

HORIZONS



Summer 2024



Crawford County
Board of
Developmental Disabilities

Save the Dates

CHARGERS FOR CHANGE AUGUST 21

BOARD MEETING AUGUST 22

PROGRAMS CLOSED AUGUST 23

PROGRAMS CLOSED SEPTEMBER 2

Newsletter Contents

FAIRWAY PRESCHOOL PAGES 2-3

EARLY INTERVENTION PAGE 4

CCBDD AT LOCAL EVENTS PAGE 5

CCBDD SPOTLIGHT PAGES 6-8

MS. WHEELCHAIR PAGE 9

JANET'S SUMMER VACATION PAGE 10

COLORING PAGE PAGE 11

SPECIAL OLYMPICS PAGES 12-13

TIPS FOR SUMMER SAFETY PAGES 14-15

NEWSLETTER SIGNUP PAGE 16

Letter from the Superintendent



Hello Fairway community,

I hope this message finds you well as we move through the summer months. It's the perfect time to share some exciting updates with you. Our hardworking staff and administrators have been dedicated to ensuring our facilities are in top-notch condition, and we have some fantastic projects underway that will enhance the overall experience for our students and staff.

At Fairway, we've been focusing on preparing for the upcoming school year. Our maintenance crew has been busy demolishing a dilapidated shed on the playground and replacing it with a pavilion, upgrading our fire alarm systems, and scheduling the replacement of a portion of the roof in July. Over at the administrative building, a partial wing renovation is underway to provide additional office space and a new training room. Our maintenance crew is also diligently working on various beautification projects around the campus.

In addition to these physical improvements, we are actively exploring options to upgrade our preschool curriculum to meet new state requirements. The goal is to choose a curriculum that aligns with our mission and enhances the learning experience for our students. We are excited about the innovations and enhancements that this will bring.

As we move into the second half of summer, I want to remind everyone to stay safe and make the most of this time. It's also important to share a summer safety alert from DODD (please see page 14-15) and encourage everyone to keep this in mind. I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation for your continued support and commitment to the Fairway community. Your dedication is what makes our school a wonderful place for our students and staff. I'm looking forward to a successful start to the new school year, and I can't wait to see the positive impact of all these improvements on our community. Thank you for being part of our journey to success.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable rest of the summer,

Court D. Sturts

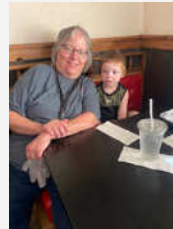
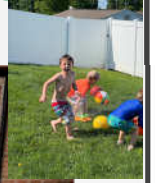
HOW MANY **WATERMELONS** CAN YOU FIND IN OUR NEWSLETTER?



Fairway Preschool



Important Dates
First day of school
Sept 3, 2024
Sept 4, 2024





Early Intervention



Water Activities for Babies and Toddlers

Are you looking for some simple ideas to help your child's development? Water play can be a great way to keep your child engaged while also building skills. This can be done with a baby pool or even some storage containers that will hold water. Some other materials that can be used include scoops and cups, paintbrushes, leaves and sticks, bubbles, soap, cars or anything else your child would enjoy. These activities help build fine motor strength, language development, problem solving skills, and social emotional regulation.

Paint with water- Give your child a paint brush and allow them to "paint" different items with the water. Talk about what happens to the objects after they have been painted.

Car wash- Use soapy water and have your child wash their cars in the water. They can use brushes or old toothbrushes to get those cars squeaky clean.

Wash the Dishes- Allow your child to use sponges to wash plastic dishes or play dishes. Model how to fill and squeeze the sponges.

Sink and float- Collect various items and predict whether they will sink or float in the water. Keep a record of your findings.

Nature Soup- Let your child use items found around the yard to make soup. Talk about what they find and how they make their soup.

Allow your child to direct the play and get messy!!



Crawford County Board of DD @ Local Events



Third Friday in Galion



First Friday in Bucyrus

The Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities has been actively engaging with the local community at various events. If you're curious about what CCBDD offers, visit our booth where our team will gladly address your queries. Take this opportunity to familiarize yourself with the range of services we provide, including Early Intervention, Preschool classes for typical and special needs students, and Service Support Administration /Case Management. To discover more about our work, reach out to us.



Crawford County Fair



Crawford County Board of DD Spotlight



Celebrating a Hero: Joe Fikes, AKA Mr. Lifesaver

In times of crisis, it's often the actions of everyday heroes that shine the brightest. This holds true for Joe Fikes, a remarkable individual whose quick thinking and selfless actions recently saved a life. Joe, a resident of one of our 24/7 staffed group homes, demonstrated exceptional courage and composure during a medical emergency, becoming a true beacon of hope for our community.

When Joe was awoken one May night by a distressed staff member in need of urgent medical assistance, he sprang into action without hesitation. Not only did he swiftly contact emergency services, but he also ensured that the necessary help reached the individual in need at our group home. His unwavering determination and compassion didn't stop there - Joe continued to communicate vital information to our staff, ensuring that the situation was handled with the utmost care.

As a result of Joe's decisive actions, a life was saved, and a family was spared from heartache. The individual he assisted expressed profound gratitude, emphasizing the pivotal role Joe played in his recovery. In recognition of his extraordinary bravery, the Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities proudly presented Joe with a well-deserved certification, honoring his life-saving heroism. The entire CCBDD community joins in expressing deep pride and admiration for Joe's remarkable response during this critical situation.

Beyond his courageous acts, Joe's humility and genuine care for others shines through. Upon receiving the certificate, Joe expressed his happiness at being able to make a positive impact, reaffirming his commitment to helping others. His noble spirit is a testament to the incredible impact that one person can have on the lives of those around them.

Let's take a moment to honor Joe's selfless bravery and monumental contribution to our community. His actions serve as a powerful reminder of the immeasurable impact of kindness and quick thinking. As we celebrate Joe's extraordinary heroism, we also extend our heartfelt encouragement for him to continue his outstanding work.

Thank you, Joe, for embodying the true essence of a hero and inspiring us all with your selfless spirit.

Crawford County Board of DD Spotlight



ANGEL DAVIS
PICKWICK EMPLOYEE

Meet Angel: A Valued Member of Our Community

Have you had the pleasure of meeting Angel, a vibrant and active member of our community? Angel's journey is nothing short of inspiring, and her positive impact is felt by everyone who crosses her path.

Angel moved to our county a decade ago and has blossomed in so many ways. She's a sociable individual with a wide circle of friends, and she's passionate about a variety of activities, including music, swimming, basketball games, shopping, fairs and festivals, and dancing. But that's not all - Angel is also part of the Pep Squad and bowling team for Special Olympics, showcasing her dedication to staying active and involved in the community.

Five days a week, Angel attends Chrysalis where she eagerly participates in various classes aimed at empowering her and increasing her awareness of her rights. Furthermore, Angel has been taking strides in technology, even learning to use devices like Alexa.

In 2016, Angel joined The Pickwick Place through a partnership with Chrysalis, becoming one of their first employees. Her contributions are diverse, from event set-ups to greenhouse assistance and cleaning. Her colleagues genuinely appreciate her hard work and dedication, viewing her as an invaluable part of the team. Angel's journey - from training to becoming a cherished team member - is a testament to Pickwick's strong commitment to inclusivity and community building. Her joy in receiving her paycheck and planning how to use her earnings truly reflects her strong work ethic and wise financial management.

So, next time you're out and about in our community, take a moment to say hello to Angel. Her warm smile and positive energy are sure to brighten your day. Let's continue to celebrate the rich diversity and invaluable contributions of all our community members, including the remarkable Angel.



Crawford County Board of DD Spotlight



Christin's Inspiring Journey: Overcoming Challenges and Embracing Growth

In the bustling world of team meetings, it's not uncommon to find individuals who start out quietly, perhaps unsure of their place in the group. That's where Christin's remarkable journey begins. A year ago, she graced her team meetings with her presence, but she kept to herself and rarely spoke up. However, fast forward to the present, and Christin is now the confident leader of these meetings, a testament to her remarkable growth and determination.

What sparked this transformation? Christin attributes her newfound leadership to the unwavering support of her team. She openly acknowledges their positive influence and the pivotal role they played in her personal and professional development. Expressing a desire to further her education, Christin set her sights on earning her GED and reconnecting with her faith by attending church on Sundays and volunteering for the Vacation Bible School. With unwavering determination, Christin brought her aspirations to light and called upon her team to hold her accountable, showcasing her commitment to personal growth and self-improvement.

True to her word, Christin took charge of her aspirations. She reignited her attendance at church and embarked on her GED journey at the Success Center, where she found a supportive environment and an encouraging instructor. As she diligently pursues her goal, Christin's eyes are set on the future, expressing her passion for working with children. Her dreams involve becoming a preschool aide or sharing her love for reading by becoming a children's story reader at a local library, a testament to her unwavering passion for nurturing young minds.

Christin's remarkable progress has not gone unnoticed, as Jane Carr, a longtime advocate and team member, reflects on their journey together. Jane recalls the stumbling blocks Christin encountered along the way, emphasizing that these challenges catalyzed her tremendous growth and development. She paints a vivid picture of Christin's infectious laughter and radiant smile, a reflection of her resilience and inner strength.

Christin's journey is a testament to the power of unwavering determination, resilience, and the invaluable support of a nurturing team. Her story serves as a beacon of inspiration, highlighting the transformative power of belief, perseverance, and the unwavering support of those around us. As we witness Christin's extraordinary journey, we are reminded of the immense potential within each of us to overcome obstacles and achieve our aspirations, all while uplifting and empowering those around us.

Christin's story is a celebration of courage, perseverance, and the unyielding spirit of growth. Let's continue to rally behind her as she paves the way for an inspiring and impactful future.



Ms. Wheelchair Ohio - Gabby Kozinski

Submitted by Gabby Kozinski



As Ms. Wheelchair Ohio 2024, my platform is “Knowledge is Power” and my passion is to teach people how to better interact with individuals with disabilities, with a focus on teaching children. I specifically address the issues of “petting” an individual with a disability, bending down to speak with someone in a wheelchair and using the infamous “baby voice”.

I have had the privilege of going all over Ohio to speak at various events, schools, fair pageants, parades, and civic clubs. The questions I have received and have been able to answer let me know that this has been ignored far too long. As a “recipient” of every issue I mentioned above, I pray that I can help change things for others that live with disabilities, so they do not have to endure that innocent ignorance. People just do not know what they do not know, and I am here to change that!

I am always ready to speak! For instance, last Sunday. I attended a disabilities festival in Columbus, Ohio – just for fun - and ended up speaking to the entire audience. I will always advocate for “better” when it comes to people living with disabilities – or, as I like to say, “other abilities”!





Janet's Ultimate Summer Vacation



The Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities / Fairway Preschool is with mixed emotions announcing the retirement of Janet Sutter. Janet has been an essential fixture in our preschool program for the past 22 years. Prior to that, Janet was a substitute and a part-time aide. In 2002, Janet worked in the Galion Collaboration Classroom as Tonya Jones' teacher aide, until the 2010/2011 school year when they both came to Fairway School in Bucyrus. Although working with preschool students, both typical and special needs, can be challenging at times, the good memories far exceed any of the challenges. She has been able to make many unforgettable memories through singing, dancing, and reading with the children. Janet has enjoyed not only working with the children at Fairway school, but also developing relationships with them and their families. Janet thoroughly enjoyed working alongside Tonya and the rest of the staff at Fairway School.

Janet has been a valued part of CCBDD / Fairway School as she has brought a lot of experience to the program, along with her positive attitude and willingness to help others. She has left us with many great memories, and we will deeply miss Janet's patience, easy-going disposition and smiling face.

We hope that with retirement, she will have more time to enjoy life with her husband, Ben; daughter, Amanda; sons, Chris and Nathan and their families. In the summer we will see her outside working in the garden and flower beds, while in the winter, before Christmas, she will be inside decorating her house with Hallmark ornaments. She has agreed to be a substitute upon retirement, so we plan on seeing her from time to time.

Janet, congratulations on your retirement, we wish you well and thank you for your many years of dedicated service to CCBDD / Fairway School.

Congratulations





SUMMER

iHeartCraftyThings.com

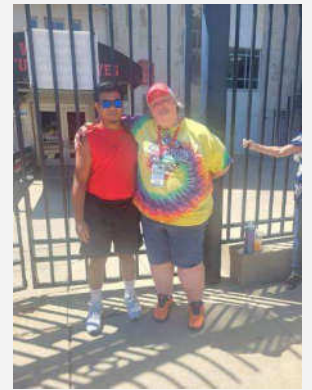
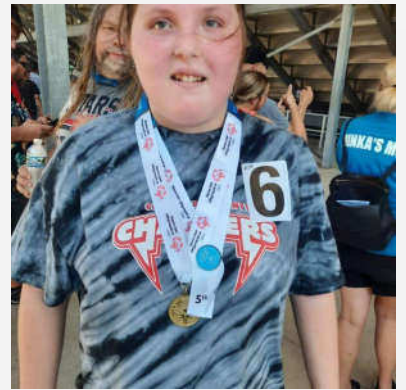
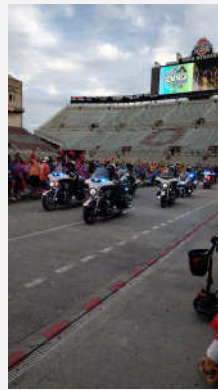




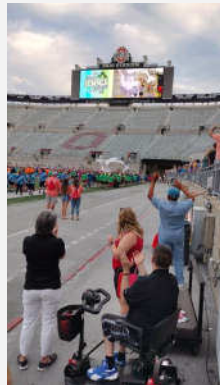
Special Olympics



Our Special Olympics team had the honor of attending the Summer Games in Columbus, Ohio. The electrifying opening ceremonies at the Ohio State Football Stadium, co-hosted by the esteemed Alan Burkhart, set the stage for an unforgettable event. With a total of nineteen inspiring members from our track and bowling teams, we proudly brought home several medals this year. Our bowling team, consisting of 40 dedicated individuals, is already gearing up for next year's Special Olympics Summer Games, eager to participate in thrilling sports like Bocce Ball and Powerlifting.



Summer Games



Health and Welfare Alert



Summer Safety #02-05-24

TIPS FOR SUMMER SAFETY

KEEP OTHERS SAFE THIS SUMMER

Prevent Heatstroke



Be aware of temperatures!

Use Sunscreen



Protect yourself from UV rays!

Stay Hydrated



Pack extra water and drinks!

Trampoline Safety



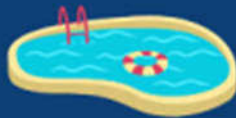
Practice safe jumping!

Carry First Aid



Keep gloves, bandages, etc.

Prevent Drowning



Pay attention to swimmers!

Pedestrian Safety



Wear something reflective!

Wear Cool Clothes



Wear protective clothes!

Get in the Shade



Use an umbrella if necessary!

Fire and Grill Safety



Check flame and temperature!

Choking Prevention



Properly prepare/cut food!

Bug Bite Protection



Use bug spray to avoid bites!

Monitor Home Temp



Comfortable temperatures!

Prevent Food Poisoning



Clean, Separate, Cook and Chill!

Safety at Festivals/Fairs



Carry identification for safety!

Bike Safety



Wear a helmet!





Health and Welfare Alert Summer Safety #02-05-24

Dehydration

Dehydration is the loss of body fluids and electrolytes due to sweating and an inadequate intake of water. Drinking alcohol or caffeine, such as coffee, tea, or pop, can make someone dehydrated. Some signs include: heat exhaustion, headache, nausea or vomiting, fainting, blurred vision, confusion, decreased urine output or urine that is concentrated and appears dark, sunken eyes, wrinkled or saggy skin, decreased skin elasticity, extreme dryness in the mouth, fever or a temperature higher than 102 degrees, and severe pain or blistering of the skin.

If dehydration is suspected, rehydration is the key to preventing further complications. Remember to drink at least eight glasses of water per day. Sunstroke, or heat stroke, is a serious, life-threatening condition when the body is exposed to hot temperatures for long periods of time. If sun or heat stroke is suspected, seek medical attention immediately. This condition occurs as a result of overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays. Risk of sunburn is higher for people with fair skin, blue eyes, and red or blonde hair. People with darker skin tones can also burn. Taking certain medications or having compromised skin also increases the risk.

To prevent sunburn

- Avoid the sun between 10 AM and 4 PM
- Wear a hat, especially if hair is thin on top of the head
- Reapply sunscreen every two to three hours, or more if swimming
- Remember, sunburns can happen on cloudy days
- Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher 30 minutes before going outside
- Try to stay in the shade
- Use lip balm that includes sunscreen
- Put on sunglasses with 100 percent UV protection

Preventing Hot Car Deaths

People with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) are at high risk of suffering a heat stroke, other injuries, or even death if left unattended in a car during the summer months. Leaving a person alone for less than 10 minutes can cause serious harm, as they may not be able to exit the vehicle even when temperatures become dangerously high. They may also not be able to call for help. Others at risk include infants and young children, elderly adults, and people who are overweight or who have chronic medical conditions, including those taking medications

such as psychotropic medications and diuretics. Never leave anyone in a parked car, no matter what the reason or length of time. Cracking the window does not protect people from heatstroke when left in a vehicle during hot temperatures.

Water Safety

Every day, about 11 people die from unintentional drowning. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), drowning is the leading cause of death for children. Direct support professionals (DSPs) should know each person's ability to be safe in and around water. For children, some people with Autism, and those who are at risk around water, take the following steps:

- Identify nearby water hazards (bathtubs, pools, hot tubs, and other bodies of water) and ensure that precautions such as locks, pool covers, alarms, and fences are in place and checked frequently.
- Make sure your family, friends, neighbors, service providers, and babysitters know about specific risks (water safety and wandering) so they can ensure safeguards are in place.
- Encourage swimming lessons or water safety classes.
- When swimming is planned, make sure the responsible staff is comfortable being in the water, provides close supervision, and has first aid and CPR training.
- Use life jackets or other flotation devices.
- Watch for someone who is too tired, cold, far from safety, getting too much sun, or doing strenuous activity.

Festival and Fair Safety

Be prepared. Make sure there are enough staff to make the day fun and safe. Bring extra clothes, sunscreen, water, toileting, and adaptive supplies. Stay together and make sure people have identification or IDs on them and know who to go to if they need help or get separated. Always make sure there are proper bathroom accommodations to meet the person's needs. Plan ahead to make sure meals and snacks are available for that person and account for any dietary or special needs.

Trampoline Safety

Allow only one jumper at a time, and make sure people are properly supervised. Ensure that supporting bars, strings, and surrounding landing surfaces have adequate protective padding that is in good condition and appropriately placed.

Food Poisoning Safety

By following four simple steps—Clean, Separate, Cook, and Chill—you can help protect yourself and the people you support from food poisoning. To learn more, click: <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/keep-food-safe.html>

Ohio Administrative Code 5123-17-02 requires all developmental disabilities employees to review Health and Welfare Alerts released by the department as part of annual training. View previous alerts on the DODD website.



Find these words:
 lemonade sweet drink iced
 cold stand sugar pink

s w e e t d
 a n f o q r
 s t a n d i
 u y r k e n
 b g e p i n k p
 c g a x m s t i z
 u d r c t i e c s w
 l e m o n a d e e
 j v l w l g d t
 k d p i h

Summer Time

1 Parrot 2 Watermelon 3 Whale
 4 Bird 5 Palm 6 Airplane 7 Sunscreen
 8 Cocktail 9 Skydiving 10 Sun

To Individuals & Families

The Horizon's Newsletter will be distributed only to families who request a copy. We are now offering the newsletter via email, on the Facebook Page, the CCBDD Website, and a physical copy to be delivered. If you are interested in receiving the Crawford County Newsletter, please complete the Newsletter Sign Up.

Thank you,
Erika Alspach

Signup Horizons Newsletter -
 Crawford County Board of DD

THERE ARE 33 WATERMELONS!

Calendar Of Events

AUGUST		
21	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium Board Meeting
22	5:30 PM	Staff Inservice— Programs Closed
23		
SEPTEMBER		
2		Labor Day—Programs Closed
3 & 4		Fairway's First Day— Staggered Start
18	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium Board Meeting
19	5:30 PM	
OCTOBER		
14		Columbus Day—Programs Closed
16	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium Board Meeting
17	5:30 PM	

Crawford County
 Board of
 Developmental Disabilities

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Ohio | Department of
 Developmental Disabilities

If there are emergencies that occur after normal business hours, please call 419-563-9292 and a Service Support Administrator will assist you.

