

Reminder: There is still time to take advantage of the Cuyahoga Campership Program.

This program assists individuals, eligible for CCBDD services who do not have a support administrator or are not enrolled in the Family Supports Program, with the cost of attending a summer camp (up to \$700). Campership funds are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. The application is available at www.cuyahogabdd.org/en-US/Cuyahoga-Campership-Program.aspx or call the Camp Line at 216-736-8387.



A Message from the Superintendent

Happy Spring. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to warmer temperatures and more sunshine after our long winter.

An important and growing function of the Cuyahoga County Board of DD is support administration. We currently employ 175 support administrators, or SAs, who support individuals and families in many ways. Using a person-centered approach and through the development of an Individual Support Plan (ISP), SAs help people set their own goals and make decisions that relate to their lives. This edition of News, Views & Notes highlights the role of the SA and provides answers to common questions about support administration. As the Cuyahoga County Board of DD plans for the future and phases out of its role as a provider of employment services, adult services and transportation services, support administration will continue to be an important function of our agency.

On May 8th, Issue 9 will be on the ballot. This is a renewal levy that provides critical funding for the county's health and human services. It is not a tax increase. Last year, over 200,000 families in the county benefitted from one or more health and human service programs. Protecting children from abuse and neglect, ensuring home health care for seniors, maintaining emergency services, and securing counseling and treatment programs for children and adults living with mental health illness are some of the vital services paid for by the health and human services levy.

Kelly A. Petty
Superintendent & CEO



Save the Date

Saturday
October 6
2018

10am - 2pm

FREE!

Our mission is to support and empower people with developmental disabilities to live, learn, work and play in the community.

PROVIDER & RESOURCE FAIR

Learn more about providers of services and community resources for people with developmental disabilities in Cuyahoga County. Visit our website or Facebook page soon for more information.

Holiday Inn
6001 Riverside Road
Independence, OH

Break-out sessions

Door prizes

Interact with 50+ providers and community partners

Who should attend?

- individuals with developmental disabilities
- students preparing to transition from high school
- parents, caregivers or family members
- anyone who supports people with developmental disabilities

Questions? Call (216) 362-3778.

Additional details will be available soon.

Stay connected with us:

www.CuyahogaBDD.org CuyahogaBDD



Coming Up

CCBDD Board Meetings
May 24, June 22

Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
CCBDD Administration Bldg.
1275 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland

Razzle Dazzle XVIII

Wild World of Sports

May 4, 7:30pm; \$15 Benefit Night
May 5, 4pm & 7:30pm - FREE
Beck Center Music & Dance Building

Friends of DD Annual Golf Outing
July 27

Big Met Golf Course

Role of the Support Administrator

The Cuyahoga County Board of DD uses a person-centered planning approach to the supports we provide and those we coordinate with individuals with developmental disabilities. We work with people to identify their personal and employment outcomes by talking about what is important *to* them, and what is important *for* their health and welfare as they live, learn, work and play in the community.

Individuals who have active needs are assigned a support administrator, or SA, to help them and their families identify the appropriate services and supports they need and choose for themselves. Support administrators are CCBDD staff and are certified by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. They are required to complete training and ongoing professional development each year.

The main role of the support administrator includes:

- Developing a person-centered Individual Support Plan (ISP) that addresses assessed needs and outlines the individual's goals;
- Helping people explore services and supports in their community and linking them to these resources;
- Administering Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers according to policies and procedures; and
- Providing ongoing coordination and monitoring to ensure that services and supports are being delivered according to the ISP and to the benefit and satisfaction of the individual.

Frequently Asked Questions about Support Administration

Q: I think I may need a support administrator. How can I get one?

A: Contact our intake department at 216-736-2673. One of our intake staff will make sure that you are already eligible for CCBDD services and refer you to someone who can plan with you, based on your current needs. If you are not eligible, intake staff can help you get started on that process or link you to other available community resources.

Q: I have a child under age three and am involved in the Early Intervention program. Do I need a support administrator?

A: No. Families who receive Early Intervention services are assigned a service coordinator, which is similar to the role of a support administrator. The service coordinator works with the family to develop an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). In Cuyahoga County, the service coordinator is staff from Bright Beginnings, a local agency which partners with CCBDD for the Early Intervention program. (Contact Bright Beginnings at 216-698-7500.)

Q: I live with my family, but I do need some limited assistance. How can CCBDD help?

A: CCBDD's Family Supports Program provides a limited amount of financial support for eligible individuals living at home with their families. Financial support may be used to access certain types of specialized equipment, respite care, camp, home modifications, or other recreational therapies that are needed because of an individual's disability that are not otherwise covered by Medicaid or other insurance. Families must apply for the Family Support Program by calling the intake department (216-736-2673). Applications and funding requests are filled on a first-come, first-served basis each year.

Support Administration in Action

Monica, who receives supports through the SELF Waiver, attended a day program and made minimum income doing work that was not fulfilling. Her support administrator (SA) met with her to assess her needs and help her set new goals. One of Monica's goals was to get a job in the community doing something she liked. Her SA linked her to Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities and became a part of Monica's employment planning team, which was able to help her obtain a job with the Cleveland Indians. Transportation was a challenge with this new job. Monica's SA helped her use her waiver to pay for Fare-Cle, a local ride sharing service for people with disabilities. Through the support of her SA, Monica is now employed full-time, travels to and from work independently, and is happy and content living her life the way she desires.

Q: I am not sure who my support administrator is, or I haven't heard from him/her recently. What should I do?

A: If you are uncertain who your support administrator is, please call our Intake staff at 216-736-2673. They can provide you with your SA's name and contact information. Support administrators do their best to return all calls and emails as quickly as possible. If you are not able to get in touch with your support administrator or would like to speak to a supervisor, intake staff can assist by providing you with a supervisor's name and contact information.

Q: I need a provider of services. Can my support administrator pick a provider for me?

A: No. Support administrators cannot select a provider of services for you due to a state rule. They cannot give you their opinion about the quality of a provider. However, they can and will help you prepare as you select a provider. Your support administrator can help you develop interview questions you can use when you talk to possible providers. They can also create an online referral so interested providers can learn about your desired supports and services. You can also learn about providers by reading reviews of them at: www.ProviderGuidePlus.com.

Q: I have other questions about support administration. Who can I call?

A: Call our intake staff (216-736-2673) who are glad to direct you to someone who can answer your questions.

Did you know?

A renewal of the Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services Levy, Issue 9, will be on the May 8

primary election ballot. Funding from this levy is used to support vital services essential to the health and well-being of county citizens of all ages. This renewal means no increase and will not have an impact on your taxes for the next four years. For more information: <http://cuyahogahhs.org/>

