

THE GRASSROOTS GAZETTE



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Staff members gathered together during a recent visit from Kimberly Hauck, Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. See the full story inside!

A Visit from Director Hauck

From the Superintendent - Renee Kohler



We were excited to welcome Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) Director Kim Hauck and DODD Deputy Director of External Relations Jeremiah Wagner to Auglaize DD in July.

Director Hauck, who has spent time touring each of Ohio's 88 counties throughout the year, met with staff during her visit to hear an agency overview, updates on our 2022 goals & objectives, and highlights of all the exciting things happening in Auglaize County. A meet and greet with individuals supported by the Board, provider partners, Board members, and local stakeholders then provided Director Hauck an opportunity to share DODD updates and strategic planning initiatives. The visit ended with open discussion and photographs.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the meet and greet and to Director Hauck and Deputy Director Wagner for their time spent in Auglaize County!

Meet Jay, NDEAM Spotlight

Jay Brings so much more to Buckeye Coating

"You can't do a lot of things, but there are a lot of things you can do."

--Jay, St. Marys

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). Each year, we feature four area employers and their employees. In this edition of the Grassroots Gazette, we invite you to meet Jay!

Jay was born with cerebral palsy and has been employed for nearly two years with Buckeye Coating in Waynesfield, Ohio. Jay was one of the first people hired through Capabilities to work for Buckeye Coating.

Not only is Jay a worker who shows up on time and is dedicated to his job, he also has helped to create a culture shift at Buckeye Coating. "His personality generally adds so much to the culture of our company, just the way I've seen him care for people – not even necessarily in the work but during break time. Everybody knows Jay! He's helped to create a culture shift here at Buckeye Coating," said Hailey Whitaker, HR Manager at Buckeye Coating.

Whitaker also commented on Jay's dedication and commitment, "One time Jay came to me and told me he had bought some weights so he could start working out at home in order to build strength to better lift the heavier parts. That commitment, you just don't get with a lot of people! It helps encourage others and gives perspective to everyone to do their best!"



Thanks to Jay for participating as one of our NDEAM spotlight employees in 2021. Watch for our annual billboard campaign throughout the county and stay tuned to our Facebook and YouTube pages this October to meet our 2022 NDEAM spotlight employees!



Early Intervention Services

Delivery Models Complement One Another

Xayla, a two-year-old from Wapakoneta, has been utilizing both the EI and medical models of service delivery. Through Xayla's pediatrician recommendation, Xayla has been receiving services from both Auglaize County Early Intervention and speech therapy at Joint Township. "Xayla has shown so much improvement since she started both services," Zochilt, her mother, stated. "She now has a little voice of her own and shows much more confidence," she continued. Zochilt has noticed a huge difference in the two delivery models, but nonetheless, she has seen first-hand the improvement Xayla has made.

To learn more about the EI Service delivery models, view our YouTube and Facebook page to see Xayla's Story!

EI Model		Medical Model
Family-centered coaching	Definition	One-on-one therapy
Birth to age 3	Age	Children of any age
Child's Natural Environment (Home, restaurant, park, library, etc.)	Location	Outpatient facility
No cost to family	Cost	Family's health insurance

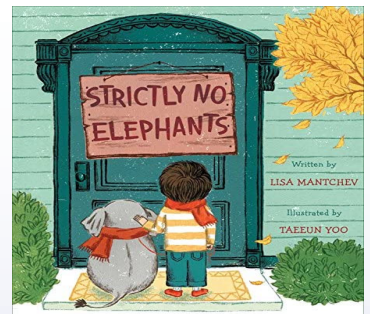
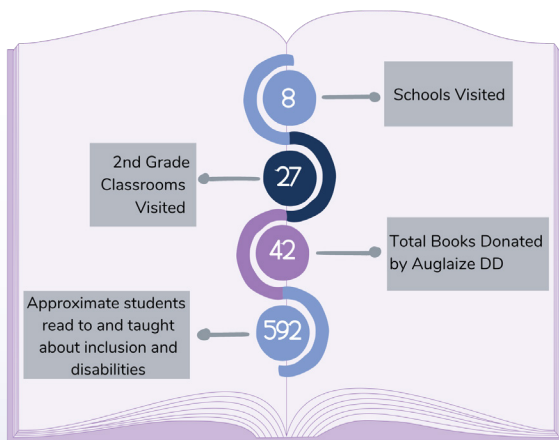


Childhood & Transition Services

Marching Toward Inclusion

In celebration of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, Auglaize DD's Childhood & Transition Services Team spent time in March visiting 2nd grade classrooms promoting disability awareness, acceptance, and inclusion. Students in each Auglaize County school district were treated to story time featuring *Strictly No Elephants*, a book about a boy with a pet elephant who struggles to fit in. The book explores belonging, inclusion and friendship. We enjoyed engaging in conversations on what inclusion and friendship mean to the students and were inspired by all they had to share about including those who may appear a bit different. Copies of *Strictly No Elephants* were donated by the Auglaize DD Board to each of the 2nd grade classrooms, each school library, and each of the county's public libraries.

Books By The Numbers



Individual Support Services

Independence Through Immersive Technology

As technology continues to play a large role in society, 2022 brought a greater presence of technology to individuals supported by the Board. Through the Ohio Technology First Initiative, Auglaize DD staff worked to increase their knowledge of available technology resources. These efforts have led to increased funding and access to assistive devices for individuals and families supported by the Board. Currently, 10 individuals are using remote supports, while 28 are using an assisted technology device. Examples of technology being used in Auglaize County include the Nucleus Anywhere Intercom, smart watches with fall detection apps, iPads with reminder apps, a Ring doorbell, medication dispensers, Road ID tags, bed shakers, and the Alexa Echo dot. Learn more about Ohio's Technology First Initiative at: dodd.ohio.gov.





20 E. First Street
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*Our Mission:
To ensure individuals with
developmental disabilities
have access to quality
supports, providing them
opportunities to live,
learn, work and play in
their communities.*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER 23RD
REGIONAL ADVOCACY
CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 5TH - 7TH
SYNERGY CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 15TH
HALLOWEEN DANCE
OCTOBER 20TH
WAPAK HALLOWEEN PARADE
OCTOBER 25TH
BOO! ON THE MOON
NOVEMBER 15TH - 18TH
OCALICON



SCAN ME

2022 Board Members

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Jon Derryberry
Dean Hobler
Kristi Klopfenstein
Jodi Liu Perez

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