



ReachOut e-Diversity News

An Electronic Publication of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council

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Navigating County Boards



The Importance of the Service Plan

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Need Housing Resources?



Looking for an agency that provides housing for people with disabilities, home modifications, equipment?

[Read more](#)

Advocacy Corner



Join mental health advocates as they fight to remove politically incorrect and abusive language from the Ohio Revised Code

State Representative Beatty supports Arc Industries.

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Save the Date



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Parent's Perspective

What is it like to find out later that your child has a specific disability?



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Grant Highlight



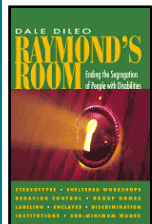
Spanish-Language Injury Prevention Booklet Project for Children with Special Needs
Grant Amount: \$12,500

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Something New to Read

Raymond's Room: Ending the Segregation of People with Disabilities challenges the status quo and calls for a new look at how America provides services for people with severe.

[Read more](#)



Reach Out E-Diversity News is produced by [The Outcomes Management Group, Ltd.](#)



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Navigating County Boards of MR/DD

The Importance of a Service Plan

*Leslie Summers
Supervisor of Service Coordination
Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation
& Developmental Disabilities*



While there are a myriad of services available to eligible individuals, each of the **88 County Boards of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities differ significantly throughout the state with regard to the scope and variety of programs provided.** Local levy funding typically determines the range of available programs. Read this article that focuses on the importance of the service plan.

After the initial Intake process is completed and eligibility is determined, a plan is developed that identifies the services that will be provided by or available through the County Board. A team meets to develop the service plan. The team can be as small or as large as the individual or guardian/advocate desires. The individual seeking services also has the right to identify and invite team members.

The type of service plan varies depending upon individuals and their needs. For example...

- At the County Board, the Service and Support Coordinator is responsible for writing the Individual Service Plan (ISP) for individuals requesting Service and Support Administration.
- The majority of County Boards incorporate into the ISP the vocational plan, formerly known as the Individual Plan (IP).
- The school plan for children aged three and over (enrolled in county or public schools) is the Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Common to all service plans is the requirement for the plan to be based on individual needs. These needs are determined based upon a formal and informal assessment (s) which should be completed prior to the team meeting to develop the plan. Included in the assessment process are questions that identify individual preferences, likes and dislikes.

Key Facts to remember about the Service Plan:

- The individual must participate or be represented by a parent, guardian or advocate at the meeting in which the plan is developed.
- The initial ISP is completed within 30 days of enrollment into the program/service and annually thereafter; or when ever there is a change in need; or at the request of the individual.
- The plan must include the following: identification of each specific need, description of service designed to meet that need, name and/or title of the provider of service, and the frequency and duration of each service.

- The ISP must include the name of the individual; his/her dated signature as well as the names, titles, dated signatures of the participants that developed the plan.
- After the ISP is completed, the individual is given a copy of the plan and a copy of hearing rights that outline the appeal process in the event that the individual disagrees or dissents with any part of the plan.
- Appeal rights may be utilized when requested services are denied.





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Housing Resources



Michael Corbett introduces Delaware Creative Housing and Creative Living Systems.

He currently serves as Executive Director.

Delaware Creative Housing

Its mission is simple and remains intact today. “Delaware Creative Housing will provide housing opportunities and options for people with disabilities.”

On the website in 2002, I wrote “Currently we only serve Delaware County Ohio but are not bound to any specific area. I would consider us a young agency. Although we were established in 1991, our first employee started, full-time in January 2002. Prior to this a representative of the Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities would serve on the board of trustees and facilitate any functions needed. One project at a time, we grew.

Over 10 years we purchased 9 properties, providing housing to approximately 40 individuals. This past year we have purchased 1 property and are in contract to build 2 additional homes. Properties are located throughout the county and we aspire to provide services in other counties as we grow.

Today Delaware Creative Housing owns 32 properties, three in development, manages two separate HUD 811 projects and meets the housing needs of over 85 individuals in both Delaware and Union Counties.

2. Performance awards. This year agencies who provide services in our homes will receive a monetary award for taking exceptional care of the homes they provide services in. We feel strongly that everyone benefits when our property management department reaches its goal of “the finest property on the block” and this year we intend to reward those providers that help us achieve this goal.

3. Four bedroom Homes – CLS has submitted its second line of homes to manufacture. Having received approval and begun production in 2005 of the Morgan House a three bedroom, two baths, 1450 square foot accessible home, we decided to expand your selection. We have recently designed a four bedrooms, three bath, completely accessible home. The State of Ohio has approved our application and we are proud to offer this, over 1800 square foot home, anywhere in Ohio as well.

4. Delaware Creative Housing Inc. has established the “Ray Jones Memorial Fund”. This fund assists individuals in need of environmental modifications that have no source of support to finance the project. We get many calls from people saying “I have no waiver, no Medicaid, no insurance but I still need to get in and out of my home: or I still need an

Creative Living Systems - CLS – received its’ official IRS 501 non profit status in 2005, was approved to manufacture accessible homes for all of Ohio, has bid on over three hundred environmental modifications, completing over 30% in more than twenty Ohio counties.

Additionally, CLS opened the Creative Living Center and the Equipment Lending Library. The grand opening of the Creative Living Center, a showroom of accessible home modification. It was indeed “Grand;” the Mayor of Delaware proclaimed May 20th 2005 as “Accessibility Day” in the City of Delaware. The lending library takes in donated equipment and items; for example, wheel chairs, hospital beds, toys for children with special needs, and many other things that are new or used. Our staff cleans the items up and prepares them for lending to persons and families in the community with a need to borrow for free, for as long as needed.

OTHER VALUABLE SERVICES

1. Safety/Accessibility Inspections.

This service is designed for those that are concerned about the surroundings of loved ones and/or those who are responsible for the health and safety of others.

How does this work?

- Referrals are made either directly to our office at 740-368-5803 ext. #148 or via agency referral from a Council for Older Adults or a County Board of MR/DD.
- An inspector schedules a time with the resident or care giver then completes a fourteen page property inspection checking everything from furnace and outlets to lighting and placement of throw rugs being a cause of falling.
- Along with a demographic report for the local 911 system, fall prevention material and improved safety recommendations will be sent back to the referring source.
- The demographic report will also be filed separately with emergency responders giving them welcomed information regarding the residents’

accessible bath room”. Tax free donations can be made at any Park National Bank or send in care of: Ray Jones Memorial Fund to Delaware Creative Housing 437 Dunlap St., Delaware, Ohio 43015. Mr. Ray Jones would be proud

5. Delaware Area Career Center – We continue to have a wonderful relationship with the Delaware Area Career Center, whom each year builds a very special home. This relationship began as an opportunity to give youth something to build and to provide the agency with the opportunity to advocate and teach about accessibility and special abilities to a population that doesn’t often interact with people with disabilities in our community. This partnering has grown in leaps and bounds as we no longer work with just “The Building Trades” department. The Career Center has developed “The Construction Center”. This curriculum now feeds five different departments including language arts, and it all revolves around our accessible home. We are still working with building trades, but have added landscape design, engineering and architecture, language arts, culinary arts, and more. The Career Center will be adding on to their campus to accommodate these changes. What we hoped to do was influence a handful of young people about the need for accessibility and today we are impacting hundreds of young people annually.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME...

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council awarded Creative Living Systems, Inc. a five year grant that will train and support Career Centers and Housing Boards to work together producing another fifteen accessible homes across Ohio and influence hundreds of students regarding accessibility for years to come. Now, that is exciting!!!

Although the past five years have been extremely busy, we are all very excited and looking forward to the opportunities the future will bring. Not only am I personally very proud of these companies and their accomplishments, I am

general health, room location(s) within the home, special needs or extenuating circumstances that the responders may utilize. The more information they have the better they are able to serve.

extremely proud of our staff and honored to work with these individuals every day. This team never waives on the fact that, regardless of our role within the corporation, we are all here to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.

What it IS – it is an evaluation of the mechanical operations of a home and our opinion of the homes accessibility.

What it is NOT – This is not an appraisal of value, it is not a landlord evaluation, it is not a legally binding anything.





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Advocacy Corner

Join Mental Health Advocates in fighting the battle against the stigma surrounding mental illness. *Get rid of politically incorrect and abusive language from the Ohio Revised Code (“lunatic,” “idiot”, “insane,” “imbecile”)*

Rep. Jon Peterson, R-Delaware, and Sen. Bob Spada, R-North Royalton, have introduced legislation to remove such stigmatizing language from the

Ohio Revised Code. Their action is admirable. It came after Ohio Advocates for Mental Health discovered the antiquated language while doing research on state law. The advocacy group's chief executive, Doug DeVoe, pointed out that the Ohio Constitution, dating back more than 200 years, forbids voting by "idiots" and "insane persons." Altering the Constitution is a laborious process that involves a statewide vote of the people. Still, Ohioans have been voting on all kinds of constitutional amendments in recent years, so it is not unreasonable to think that a stigma-cleanup amendment might not find its way to the ballot, with a willing backer.

As for cleaning up the Ohio Revised Code, all that takes is approval of a bill by the Ohio House and Senate and the Governor's Signature.

It is time for Ohio to join the 21st Century and erase the stigma attached to mental

State Representative Beatty Supports Arc Industries



Since serving as a State Representative, I have had the opportunity to interact with Arc Industries, a statewide advocacy organization that works on behalf of people with mental retardation and their families. Their philosophy, that individuals with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities have the right to be productive individuals within their community, is something I stand up for and admire.

Currently, the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, which houses the Ohio House of Representatives, contracts with Arc Industries to employ many developmentally disabled citizens to give them the ability to work and make a living on their own.

I would like to invite the Reach Out e-Diversity Readers to learn more about Arc Industries and how you can use their services to employ individuals with developmental disabilities.

Arc Industries has over 40 years of experience in the community. They represent more than 330,000 Ohioans with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities along with their families and friends. Through Arc Industries, citizens with mental retardation and development disabilities now have a competitive edge when they look for employment. The



illnesses. Erase it from state law and from the hearts of individual Ohioans. You can become an advocate by asking your state lawmaker to approve the corrective measures introduced by Rep. Peterson and Sen. Spada.

organization protects and supports the human rights of all citizens and assists them in finding gainful employment.

With the help of Arc Industries and the support of family, friends and the community, I truly believe there is a place for everyone in our society, no matter what barriers or struggles they may face.





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A Parent's Perspective

Kay Treanor



1. What thoughts crossed your mind after you learned of your child's disability?

My son wasn't diagnosed with a specific disability until he was older. He was very sickly and required surgeries in the first few years of his life. To answer your question, I thought he might die and I had all the thoughts one might have under those circumstances. I was fearful.

2. Did you go through a grieving process after the diagnoses?

There were MANY diagnoses and after each one, a feeling a doom. Even today, things go well for a time and then take a turn. Each time I grieve again. Grieve? Yes, allot.

3. What was your family's reaction?

My son had many behavior problems right from the beginning. My parents and my siblings all thought my son should be institutionalized. They felt it was not fair to my other children and my husband to live with my son.

4. If there are other children in the family, how did you explain the extra time you had to spend with your child with a disability?

The best I could but the other children felt he was given favor and they resented my having to spend extra time with him.

5. What are the challenges and setbacks that a parent of a child with a disability faces? It affects every part of your life. Your relationships with others, especially your marriage, your employment, your finances. The focus of my life became my son with a disability. Everything else came second. It was a challenge to work, to go on vacation, to have quality time with others, to even go to church. I changed my whole career path because I knew I would not have the time or ability to work the kind of hours I was working before the birth of my son.

6. As a parent of a child with a disability, do you consider yourself an expert on your child's care and well being? Funny you ask that, my son is now an adult and living in the community with supports. Just this past week I got a call to help solve problems my son was having at work. I wrote the behavioral interventions best to use. I know what works when everyone else is out of ideas.

7. After the first diagnosis, did you feel the need for a second opinion?

Yes and I had many.

8. How much research did you do on your child's disability?

TONS

9. Did you, or do you, get any assistance from any community programs, government or otherwise?

I aggressively pursued assistance from community programs. It took me a long time to get assistance.

10. If so, how did you learn about these programs?

I knew of some but most came from talking to other parents of children with disabilities.

11. What advice would you give to parent who just learned of their child's disability?

Remember, you are not alone. Seek out other parents of children with disabilities who can assist you and support you.



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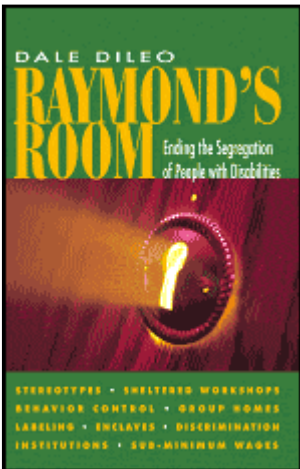
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Something New to Read



Raymond's Room: Ending the Segregation of People with Disabilities challenges the status quo and calls for a new look at how America provides services for people with severe disabilities. Written by Dale DiLeo, Raymond's Room argues compellingly for freeing people from segregated services, what DiLeo calls the "disability industrial complex."

The book's call to action is urgent. Raymond's Room is an exposé of how the current system fails to support people with disabilities to live fulfilling lives.

Using a combination of personal anecdotes, humor, media examples, and scholarly research, DiLeo details the problems with programs that have kept people with disabilities institutionalized in both body and lifestyle, whether in large segregated facilities or smaller ones in the community. He then proposes a viable plan for change.

<http://www.raymondsroom.com>.



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Save the Date

Upcoming Events and Conferences with Your Special Interests in Mind.

April 3 & 4, 2007
Multiple Perspectives on Access, Inclusion and Disability

Host: The Ohio State University's ADA Coordinator's Office
<http://ada.osu.edu/conferences/2007/program.htm>

May 18 & 19, 2007
Postsecondary Education: Opening Doors to Students with Intellectual Disabilities

Host: Ohio Downs Syndrome Advocacy

May 2 & 3, 2007
A Quality Future for People with Disabilities: Engaged in Adult Life

9th Biennial Topical Conference 2007
Statewide Career, Vocational, Transitional and Employment Conference

Call: Tina Bastock,
Kent State University,
330-672-0726

September 26-28, 2007
The 2007 NATTAP Conference

The Network of Autism Training and Technical Assistance Programs (NATTAP), and the Autism Society of America (ASA) present the First Annual International NATTAP Conference hosted by the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) in Columbus, Ohio, USA.

<http://www.ocali.org/nattap2007>

Greater Columbus Convention Center
400 N. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215, USA

