

HORIZONS

Spring 2023



Letter from the Superintendent



Save the Dates

411 Parent Group AUGUST 17, 2023

Chargers for Change AUGUST 17, 2023

Next Board Meeting AUGUST 20 2023

Fairway Start Dates SEPTEMBER 5-6 2023

Newsletter Contents

FAIRWAY REWIND PAGE 2-5

EARLY INTERVENTION PAGE 6

SUMMER IDEAS PAGES 6-7

MARCH AWARENESS PAGES 8-11

CCBDD SPOTLIGHT PAGE 12

411 PARENT GROUP PAGE 13

CHARGERS FOR CHANGE PAGE 13

CINDY RETIREMENT PAGES 14-15

March was Developmental Disability Awareness month. In Crawford County, we planned activities and events by putting together a committee consisting of Crawford County Board of Developmental Disability staff in the following departments: Early Intervention, Preschool, SSA, Administration, as well as Special Olympics, day providers; Chrysalis, RNI INC, and Waycraft, transportation provider-OSS, and people served. The group chose "Kindness Opens Doors" as this year's theme. We engaged the Schools in our County by offering a second grade coloring contest, middle school poster contest. Both contests awarded individual as well as class prizes. Each high school provided a varsity basketball player from the boys and girls team to team up with the Special Olympics team for a unified basketball game. The game was played at Bucyrus High School on Friday, March 31st. We had a record crowd that was estimated to be around 300. Admission was a nonperishable food item (for CCBDD's food pantry) or a monetary donation to Special Olympics. The game included announcing the winners of the coloring and poster competition, a concession stand, pep band, pep squad, throw for dough fundraiser, shirt sales, and a 50/50 drawing for special Olympics. This event filled up CCBDD's food and hygiene pantry and provided over \$2,000 to Special Olympics. CCBDD also hosted an adult experience where community members participated in a day traveling the county to learn about supports and services available to people with developmental disabilities. They were able to see first-hand adult day programs, community employment, Fairway Preschool, and a residential home. The goal of Developmental Disabilities Awareness and Inclusion month is to not only increase awareness but to encourage inclusion of people with developmental disabilities into their community. As you go through your day, please keep in mind our theme that Kindness Opens Doors!

Court D. Sturts



Fairway Rewind



Family Fun Night



On April 26, 2023, a family fun night was held at Fairway Preschool from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Teachers designed their own carnival games for students to play with their families to win prizes. Miss Tonya and Miss Janet created a fish pond game where students would use a magnetic fishing pool to catch fish for a prize. Miss Bethany and Miss Judy hosted a temporary tattoo shop. Miss Jennifer and Miss Amie created sensory bins for the students to locate items in the bins and match them to the correct objects on the tables. Miss Katie and Miss Julie hosted a mini putt-putt game demonstrating how to swing a golf club. Miss Amy and Miss Bernadette created a duck pond game where students would pick a duck and match the shape of the duck to the correct bin. Miss Kylie and Miss Aimee hosted a cake walk that helped students identify their numbers.

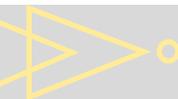




FAIRWAY GRADU



ATION PROGRAM



Early Intervention



Crawford County Early Intervention received ARPA Grant monies from the State of Ohio. With some of those funds, they were able to order adapted toys and items to begin a lending library for infants and toddlers with developmental delays that are involved in Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities' Early Intervention Program. Early Intervention will be able to better serve the needs of local families with limited resources that have children with developmental differences by lending items to them that they may not be able to obtain any other way. These items will soon be available through the Early Intervention Lending Library for families that are served by Early Intervention.

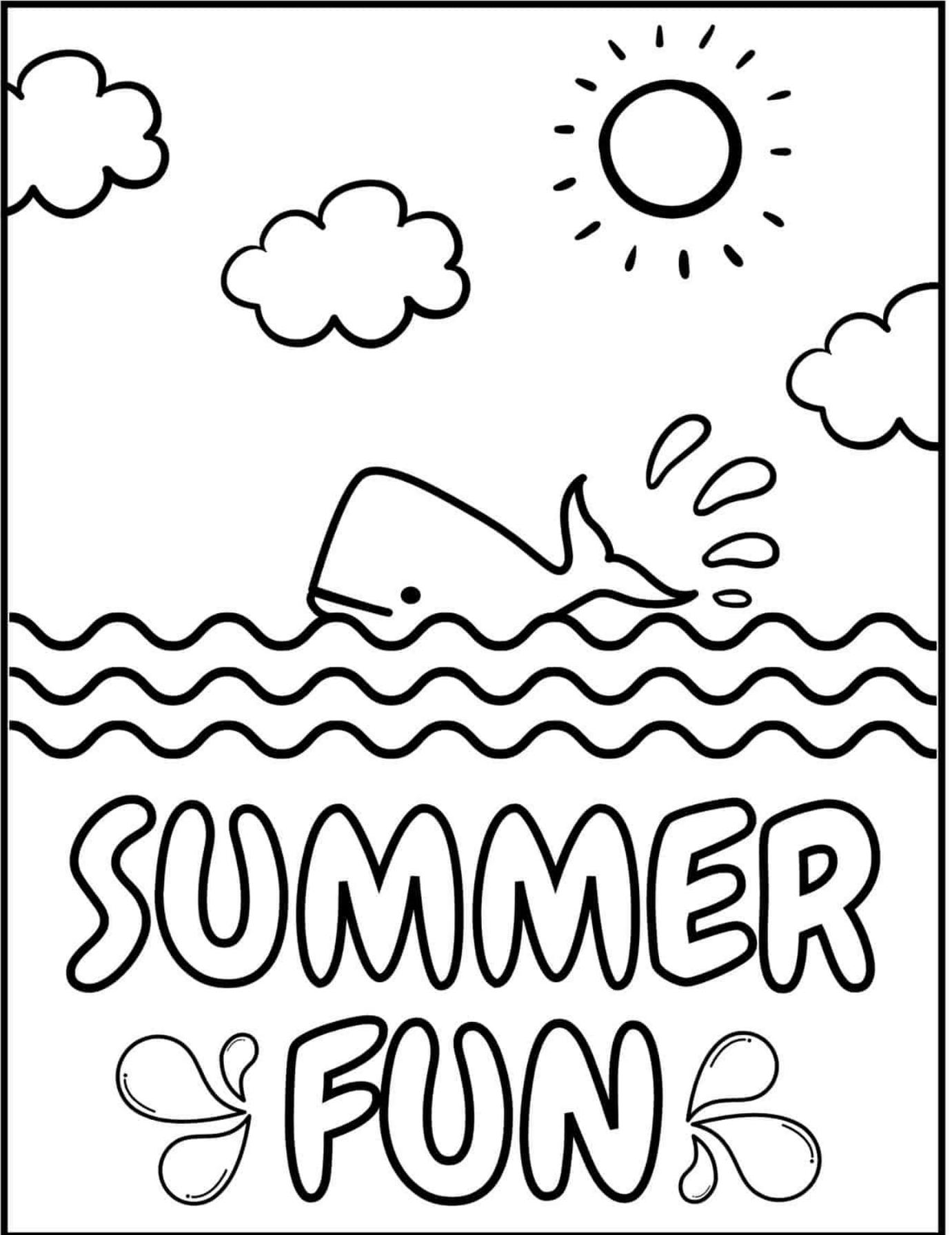


Summer Activities for Kids



1. Have a lemonade stand
2. Drive-in Movie
3. Go to the zoo
4. Visit a museum
5. Visit a water park
6. Family game night
7. Play hide and seek
8. Plan a treasure hunt
9. Make rootbeer floats
10. Make S'mores
11. Go to a baseball game
12. Have family meal night
13. Family movie night
14. Sidewalk chalk art
15. Take a bike ride
16. Playdate in the park
17. Have a picnic
18. Family relay race
19. Catch fire flies
20. BAKE COOKIES!





Adult Awareness Day

We hosted an adult half day event as part of March Developmental Disability awareness month. This year we had a handful of participants drop out at the last minute to make the number of participants smaller than usual, but we were able to show participants a lot of support and opportunities for people served. The day started off with everyone gathering at Trillium Event Center where they participated in interactive experiences to simulate some challenges people with developmental disabilities might experience. After a light breakfast, everyone loaded up on a transportation vehicle. Most of the people we support ride this vehicle to get to their day programs. Ohio Specialty Services (transportation company) provided the vehicle and driver for the day's events. The participants toured the community visiting a home where people live and Fairway Preschool. They also visited adult day service providers Chrysalis Advantage Point, RNI INC, Waycraft, the Roadside rest area maintained by Waycraft. Everyone returned to Trillium for lunch and listened to a presentation by CCBDD's speech language pathologist Bethany Rall. Participants also toured CCBDD's technology room where multiple low and high-tech supports are on display in an apartment-like setting to show how technology can support people to be more independent. This year's participants were Cindy Edwards (County Treasurer), Bob Britton (Superintendent of Bucyrus City Schools), Chad Schwemley (Bucyrus Fire Chief), Tom Grace (Salvation Army), Pastor Tancy (Addison Good Hope Lutheran Church), and Lori Burkhardt (CCBDD Board member).



Special Olympics Fundraiser

The Special Olympics' fundraiser was held at the different adult day programs and Fairway Preschool. Individuals, students, and community members were encouraged to bring coins to donate for Special Olympics. The head of each location received a whipped cream pie, except for the location that had the most change donated, they would receive the Golden Pie. The Golden Pie consisted of vanilla pudding and whipped cream. This year the location that received the largest donation was Fairway Preschool and the CCBDD.



Doug Huff– RNI



Mandi Moran– Chrysalis



Colby Bright– OSS



Tabitha Smith– Waycraft



Court Sturts– Fairway/CCBDD



MARCH AWARENESS



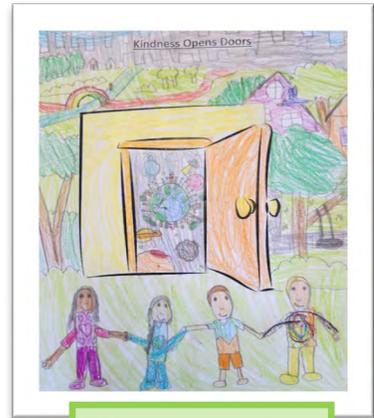
In March, we sponsored a coloring contest for second graders in Crawford County schools. The schools were supplied with a sheet for the children to color depicting an open door. Children were encouraged to use their imagination to show our theme of “Kindness Opens Doors.” After children colored the sheet, they were returned to CCBDD and then judged by Chargers for Change.

Coloring Contest Finalists:

- Mason McGrady, son of Mike and Sarah McGrady
- Sammy Rose, son of Buddy and Victoria Rose
- Owen McGrady, son of Mike and Sarah McGrady

All three finalists were from Hannah Crawford Elementary School, but different teachers – Mrs. Fogle, Mrs. Bishop, and Ms. Skaggs

Galion Elementary won the ice cream treats by submitting the most countywide classroom entries.



Winner: Sammy Rose

We also sponsored a poster contest for 6th Graders in Crawford County schools. The students were able to design a poster depicting how “Kindness Opens Doors.” After the students completed their posters, they were returned to CCBDD and judged by Chargers for Change.



Winner: Sophie Keller

Poster Contest Finalists:

- Sophie Keller, daughter of Zak Keller
- Grace Gayheart, daughter of Emily Gayheart
- Makenze McAdow, daughter of Dustin and Donyel McAdow

All three students were from William Crawford Middle School with the same teacher – Mrs. Moore.

All Finalists won gift bags which included age and gender appropriate gifts, including gift cards to Walmart.

Thank you to all who participated in this year’s coloring and poster contest!



The County Board of DD would thank to thank Mahek Trophies & Awards (Shelby), Best Little Hair House (Crestline), A-1 Printing (Bucyrus), Walmart (Bucyrus), Suburban Lanes (Bucyrus), Bucyrus High School, Bucyrus Pep Band, Bucyrus High School Golf Team, Vasils 2.0 (Bucyrus), Klontz Photography (Bucyrus), Katering Kountry Style (Bucyrus) for helping support CCBDD in the month of March with our celebration of Disabilities Awareness Month.





ANTONIO 'TONY' HERNANDEZ

Living a Good Life for Antonio Hernandez 'Tony' means being able to buy a newer vehicle without a cosigner and working at a job that he enjoys. Tony has been working at Fairway School as a custodian for about 6 years now. Before that he worked at a nursing home. For the last year, he added custodial work at the county board a couple times a week. On occasion, he will work a weekend at the Trillium when there is a wedding or special event. He is proud that he has been able to maintain his driver's license and was able to purchase a Volkswagen Touareg on his own.



When Tony is not working, you can find him with friends watching trains throughout all of Ohio. He looks forward to going to Berea to watch trains at the Train Depot. He says he can watch them for hours and enjoys the heritage locomotives the most. If he is not watching trains, he may be fishing at various fishing spots. He will go out with buddies to Lake Erie on a boat to do some walleye and perch fishing. Tony remembers a time when the waters were calm, and he caught about 20 perch all in one day. That is no fishy story! Other activities include watching football, basketball, and baseball with his friends. His favorite teams are the Ohio State Buckeyes, Cleveland Guardians, and Cleveland Cavaliers. He also enjoys watching eagles and finding out where their nests are. Just ask him, he can tell you where a few are!

Family and friends are very important to him. His grandma says that he is a "Human GPS." Tony is an advocate for himself. When asked what his goals were for the future, he said he wanted to pay off his car and keep working. Way to stay active Tony!



LARRY BEACH



For those of you who do not know him Larry Beach has been active in the community for several years. He has held numerous jobs including Ekleberry's Poultry, Insta-Clean, and Wal-Mart. Larry is currently working at Carter Machine in Galion where he does janitorial work. Larry can be found riding his electric bicycle around town or at the local clubs visiting with everyone he knows and those he does not know. Larry has made many positive changes in his life and is looking forward to buying a camper and taking vacations in the summer. He is also planning to start a garden at the Broken Arrow home where he lives. Larry continues to live his best life doing the things he enjoys and planning for his future. If you see Larry out and about, be sure to say "Hi" he always enjoys meeting new people.



411 Parents Group

The 411 Parents' Group is an opportunity for parents and individuals served by the county board to come together and discuss issues that they are facing with their own children, families or in their own life. The group meets monthly on the second Monday from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the County Board Office, or the option is available to attend via zoom if you are not able to make our in person meetings. We have had speakers on a wide range of topics such as social security, learning how to better parent your child with Triple P parenting, guardianship, etc. We want your input, so please let us know what you are interested in learning or hearing more about so we can try to find speakers to come and share knowledge on those subjects.

Chargers for Change

Chargers 4 Change is our local Self Advocacy/People First group that typically meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10 AM at Trillium Event Center. The group has been working on finding their voice and expand on more ways to be involved in the local community.

Members have been volunteering monthly throughout the school year to help pack food bags with the Bucyrus Backpack Program. They also did a small food drive for items in April that were donated and used by the program. In May, the group invited Tabetha Linn, the Executive Director of BORN, to come and present to the group about their programs and services. She also shared information about the new Blessing Box, which is stocked outside of the Born office for anyone in the community who needs food to grab some easy staple items for quick meals. The group is looking at volunteering to help with stocking the blessing box over a week or two in September and possibly hosting a food drive to donate items for the Blessing Box this summer.



HAPPY retirement



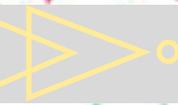
After nearing 20 years of service to the county board, Cindy Picou has said she is ready for retirement! Cindy began employment here on October 12, 2004 as a part-time secretary in Adult Services. As demands grew, she then began working full-time on May 9, 2011. Not only did she support Adult Services, but she also gained Community Employment.

Always up for a new challenge, she moved to the business office as the Fiscal Assistant on June 27, 2016. Cindy is the one who kept the lights on, literally, as she processed the electric bill. Her responsibilities included many different tasks behind the scenes; invoicing, accounts payable, payroll, helping with audits to name just a few.

Cindy and her husband, Jaime will be spending time taking their camper to different places in Ohio and the United States; especially in the last month of winter when they will travel to Florida to catch a few rays of sunshine. You may find her out in her yard tending to her flowers, gardening, out riding her bike in the summer or she might be helping her mother who lives down the road from her. No matter what, we are hoping she is enjoying having 7-day weekends and not worrying about being at work at 8:00 in the morning!

Congratulations on your retirement Cindy! Thank you for your strong work ethic, dedication, and service to the county board, you will be truly missed!







Calendar Of Events

JULY

4		4th of July—Programs Closed
20	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)- Trillium
20	7 PM	Board Meeting

AUGUST

14	5-7 PM	Parent Advocates Group - CCBDD
17	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium
21	7 PM	Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER

11	5-7 PM	Parent Advocates Group - CCBDD
21	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium
21	7 PM	Board Meeting

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



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Department of
Developmental Disabilities