



**CHANGING FACES OF PORTAGE
COUNTY BOARD OF DD**

JUNE 19, 2018

CHANGING FACES OF PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF DD

- Effective 6-1-2018 the County Board is no longer a service provider.
- We will continue to provide the following services
 - EI
 - School Services for K-age 22
 - Transportation for HDS
 - SSA
- Where do we go from here???
- We still continue to serve 900 individuals.
- 450 receive waiver services



CHANGING FACES OF PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF DD (CONT'D)

- Created The Community and Provider Relations Department (CPR) to train and support our providers in order improve the quality of services people receive.
- How will we do this? What are the priorities?
 - Coordinate forum for providers to receive rule updates, training and networking opportunities.
 - Recruitment of Independent and Agency Providers.
 - Support providers to maintain certification and OPSR compliance.
 - Provide initial and on-going training for DSP staff.
 - Work to address DSP shortage.
 - Keep up to date on statewide initiatives by county boards for provider support.
 - Coordinate advocacy and community outreach opportunities for person served.



CURRENT STAFF IN THE COMMUNITY & PROVIDER RELATIONS (CPR) DEPARTMENT

- **Director—Michelle Dolensky**
 - plans, supervises, monitors and evaluates overall community/provider programs

- **Nursing Support Manager-Karen Hill**
 - Attending ISP meetings if you need her to
 - Completing nursing task assessment
 - Completing PASRR except those requiring OEDI
 - Overseeing QARN process and ensuring provider follows through with recommendations
 - Providing assistance to IA's during MUI investigations
 - Providing med admin training to providers
 - Providing CPR/FA training to provider staff
 - Provide medical consultation
 - Meet with providers on updates or changes at the state level regarding med admin, QARN and health and safety alerts.



ADDITIONAL ROLES IN THE CPR DEPARTMENT

- **Employment Engagement**
 - Promotes the employability of the people we serve.
 - Educates local businesses on advantages and benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities. Ohio means jobs liaison.
 - Maintain good relationships with local business organizations.
 - Conducts benefit analysis
 - Employment navigation-link, refer, coordinate, preparation for transition to employment.
 - Using voc rehab, workforce centers employment service providers, benefits planning and other employment wrap around services.



ADDITIONAL ROLES IN THE CPR DEPARTMENT

○ **Self Advocacy**

- Currently 16 individuals make up L.E.A.P. (Loyal Effective Ambitious People). Portage County's Self Advocacy group.
- Their mission statement: Members of L.E.A.P. speak up for the rights and choices of people with disabilities, practice advocacy skills and help in the community.
- The group meets at least monthly to discuss advocacy, practice skills and discuss ways to help in the community.
- The group has discussed promoting self-advocacy by putting together a presentation and talking at local school districts (did receive a request from Kent City Schools). The group enjoyed doing their presentation this past March and would like to do that every March to spread awareness about what they are accomplishing throughout the year.



SELF ADVOCACY

- Future Goals-Create a county wide program, a group focused with adults and a group focused at the transition age with the intention for groups to meet at community location.
- Provide resources and help connect people to advocacy efforts regionally and state wide through Synergy, Project S.T.I.R., and OSDA.
- Coordinate with community leaders to do events during DD Awareness month and Advocacy Day.
- Educate stakeholders and community on the value that individuals with disabilities bring



PCBDD CHANGES

PHYSICAL THERAPY

- Historically, PT services were only an option if you attended Portage Industries.
- Starting 6/1, Blick Services will be providing PT training and services to those 18 and over who need services that are habilitative in nature to help the person keep learn or improve skills for daily living.
- Services include training and consultation to help the provider better understand and help the individual.
- Contact your SSA if you need habilitative PT services.
 - The SSA will complete the referral to Blick Services.
 - The SSA will need a prescription for PT services from you doctor and the services will be added to your ISP



OTHER PCBDD CHANGES

Transition Coordinator

- Provide Secondary Transition Support to Portage County LEA programs and Happy Day School serving children ages 14 to 21 in a collaborative model.
- PCBDD School-Age Transition Coordinator will be responsible for collaborating with PCBDD staff and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to support transitional educational services and programs for students with disabilities throughout Portage County.
- Collaboration with LEAs to a focus on career exploration activities, develops job-training experiences through community employment internships, and assists with implementation and monitoring of the transition to work program. Provides resources to parents and staff (Happy Day School and LEAs in Portage County) to meet transition goals from school services to post-secondary options.



OTHER PCBDD CHANGES/ TRANSITION COORDINATOR (CONT'D)

- Develops suggestions, ideas, resources and practices for activities and assessments to evaluate work skill development, work adjustment and employment experiences to comply with WIOA rules.
- Conducts transition assessments and reports results and implications as part of the IEP process. Works with students and schools to identify appropriate Life Paths for students with disabilities to set appropriate future goals.
- Develops transition resources through contacting community agencies, and serves as a resource to IEP Committees and teachers by assisting with planning for students so that individual transition goals are established or revised.
- Coordinates post-school employment preparation services for students/clients.
- Provides consultation for school and student transition team meetings.
- Provides consultation regarding adult service provider options on or before student's 22nd birthday.
- Confers and consults with parents and parent groups regarding programs and services for students with special needs.



OTHER PCBDD CHANGES

Individual Service Plan (ISP)

- OhioDD.com is a new way of accessing the ISP and assessments for providers and eventually for families and individuals that want to in the future.
- The target date to start this will be August 1st with providers.
- The SSA Office Support Team will upload the ISP and assessments to the website once they are finalized by the SSA and team. The providers will get a Username and password to access the ISP and assessments only for the people they provide services for. There also will be demographic information that they will have access to. In addition they will now be able to get the PAWS directly from this website as well to see what services they are authorized for.
- We have around 30 providers already signed up to start this process with the goal of getting all providers signed up by the end of 2018.
- The long term goal will be then to eventually sign up those individuals and families that want to also have the same access. No guardians or individuals will be forced to sign up. It will only be for those that prefer this over receiving the plans in the mail. For the providers they will eventually need to sign up at some point.



OTHER PCBDD CHANGES

**FIX
THE
LIST.**

THE NEW WAITING LIST RULE

- Starts 9/1/2018.
- Why do we need a new rule?
 - Current rule is complex, confusing.
 - Cumbersome to administer
- According to Ohio DD council 46% of people who participated in their survey and are on the waiting list, have no current unmet needs



NEW METHODS AND TERMS

General Waiting List

- Priority Categories
- Emergency Status

Current Needs Waiting List

- Current Need
- Immediate Need



FIX THE LIST.

NEW PROCESS

- The new process will assess a person's *immediate needs* or *current needs*, not future needs
 - **Immediate needs** = substantial risk of harm if action not taken in 30 days)
 - **Current needs** = unmet need within 12 months
- Alternative resources (OOD/Vocational Rehabilitation, Children Services, Other community agencies/funding, Private Insurance benefits, Medicaid/Medicaid State Plan, Mental Health Services, etc.)
- Local County Board funded supports (Respite, Family Support Services, Camp funds, etc.)
- If unmet needs cannot be met through **alternative community resources** or local county board funded resources, person is eligible to be added to the wait list and the CB will identify the waiver that addresses the unmet needs.



FIX THE LIST.

WAITLIST RULE

- “Immediate need” means a situation that creates a **risk of substantial harm** to an individual, caregiver, or another person **if action is not taken within thirty calendar days to mitigate the risk.**
 - NOTE: *Two criteria must be met to be in this category – the RISK and the IMMEDIACY of the need. Assessment requires affirmative answers to both to meet criteria*
- “**Current need**” means an unmet need for home and community-based services within twelve months, as determined by a county board based upon assessment of the individual using the waiting list assessment tool



**FIX
THE
LIST.**

WAITLIST RULE (CONT'D)

- Removal from waitlist
 - **Move out of county** (may notify new CB and be added to list in new county based on assessment)
 - **Decline waiver enrollment OR alternate community services to meet needs**
 - **No longer have a current need**
 - **Enroll on waiver to meet the current need**
 - **No response to our attempts to contact**
 - **Person does not meet LOC or no longer has “condition”**
 - **Person/guardian agrees or requests to be removed**
 - **Death**



FIX THE LIST.

WAITLIST RULE (CONT'D)

- Everybody currently on a county board HCBS Waiver Waiting list will be moved to a Transitional List with their **original request date/time**.
- No new people will be added to the Transitional List. New requests for waiver will be assessed using the Waiting List Assessment Tool by the County Board and be placed on the *Current Needs Waiting List* if appropriate and if needs cannot be met with alternative resources.
- All those who currently have an assigned SSA will be assessed using the new statewide Waiting List Assessment Tool at the time of next ISP review.
- By **December 31, 2020** the County Board will assess those who are on the Waiting List who do not have an assigned SSA.
- County Board will notify DODD when assessment is complete for people on Transitional List, and DODD will remove them from that list.





RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

For the latest information and updates visit:

Website: www.fixthelist.info

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FixtheList/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/fixthelist>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fixthelist/>

