

HORIZONS

Summer 2023



Save the Dates

PROGRAMS CLOSED	OCTOBER 09
BOARD MEETING	OCTOBER 19
BOARD MEETING	NOVEMBER 16
PROGRAMS CLOSED	NOVEMBER 23-24

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Letter from the Superintendent



The Bratwurst festival has come to a close and school has recently started. This is the time of the year where summer is in its twilight and fall is right around the corner. Temperatures will start to decline, leaves will turn colors and drop off the branches, football, hunting, and farming season will begin - one of my favorite times of the year. In June we achieved a perfect State Accreditation review, receiving zero citations and a lot of positive comments. We want to thank our community and everyone we serve for allowing us to be active in this community. We are excited that Fairway is serving as many students as we are allowed as we are full for the first time since COVID. Crawford County's self-advocacy group, Chargers 4 Change, has taken an active role in our community as they are taking two weeks of responsibility to stock the Blessing Box outside of BORN, and they are scheduled to complete a downtown Bucyrus walk audit as part of the Counties Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) group to identify challenging areas of for walking. This would be for people who walk, walk with assistance of equipment, use a wheelchair, or children in strollers. The goal is to support people to walk and be more active. If you want to help us accomplish our mission of empowering individuals by supporting opportunities to thrive and prosper, please let us know.

Have a great end of summer and beginning of fall.

Court D. Sturts



Fairway Preschool

Upcoming Dates:

October 3rd -
Buckeye Museum
December 13th -
Winter Program

WELCOME



BACK TO SCHOOL



Early Intervention

Crawford County Early Intervention Developmental Specialists work with children (who qualify through evaluation) on strategies to build skills in several areas, including language development. Here are a few ways to encourage speech development at home with infants and toddlers:

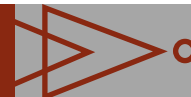
- **Repetitive words in play.** Use the same simple words over and over in play; such as "p, Wee, Yay, Uh Oh".
- **Focus on communication.** Talk with your baby, sing, and encourage imitation of sounds and gestures.
- **Read to your child.** Start reading when your child is a baby. Look for age-appropriate soft or board books or picture books that encourage kids to look while you name the pictures.
- **Use everyday situations.** To build on your child's speech and language, talk your way through the day. Name foods at the grocery store, explain what you're doing as you cook a meal or clean a room, and point out objects around the house. Keep things simple, but avoid "baby talk."

What is Early Intervention?

Early Intervention (EI) is a statewide system that provides coordinated services to parents of young children with disabilities and developmental delays. EI is grounded in the philosophy that young children learn best from familiar people in familiar settings. That is why our local EI team works with you in your home or other places that you and your family spend time to develop a coordinated plan.

Our local EI team is based out of the Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities. It consists of Developmental Specialists, Occupational, Speech, and Physical Therapists, as well as visual, hearing and early childhood mental health specialists.

Early Intervention Services are free and voluntary for families in Crawford County that have an infant or toddler who are determined to have delays in one or more areas of development. The team provides strategies for families to implement at home to improve the child's specific area of delay. A child can be referred to Help Me Grow for evaluation to determine eligibility. A parent, medical professional, and other sources can make the referral for evaluation. The phone number for referral to Help Me Grow is 419-562-4667.



Crawford County Board of DD Spotlight



GARY POFFENBAUGH

Most of you have seen this person around either at the different day services or even out walking to Taco Bell or HiMiller to get his pop. Gary Poffenbaugh is a very friendly and good friend to everyone that he meets and does not know a stranger. If you know Gary you know that he is always very helpful, is very funny and is a hard worker. Gary enjoys his baseball and football games (the Browns, Wildcats, Guardians and OSU), attending summer camps, or even sitting and listening to music (Beetles). There is never a dull moment if you are around Gary and he loves to tell jokes. Gary has made quite a few accomplishments such as Sergeant at Arms for the Chargers for Change, helping deliver Operation Christmas Child boxes in Galion and has graduated from Project Stir. Gary loves to stay busy and likes to clean and help anyone that needs a helping hand and even after working at the woodshop for years is now enjoying working at the roadside rests and absolutely enjoys it. As you can see Gary is a great friend to all and is the life of the party! If you ever see him, make sure you stop and say hi and talk to Gary!

KELSEY CASKEY

What a great summer for Kelsey. She recently received a level one waiver which assisted her with receiving services. She has been so busy with attending a day program, volunteering at many places in the community and vacationing with family. She recently built her own flower garden displayed at the front of her home and is very proud of it. She enjoys being outside and doing many activities. She recently went on an awesome vacation to Tennessee with her family and enjoyed zip lining with her dad. She said it was so much fun and she loved it. She purchased a new bike recently and will be riding that also. She has been very happy this summer and continues to grow. She is very thankful for attending Chrysalis for vocational habilitation and has experienced many volunteer opportunities this summer. She really enjoys cleaning the buses for OSS.



DAVID CREGER

Let me introduce you to David Creger. He started at McDonalds on 7/26/1993 and is still going strong. He works in maintenance and cleaning. He loves everything about his job and is the longest standing employee at Bucyrus McDonalds! He has seen many changes throughout the years including many new managers, employees and even working for the third owner of this location. He never misses work and is a very reliable employee. He has recently been going through changes at home as well as now living alone with his loved dog and doing a wonderful job taking care of the house. David's sister, Teresa, assists David with his finances and any other needed tasks that he needs help with. He is a very lucky guy that has a family that loves and supports him. David's work ethic is a testament to many others and should be praised.

Congratulations David!



Crawford County Board of DD Spotlight



Owen Stanforth

Raemelton Equestrian Therapy

Recently two young adults that Crawford County Board of DD serves Desiree Taylor, and Owen Stanforth competed in a student horse show on August 12, 2023, held at Raemelton Equestrian Therapy facility in Mansfield. Our young stars did very well in several different categories such as leading horses and barrel racing winning ribbons and trophies. Both champions attend Raemelton to help with impaired mobility, improving balance, coordination, improving and self-assurance as well as with muscle stimulation and improving concentration, patience and discipline. Owen for instance has developed bonds with the horses, and his goal is to be able to lead the horses some day by using his electric wheel chair and eye gaze control. We all hope to see updates on this goal when accomplished. On the other hand, Desiree, has developed a special bond with the horses, She benefits from attending Rae Melton by working on increasing her self-confidence, muscle tone and strength, and learning discipline for caring for the horses.

Great job on winning your awards, and keep up all the hard work.



Desiree Taylor

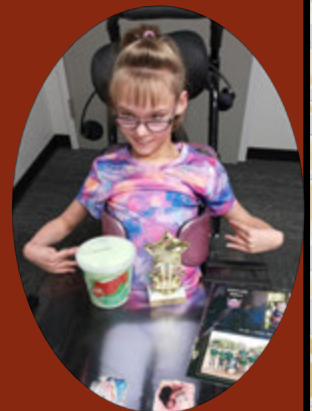
Move over Ted Williams, Kaylee Hall is up to bat!

Ted Williams may still hold the record for the highest on-base percentage in MLB, but Kaylee Hall is no slouch on the diamond, as she has a perfect on-base record in the PB&J Baseball League. Plus, fans all agree that Kaylee displays more flair and is a whole lot cuter!

Kaylee, who is a 6th grader at William Crawford Intermediate School, has participated in the PB&J Baseball League for 3 years. This year Kaylee was a member of the Wart Hogs who sported green jerseys and matching socks (notice that Kaylee sometimes forgets not only wearing her socks, but also her shoes). During the game, Kaylee has a PB&J "buddy" who assists her. Kaylee, who is well known to be a social butterfly, always brings a large cheering section with her to games.

The PB&J Baseball League originated to share the love of Jesus and give athletes with special needs an outlet to display their skills and to encourage socialization. This year the games were once again played on the Little League fields at Heise Park in Galion on Friday nights. The league continues to grow every year, with over 50 athletes participating this season.

Keep an eye out for Kaylee next season, as she will be sporting some new wheels as she maneuvers the bases.



Ryan Dyer and His Big Day on a Big Rig



Ryan Dyer has been on Becky Teynor's caseload since March of 2019. From the first visit she had at his home as his SSA, she could tell he was hooked on trucking and everything surrounding the idea of it- so much so he had to show her his computer set-up and showed her how his truck simulator worked. Steam's "American Truck Simulator" is what Ryan uses to ride the virtual open roads regularly when he's not working four days a week at the Bucyrus McDonald's. He is not able to have a driver's license because of having cerebral palsy, and he has been confined to a wheelchair his entire life. His DSP Tom Baum, from ISS, has been his staff for the last twenty-one years. He helps Ryan meet his needs and works on goals and aspirations with him- Ryan is a very determined guy and loves to see things go from ideas to finished products. One big dream of Ryan's was to ride in an actual semi-truck. Tom discussed with Ryan and Becky that he wanted to get in touch with Hord Family Farms. Tom knew how much it would mean to Ryan to do this, and he wanted to try to make it happen. Hord Family Farms is a local pig, cow, and grain farm that has been in the community for over 100 years. So, Tom made some phone calls, and he was able to contact Janel Hord. She put him through to the head of trucking department, Chad Kin. Chad then scheduled the trip! It then propelled a media frenzy for Ryan that is not over yet! He was featured in the August 6th Crawford County Now article: "Bucyrus Man to Fulfill Dream as 'King of the Road.'"

<https://crawfordcountynow.com/local/bucyrus-man-to-fulfill-dream-as-king-of-the-road/>

Four days after the article published, he was on the road as a passenger to Findlay with the Hord driver Henry Teters. There was an obstacle with the ride. It took four men to safely place Ryan in the passenger seat. Pat Hord, CEO, Rick Bauer, and Scott Hoover assisted with lifting Ryan up into the truck and Tom was inside getting him in safely and secure. It's noted that Mr. Teters came in on his vacation day to see that Ryan's dream be fulfilled! They were able to drive by Ryan's mother Kathy Barker's workplace, so that she could take photos and see the fulfillment of his dream. Look out for another article on CCN to follow up about his ride. A worker from Hord's, Scott Hoover, who also helped him into the passenger seat, talked to Ryan about gaming before Ryan went on the semi ride. They discussed a farm simulator game, computer systems, and hard drives. Ryan explained that he built his own computer! These new community connections with Hord have led to Ryan making future plans to ride in a combine during harvest season!

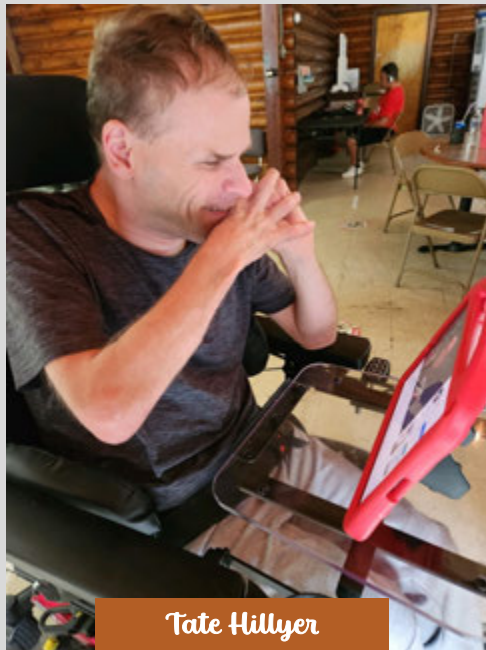


Donations- Knights of Columbus & Elks

Crawford County is blessed with numerous organizations who pride themselves in giving back to the community. Two of these organizations, Bucyrus ELKS and Galion's Knights of Columbus, have been consistent partners with the Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) in order to give back to the community. Through the Measure Up Campaign, the Galion Knights of Columbus has provided funds to CCBDD to help people and families with equipment and support needed to help their children to grow and develop to their potential. The ELKS makes funds available through their Cerebral Palsy Fund and have passed along funds to support numerous people with Cerebral Palsy with equipment and support to help them live life to their fullest potential. Below are pictures of the equipment and support that has been made available.



Kaylee Hall



Tate Hillyer

Individuals still awaiting the delivery of their items.

Zayne Current-

Amtryke Adaptive Bike

Mason Dunfee-

Swing and stand

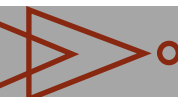
Sitter with Tray



Gabby Kozinski



Jackie Lust



Crawford County Board of DD at the Fair



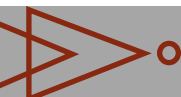
Hopefully, you had the opportunity to stop by and check out our cool booth that was set up at this year's Crawford County Fair. Those who visited were able to learn a little about what we do here at the Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Like, did you know that we provide several services? Some of these services include Early Intervention, Preschool classes for both typical and special needs students and Service Support Administration / Case Management. And those are just a few examples of what we offer. If you want to learn more about what we do, please contact us.

A very special thank you goes to Mary Morton. This booth would not have been possible without your hard work and dedication. Thank you for organizing, setting up, and volunteering/working in the heat.



Crawford County Special Olympics

It was the Annual Staff vs the Chargers game. Players for the staff came from Bucyrus Middle and High School, Buckeye Central, Chrysalis Advantage Point, and the Crawford County Board of DD. A big thank you goes out to the Bucyrus Interact Club for working the concessions and the New Washington Fire Department for bringing the popcorn machine and the supplies, as well as making all the popcorn. We appreciate all the support from our families and friends as well as our Community.



Picnic in the Park

On Saturday September 16th, the Crawford County Board hosted a picnic in the park to bring families, individuals, and providers together for some food and fun. After lunch, everyone participated in a few rounds of Fall bingo with our own Rob Farson as the bingo caller. Laura Artrip from ViaQuest shared services provided and made herself available for anyone who had questions. Many participated in a nature scavenger hunt that took them around the park. What a perfect weather day to take a walk in the park! Some even enjoyed playing cornhole in between everything else. There was great feedback with requests to continue to have events like this to bring people together, meet new friends, and get a chance to spend time talking with SSA's. Thank you to those who came out to help set up, grill hot dogs, and help with clean up afterwards! And thank you to everyone who came out to make this picnic a success!



Crawford County Family/Parent
Support Group Survey



This survey is to aid in future planning for the Family/Parent Support group. While the County Board is involved with planning and support, this group is directed by the interests of the parents and guardians who are looking for more information on services and resources available as well as a peer support for other parents and guardians. Please take time to fill this survey out completely with any feedback you can give.



Other Changes for CCBDD



New Cooler & HVAC unit

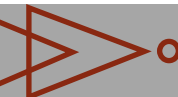
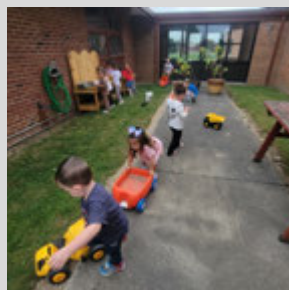
We recently replaced one of our roof top HVAC units with a high efficiency low energy furnace.

The Crawford County Board is always looking to save on energy cost and make our buildings more efficient.

Thank you to Charlie and Kip from KINN Brothers for all your help.

Outdoor Nature Area

This summer a new outdoor play area was built for the students of Fairway, the outdoor area includes a mud kitchen and gardens. While working in the garden, preschoolers develop fine motor control and also work larger muscles: gardening uses practically every muscle in the body. Sensorial lessons are found throughout the garden; preschoolers can practice color recognition, identify fragrances. Why playing in the mud kitchen, preschoolers develop fine motor skills, roleplay, exploration, and social skills.



& ALL AT —ONCE— SUMMER collapsed into fall

Calendar Of Events

OCTOBER

3		Fairway Field Trip— Buckeye Museum
9		Columbus Day—Programs Closed
18	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium
19	5:30 PM	Board Meeting

NOVEMBER

15	10 AM	Chargers for Change (Self-Advocacy)-Trillium
16	5:30 PM	Board Meeting
22		Thanksgiving Break—Fairway Closed
23 & 24		Thanksgiving Break—Programs Closed

DECEMBER

13		Preschool Winter Program
15		UCT Dinner
14–21		Winter Break— Fairway Closed
22– Jan 1		Winter Break—Programs Closed

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



1630 E. Southern Avenue, Suite 101

Bucyrus, OH 44820



Department of
Developmental Disabilities