July 25, 1990, President Bush signed the act providing civil rights to individuals with disabilities. Superintendent Morison spoke at the sold out celebration held at Columbus State Community College. His remarks used the theme from the old Virginia Slims Cigarette Ad of “We’ve Come a Long Way Baby,” where he commended people for uniting together to make great progress, while reminding folks that we still have much to do.

Sunapple Studios artists joined Jan Montgomery and Margo Crabtree to sell some of their works at the second celebration held at Columbus Commons. Hundreds of people were in attendance with vendors and booths set up from numerous disability groups.

Congratulations to Sue Hetrick and the Organizing Committee for coordinating the celebration.



*Sunapple artists with Jan Montgomery and Margo Crabtree*



*Superintendent Morison speaks at ADA celebration.*

---

## Ohio ‘ABLE’ Law passed

House Bill 155 has been signed into law by Governor Kasich to allow for the establishment of the Ohio ABLE (Achieving Better Living Experience) program.

This law, pursuant to federal law authorization passed in December, 2014, will encourage individuals and families to save funds without losing their Medicaid benefits.

The ABLE program will be modeled after the qualified tuition programs authorized under section 529 of the IRS, including creation of tax-advantaged ABLE accounts.

The law requires the Treasurer of the State of Ohio to implement and administer the ABLE program, which will

be available to individuals who have a disability that occurred before the age of 26.

Contributions placed into ABLE accounts will be exempt from federal gift tax up to the annual limit of \$14,000. Funds that are disbursed for qualified disability expenses are exempt from federal income tax.

Now that the law has been signed, the Treasurer’s Office is in the process of developing rules and guidelines to implement. More details are expected this fall.

# Special thanks to Oakland Nursery

Special thanks to Oakland Nursery in New Albany for donating their time and a variety of flowers and plants to Northeast School.

Andy from Oakland Nursery helped the students plant the flowers and plants in the Northeast courtyard. He talked about the basics of planting and demonstrated the proper way of planting. The students enjoyed the opportunity getting their hands dirty and planting beautiful flowers throughout the area.

Thanks to Oakland Nursery and especially Andy, the Northeast School courtyard looked beautiful for the final All School Picnic and Graduation!



*Andy from Oakland Nursery helping the students plant flowers at Northeast.*

## Jennifer Schneid recognized

Jennifer Schneid, Adaptive Physical Education teacher for the school program has received the Franklin B. Walter Outstanding Educator Award.

The award was presented on June 17th to recognize Jennifer for her exceptional service. In addition to her multi-disciplinary approach with her students and collaboration with team members, she has consistently incorporated community instruction and supported summer and transitional programming.

Jennifer has also developed partnerships with Columbus Parks and Recreation, several YMCAs, OSU, Special Olympics and Starling School, located across the street from West Central.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Franklin B. Walter, Ohio's Superintendent of Public Instruction from 1977 until 1991. In addition to recognizing an outstanding educator from each region of the state, outstanding achievement awards were also presented to special education students. Student awards were named in honor of Dr. Raymond A. Horn, former Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction and former President of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

## Documentary features 3 from Central Ohio

"How to Dance in Ohio" is the title of a film that features three individuals from Central Ohio and served by the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

The documentary was shown at the Sundance Film Festival and features a group of teenagers and young adults on the autism spectrum preparing for a Spring Formal.

Caroline McKenzie, Marideth Bridges and Jessica Sullivan are the actors. They spend 12 weeks confronting and practicing their social skills as they prepare for the big event, to be hosted at a local disco. Working with their trusted psychologist, they deconstruct fear and larger-than-life social anxiety one step at a time by picking dates, dresses, and ultimately, a King and Queen of the Prom.

In "How to Dance in Ohio", we get to know three girls transitioning into adulthood. The film takes us inside their group therapy sessions, their relationships with their families and their private thoughts as they struggle to understand and navigate the social rules that surround the suspenseful and heightened experience of a first date.

Congratulations to Caroline, Marideth and Jessica. Further details can be seen on <http://www.sundance.org/projects/how-to-dance-in-ohio>.

## ReelAbilities Film Festival

The ReelAbilities Film Festival will be held in Columbus, Ohio from September 25-29th with several films scheduled to be shown at different venues.

The Film Festival uses film and programs to inspire individuals to change their perception of disabilities and advance inclusion. The Festival promotes dialogue, advocates for support of the arts and disability rights and encourages best practices.

The event is organized by VSA Ohio (VSAO), a statewide, non-profit organization on Arts and Disability.

For details on the films, locations and other special events, contact VSAO at (614) 241-5325 or [www.vsao.org](http://www.vsao.org).

# Good for you

## Notable achievements in the FCBDD community

Congratulations to all the **PIECE Project** participants for your participation in this innovative campus and employment program in collaboration with **The Ohio State University**.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you, **Gloria Church**, for your 30+ years of service with the FCBDD Human Resources Department. Your error free, consistent, loyal service to FCBDD has been invaluable and greatly appreciated. Best wishes in retirement!

*Julie Williams and Gloria Church*



\*\*\*\*\*

Kudos to the **Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)** for advocating for more time for County Boards of DD to transition to Conflict Free Case Management. The Centers of Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) have accepted the DODD proposal to allow Boards to continue to provide home and community based services until March, 2024.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to **Vickie DeVore** on your retirement from FCBDD after over 30 years of excellent service at ARC North and Service Coordination. You have impacted the lives of so many in many positive ways. Best Wishes!



*Vickie Devore*

Thanks to all the staff and volunteers who helped to make all the special summer programs a success.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to the **ARC Wellness Team** for conducting Wellness Fairs at all locations. Feedback was very positive.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to **Melissa Reineke**. On May, 29th she celebrated her 25th anniversary at Kroger! Melissa loves her job and has no plans of retiring any time soon.



*Pictured is Melissa and one of the front end supervisors (Craig)*

\*\*\*\*\*

# Congratulations to Kolby Sherick!

Congratulations to Kolby Sherick, daughter of FCBDD Information Systems Director, Travis Sherick. Kolby has been named a Miracle Mile Champion to bring awareness to a genetic condition called Langer Giedion Syndrome and she will participate in the Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon. Kolby will be at Mile 10 to inspire runners and walkers on Sunday, October 18.

Should you want to learn more about Langer Giedion Syndrome or to donate to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Kolby's name please go to the following link:

<http://nationwidechildrens.kintera.org/faf/donorReg/donorPledge.asp?ievent=1126814&lis=1&kntae1126814=BC89AEC0E2144C56B7002F46B3E1B0E8&suuld=419476208&emaillogid=8395212818>.



*Kolby Sherick, Nationwide Children's Hospital "Miracle Mile Champion."*

# Career Milestones

## 35 years

Kathleen Ahlers  
Diana McClain  
Robert Thomas  
Joan Thornton

## 30 years

Keith Gatwood  
Deborah Wright

## 25 years

Regina Rhoads  
Sally Robinson  
Brenda Thacker

## 20 years

Michael Shoemaker

## 15 years

Tiffany Anderson  
Mary Fairchild

## 10 years

Erin Bowlin  
Andrea Evans  
Carla Maynard  
Brenda Mickey  
Timothy Sparks  
Michael Surratt  
Terri Thompson  
John Wick

## 5 years

Breanna Babin  
Amy Infante  
David Joseph  
Sherita Kendrick  
Tamika McCluney  
Emily Sherman  
Joshua Stevens

## In Memoriam

### Mrs. Eleanor 'Jane' Gove

We are sorry to report that Eleanor 'Jane' Gove passed away on June 20, 2015.

Mrs. Gove was one of the original parents who began community services in 1951, with the establishment of the "Franklin County Council for Retarded Children." Mrs. Gove and Dr. Roger Gove were pioneers in establishing the community based services that are provided today.

Our sympathies are extended to the Gove Family. Mrs. Gove was 99 years old.



## Buddy Walk on Sept. 27

The Columbus Buddy Walk will be held at Mapfre Stadium (formerly Crew Stadium) on Sunday, September 27, 2015.

Several thousand are expected for the event which supports families, promote community involvement and encourage a lifetime of opportunities for people with Down Syndrome.

The event will occur rain or shine with registration beginning at 9:00 a.m. and opening ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m. The Buddy Walk is DSACO's (Down Syndrome of Central Ohio) signature event.



For details, call (614) 263-6020 or go to [www.dsaco.net](http://www.dsaco.net).

## Dateline

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

**Renée Stein**, President  
**Linda Craig**, Vice-President  
**John Bickley**, Secretary  
**Marie Crawford**  
**Dean Fadel**  
**Helen Ninos**  
**Beth Savage**

Superintendent / C.E.O. **Jed W. Morison**

The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities does not discriminate in employment or services on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or disability.

The following staff contribute to the monthly *Dateline*:

**Carl Scott**                      **Linda Fleming**  
**Amy Magginis**                **Jennifer Cunningham**

**News releases, story ideas, and suggestions should be sent to:**

Jed Morison  
2879 Johnstown Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43219  
(614) 475-6440 FAX (614) 342-5001  
e-mail: [jed.morison@fcbdd.org](mailto:jed.morison@fcbdd.org)

Information about the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities is always available on the internet at:

[www.fcbdd.org](http://www.fcbdd.org)

## Calendar

### September

- 7 Labor Day
- 10 Self-Advocate Advisory Council, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 10 a.m.
- 13 Discover Your Abilities 5K Run, Walk, Roll, Arch Park - 218 West St., Arena District area. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Official start at 9 a.m. For more details go to [www.premierraces.com](http://www.premierraces.com).
- 16 Family Support meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 9:30 a.m. Meeting is open to all family members.
- 24 FCBDD Finance and Human Resources Committees meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 4 p.m.
- 24 FCBDD Board meeting, 2879 Johnstown Rd., 5 p.m.
- 25-29 ReelAbilities Film Festival organized by VSA Ohio. Please contact VSAO at (614) 241-5325 or visit [www.vsao.org](http://www.vsao.org) for more details.
- 27 Buddy Walk, sponsored by the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, Mapfre Stadium. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Opening ceremony at 9:30 a.m.
- 28 ARC Industries Board of Trustees meeting, Kemba Financial in Gahanna, 11:30 a.m.

# DISCOVER your ABILITIES 5K

proceeds benefit  
**FRANKLIN COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

**September 13th, 2015**  
**9am**  
"Arch Park" @ Nationwide Arena  
218 West St.  
Columbus, OH 43215

**\$20 Entry Fee**  
\$10 Race Entry for anyone eligible to receive services from FCBDD  
First 350 guaranteed to receive:  
Official Race T-shirt, Unique Finisher Medal & Goodie Bag  
**Register: [premierraces.com](http://premierraces.com)**

**Celebrate in the Park!**  
OSU Mobile Tour, Kids Fun Run, Food, Music and More!

Interested in being a Sponsor?  
Contact **Ryan Phillips**,  
Special Olympics Director,  
614-342-5984 or [ryan.phillips@fcbdd.org](mailto:ryan.phillips@fcbdd.org)