Fourth annual event for all ages, needs
Bringing community resources together

What is the Street Fair?? If you or someone you know needs to find help, this is the premier, one-stop information event for people of all ages.

Whether you are needing therapy for your toddler...a child in the public school looking for after-school specialized programs...or an adult who needs housing assistance, we will have 100 vendors plus Stark DD staff on hand to answer your questions and get you connected with local resources.

“The Street Fair provides an opportunity for the entire family to explore resources,” said Jessica Hoffarth, Asst. Director, Stark DD Service and Support Administration. “I know that several school districts hold resource fairs during the year, but this event really reaches across boundary lines, whether it’s age, income, or disability, to connect people with help.”

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Superintendent’s Message:  
How the ripple effect can change hearts and minds

Drop a pebble in the water: just a splash, and it is gone; 
But there’s half-a-hundred ripples circling on and on and on, 
Spreading from the center, flowing out to the sea 
And there is no way of telling where the end may be.

I met Abby and her mother, Kathy, at a swim meet of the Green Barracudas versus the Lake Titans. I was the timer in the lane where Abby was swimming the 100 yard freestyle. As a timer, I meet all the swimmers and I give them encouragement before the race and cheer them on to the finish.

Abby piqued my interest more than most. Young, just 16 years old, she was nervous with the typical fidgeting I see swimmers do before their race. Kathy, her mom, shouted her encouragement not unlike I do for my own daughter who was also swimming in the meet. There is one difference. Abby has a noticeable developmental disability. I inquire of Kathy on how Abby is doing. Her response, “She is changing hearts and minds a little bit at a time.”

Abby attends the Super Learning Center where she receives her education, largely with students with Autism, though that is not Abby’s developmental disability. She does participate in Special Olympics and is a member of the Stark Sharks swim team. When Abby’s involvement with the Lake Titans began her mom had trepidation at first and said, “In no time at all, coaches, parents, and swimmers came to see her as I do – a determined and motivated young lady that is comfortable with herself.”

Drop a pebble in the water: in a minute you forget, 
But there’s little waves a-flowing, and there’s ripples circling yet, 
And those little waves a-flowing to a great big wave has grown 
You’ve disturbed a mighty river just by dropping in a stone. 

—James W. Foley

Abby swam her race, not just to the encouragement of mom and me (her timer), but to every swimmer and spectator in the stands. Resounding cheers echoed through the natatorium to help Abby to the finish. Abby then received an applause saved not for the fastest, but for those determined to finish the race.

Abby made an impact on the swim officials, timers, swimmers, and every spectator that night. We witnessed her resolve. We saw her persistence. Abby’s presence announces to all, “I belong and accept me for who I am.” We speak of disability awareness. Abby teaches us this by doing. Hopefully, the waves she is making in the pool will ripple on and on to change more hearts and minds.

The All-Star DSP recognition program got off to a great start in May! DSP is the acronym we use for Direct Support Professional, or in other words, the people who dedicate their lives to supporting people in their homes, work, or in the community. DSPs are the front lines of support and often create the strongest relationships with the people we serve.

Stark DD recognizes this hard work and dedication and began to make our appreciation shared and known. We have partnered with our community to receive referrals for excellence in the DSP field. When a private provider of service, a Service Support Administrator, a person served, or anyone in our community observes a DSP doing a superb job they can send us a referral and we will make sure that person is recognized.

So far we have recognized 5 people for their service. With this recognition they receive a water tumbler full of candy and a letter that quotes the nice things that have been said about them. Additionally, we take their picture and we share this moment on the Stark DD Facebook page, so that all their friends can see what a great job they have done. All 5 recipients have been overwhelmed by this recognition.

Recipient Stacey Hall was speechless upon receiving her recognition. However, Nate Braehler, owner of UPIC and her employer, called afterwards and stated, “Thank you to Stark DD. Stacey has been working with people with disabilities for over 30 years and this is her first time having something like this done for her. She let a few tears go after you left. She is vital to us at UPIC, and thank you for choosing her.”

Nominate a DSP All Star

If you know of a DSP worthy of this designation please click here (https://starkdd.org/resources/providers/provider-forms) and get a copy of the All Star DSP referral form. You can send your referral to providersupport@starkdd.org or just drop it off at our office at the Whipple-Dale Centre. Once you send it in we will get started on the big surprise.

Celebrating Direct Support Professionals!
Look for our celebration activities in September!
STREET FAIR
Saturday, September 28th, 2019 / 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Whipple-Dale Centre / 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton

The Street Fair is set up to resemble a community neighborhood, with vendors’ “storefronts” organized according to the age of services they best match up with: Early Years Blvd, School to Transition Way, and Provider Place, as well as general resources like Wellness Way, All Ages Avenue and City Hall.

Free Street Fair food is available for families thanks to Angry BBQ. The Neighborhood Corner Cafe also features local specialty food items for purchase from companies who employ or support people with disabilities.

The 2019 Street Fair is brought to you by:

VENDOR REGISTRATION
Do you provide a service/program in our community?
Please join us and showcase the services you provide to children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families in Stark County.

• All registered providers will receive ONE FREE 6 FOOT TABLE to display information. Table electricity is unavailable, but we will have two charging stations.

To register as a vendor, please visit our Eventbrite event site
2019 Street Fair Vendor Registration

OR visit Eventbrite.com and search events for 2019 Street Fair to access the event registration page.

When registering, please put AGENCY NAME in the “first name” field and CONTACT NAME in the “Last Name” field.

Vendor Registration deadline is September 6, 2019.

Family Information Series – resources, conversations about Meeting the needs of people with disabilities at all ages

Stark DD launched the Family Information Series in 2015 to help individuals, families, caregivers and educators learn more about issues and trending topics related to intellectual/developmental disabilities.

The free evening sessions take place at the Whipple-Dale Centre, Cohen Room and typically run the second Monday of the month from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Speakers have included Stark DD staff as well as community resources.

For those who can’t attend, each session is also videotaped and made available on the Stark DD YouTube channel. Viewers can access the YouTube channel through our website homepage by clicking on the YouTube icon, or by using the link https://www.youtube.com/user/StarkCountyDD

Future Family Information Series events can be found on the Community Calendar at https://starkdd.org/news-and-publications/calendar/. You can also sign up to receive email notifications by contacting Lisa Parramore at 330-479-3934.

August 12, 2019
Loose Ends or Legacy - 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Special Needs Planning Workshop covering topics such as Medicaid, SSI, Guardianship, Trusts, Stable Accounts, etc.)

October 21, 2019
Fair Housing and Area Agency on Aging , 5:30-6:30 p.m.

November 18
Epilepsy Association

What makes a strong community?
What does it mean to be “kNOWn”?
What does it mean to really “belong” somewhere?

Help us explore these questions and learn more about the kNOWn Network at First Friday events!
Springtime for many school age students means graduation. Stark DD celebrated the graduation of 38 preschoolers from the preschool programs located at both Taft Elementary and Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center.

Rebecca Stallman Southgate School held its 40th graduation ceremony on May 24. It was the Ruby Anniversary and the Class of 2019, with 15 proud graduates and over 125 family and friends, celebrated this momentous occasion.

“I am so proud of each of these graduates,” said Myrna Blosser, Principal of School Programs. “It has been an honor watching them grow and learn at RS Southgate School. They each have unique personalities and skills and we wish them success and bright futures ahead for them.”

Three students were recognized for their outstanding leadership among the student body. Those students were:

- Citizenship Award - Rachel Rodgers
- Gary Weston Community Education Award - Micah Armstead
- Leadership Award – Isaiah Wade

Stark DD Superintendent Bill Green concluded his remarks to the Class of 2019, saying "I'm not closing with the words of Socrates, Aristotle, George Washington, or even Abraham Lincoln, but the great philosopher, Winnie the Pooh, who said:

You are braver than you believe
Smarter than you seem
And stronger than you think.

Isaiah Wade
The Canton Palace Theatre and the Canton Professional Educators’ Association (CPEA) presents the eight-week movie series Summer Kids Movies. The movies will begin at 1pm, with doors opening at 12:30pm. Admission is $1.00 and group reservations are available by calling 330-454-8172 up until 4pm on the Friday before the movie showing. All tickets are sold at the door the day of the movie showing.

The theatre environment will be tailored to the attendees on the Autism Spectrum and their families. This includes: lower levels of sound and dim lights, dietary sensitive offerings in the concession stand including gluten and dairy free options, trained staff and family restrooms.

“We realized that the experience of attending a movie is something that an increasing number of children and adults in our community are not able to participate in, due to sensitivities caused by Autism and other Sensory Processing Disorders,” said Georgia Paxos, Executive Director of the Canton Palace Theatre.

Stark DD educators honored for their hard work and dedication to students

Two Rebecca Stallman Southgate School Intervention Specialists were recently recognized for their hard work and dedication to their students at the April 29 Stark County Educational Service Center Education Celebration.

Katelin Keister was selected to the All-County Rookie Teaching Team, and Lindsey Adkins was honored as part of the All-County Teaching Team.

Adkins was also recognized by the State Support Team 9 on April 27 at the Annual Conference for Families and Educators of Diverse Learners.

Above: Lindsey Adkins (left) and Katelin Keister. Right: Lindsey Adkins.

Eight-week Summer Kids Movies series Sensory Cinema is movie going at its best

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Register at:
Community

Monthly Board Meeting
Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; October 22, 6 p.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton.

Special Olympics State Team Softball & Individual Skills Competition
September 14, all day at Oregon, Ohio. Athletes from across the state compete in team and individual skills softball competition.

Recreation

22nd Annual Great Pumpkin Race
October 26, 8:30 a.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. Benefits Stark DD Special Olympics. Register at https://ohiochallengeseries.emotive.com/events/register/2019-great-pumpkin-race

DODD Health and Safety Alerts
Did you know the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) publishes Health and Safety Alerts on a variety of topics to provide data, additional resources, and guidance on what can be done to avoid or minimize risk?

Read the latest on Staying Safe in Summer Weather #60-6-19 as well as other Health and Safety Alerts at http://dodd.ohio.gov/HealthAndSafety

Education

Guardianship Training Session
July 20, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Goodwill Campus, 408 Ninth St. SW, Canton. Topic: Understanding SSI & SSDI. Mr. Robert Finn from the Social Security Administration. Please RSVP to Jodi Broom at 330-546-2001.

Guardianship Training Session
September 19, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Goodwill Campus, 408 Ninth St. SW, Canton. Speakers will include representatives from Guardian Support Services and Stark County Board of DD. This free training is hosted by Guardian Support Services. Reservations are required. Call 330-437-3720 or e-mail volunteerguardians@gmail.com

Family Information Series
August 12, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Cohen Room at Whipple-Dale Centre, 2950 Whipple Ave. NW. Topic: Loose Ends or Legacy in the Cohen Room at Whipple-Dale Centre, 2950 Whipple Ave. NW. North Canton. Speakers will include representatives from Guardian Support Services and Stark County Board of DD. This free training is hosted by Guardian Support Services. Reservations are required. Call 330-437-3720 or e-mail volunteerguardians@gmail.com

Family Information Series
October 21, 6 p.m. at the Goodwill Campus, 408 Ninth St. SW, Canton. Topic: When to Contact a Social Security Attorney. Mr. Jeff Wettman, Esq. Please RSVP to Jodi Broom at 330-546-2001.

Family Information Series
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Sharing Solutions
IDD Support Group for Families, Caregivers and Professionals

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Social

Toddler Playgroup
Each Friday, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center. Play groups are intended for children, birth through 5 years old. For a complete list of activities go to www.starkdd.org/calendar

Adult Social Night
July 25, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Massillon Knights of Columbus, 988 Cherry Rd. NW, Massillon. Must be 18 years of age and over to attend.

Adult Social Night
August 15, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the St. George Cultural Center, 364 First St. SE, Massillon. Must be 18 years of age and over to attend.

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Monthly Board Meeting
Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; August 27, 6 p.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton.

Monthly Board Meeting
Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; September 24, 6 p.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton.

Street Fair: Community Resources in Your Neighborhood
September 28, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. We will have community organizations, agencies, and providers on hand to answer your questions about services and supports for children and adults with various needs.

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Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities
2950 Whipple Ave. N.W.
Canton, OH 44708

Board Members
Daniel Sutter, President
Maria Heege, Vice President
Dr. Jessica Falvo Lang, Recording Secretary
James Anderson
Roger Gines
Carlene Harmon
Carmelita Smith

Superintendent
William Green

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Supporting people with disabilities and their families.

Mission:

Graduates celebrate pg. 6-7

All in the Family