



2016 Annual Report



Delaware County
Board of
Developmental Disabilities

A Letter

From Our Superintendent

A LOOK BACK

Reflecting back over the past year, I am amazed by how many things we accomplished in 2016. In March, the community supported us in passing a renewal levy, which enables us to continue meeting the needs of the more than 2,550 people we serve. During the summer, we conducted focus groups to gather input from individuals, family members, staff, and the community to determine what we are doing well and where we have opportunities for improvement. The information we collected was used to develop our strategic plan that will guide our efforts for the next three years.

In December, we said goodbye to two of our board members. Both Patty Lyons, and former board president, Stephen Finney were committed to advocating for the needs of people with developmental disabilities. We are grateful for their years of service, and will miss their passion and dedication.

With all the changes happening in the world, one thing remains the same -- our commitment to creating opportunities for the people we serve to lead personally fulfilling lives. We will continue to strive for acceptance and inclusion for everyone, and recognize each person's unique abilities that make our community a great place to live.

Thank you for your steadfast support. We are looking forward to another great year!

"We work every day to enhance the lives of people in this wonderful community we call home."

-Superintendent Hodge



**Kristine Hodge,
Superintendent**

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Our Mission

To inspire, empower, and support people to achieve their full potential.

Our Vision

All people will lead personally fulfilling lives.

Our Values

Equality
Self-determination
Collaboration
Accountability



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016

Coordinated services for

540
adults

to assist them in achieving their
full potential

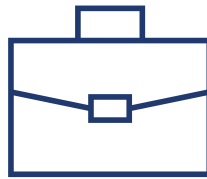
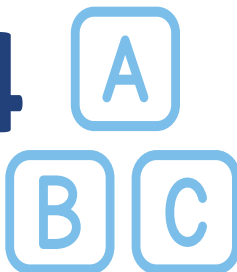
96% 

of families surveyed were
satisfied or highly satisfied with
services & supports

Provided support to

1,694

children in school



Increased by
nearly

6%

in the number of
adults we serve
working in the
community

Explored delivery
methods for
Early Intervention
services



Our local contribution of \$5 M
drew down an additional

\$12.5 M

in state and federal funding to
serve people enrolled
in Medicaid waivers

Helped more than

352

children & families
through Early Intervention



Designated Self-Advocate Grant funding to support
community inclusion



Increased
enrollment by

17%

over the past 5 years



In December 2016, DCBDD passed its 2017-2019 strategic plan. After more than six months of research and assessments with various stakeholders, we developed a new mission and vision statement, as well as core values and six strategic goals that will improve the lives of people we serve. Visit our website at www.dcbdd.org to read our full strategic plan.

6 Strategic Plan Goals



Paying It Forward



Evan (center) and his former Support Administrators, Shawn (left) and Dawn (right)

At 8 years old, Evan appears to be your typical kid. He loves LEGOS, reading, puzzles, and running cross country. Five years ago however, this was not the Evan that most people knew. Evan's mom Kelly became concerned when her son was not reaching his speech milestones like his peers. After being told not to worry, "he's just a boy," Kelly decided to take matters into her own hands.

The board began helping Evan in 2011 work toward his reading and speaking goals. At age 3 ½, Evan said "Mom" for the very first time. "All of the sudden it clicked for him," Kelly said.

Now, Evan helps his teachers with students in his class who are struggling with reading. He teaches them how to use inflection in

their voice when reading aloud. At the end of his third grade year, Evan tested into the gifted science class and was one point away from testing into gifted math. "If Evan had not had services so early on, he may not have made such progress and be thriving at such an early age. I can't say enough about what Early Intervention has done for Evan," said Kelly.

The Nancy Richards Self-Advocate Award



Ashley (Right) and Marcia (left) at the 2016 Lifetime of Giving Awards Ceremony

The Nancy Richards Self-Advocate Award is presented annually to a person with a disability who effectively advocates for himself or herself.

Ashley was nominated by Susan Cornett and Marcia Wasielewski. In her nomination, Susan talked about how Ashley has grown tremendously as a leader who advocates for others and herself. She is currently the president of the Kiwanis Aktion Club and represented the local chapter at the Kiwanis International Convention in Indianapolis.

Marcia shared that she has had the pleasure of working with Ashley for many years. Ashley is an avid volunteer at Willowbrook by Day and has volunteered over 2,000 hours at Grady Memorial Hospital.

Ashley also formed "Team Nanna" which has raised over \$3,000 for the annual Alzheimer's walk. Ashley summed up what self-advocacy meant to her when she said: "I have a 'hidden disability.' You cannot see what I need. You will see that I am very independent, talkative, fun, loving, and helpful. What you don't see is that I do need help and attention. I need you to listen to me, respect me, and help me when I need it." Representing all elements of a true self-advocate, Ashley is very deserving of The Nancy Richards Self-Advocate Award.

Fulfilling Our Mission | to inspire, empower, and support people to achieve their full potential.

2016 Board Members



Back Row (Left to Right): Louis Borowicz, Stephen Finney, Jeffrey Wallace, Patty Lyons
Front Row (Left to Right): Alice Nicks, Rita Seese, Gerald Plassenthal

Stephen Finney

President of the Board
3rd Term Ends in 2016

Jeffrey Wallace

Vice President of the Board
2nd Term Ends in 2016

Alice Nicks

Secretary of the Board
3rd Term Ends in 2018

Louis Borowicz, Esq.

1st Term Ends in 2018

Patty Lyons

3rd Term Ends in 2016

Gerald Plassenthal

2nd Term Ends in 2018

Rita J. Seese

2nd Term Ends in 2018



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