



Stark County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities

# All in the Family

[Read our quarterly newsletters  
online.](#)

## Message from the Superintendent



*“Never underestimate  
the valuable and  
important difference  
you make in every life  
you touch. For the  
impact you make  
today has a powerful  
rippling effect on every  
tomorrow.”*

- Anonymous

Dr. Teresa Purses, Ohio Education Partnership President and Co-Chair of Great Start for Great Futures, shared with a group of educators, during the recent Stark County Educational Service Center conference, the following facts:

- 90% of a child's brain development occurs by age 5, and birth to age 3 is the fastest rate of brain development across a child's entire life span.

- Progress made during the first 5 years of a child's life is extremely predictive of future school successes and struggles. Kindergarten readiness predicts 3rd grade reading achievement ... which predicts 8th grade math achievement ... which predicts high school graduation ... which predicts post-secondary attainment.
- In Stark County 40% of kids were NOT on track at the start of kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year.

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities has a role in impacting over 700 families who have infants and toddlers ages zero to three that have either a disability or a delay. The early intervention services we provide equip families with the supports and resources to assist them in enhancing children's learning and development through every day learning opportunities. Click [Ohio's Early Intervention System](#) to see an overview of this service. Meet [Lily Croston](#) and her family, and hear what they have to say about Stark County Early Intervention Services.

We view the early intervention services we provide as an investment in the child's future. The Center on the Developing Child from Harvard University indicates, "a major ingredient in the developmental process is the [serve and return](#) interaction between children and their parents. We impart to families the need to use every interaction as an opportunity to impact their child's development that will make a difference for a life time. For we know that in the first few years of life, [more than 1 million new neural connections form every second](#). After this period, these connections are reduced.

The Great Start for Great Futures Coalition is a group of Stark County early education providers, agencies, advocates, and community leaders collaborating to improve the outcomes of prenatal to kindergarten children. The goal of this coalition is to ensure all children have access and opportunity to high-quality early education to ensure kindergarten readiness in all early learning educational domains. We applaud them and are honored to be a part.

Have a great month,

*William Green*

## New budget invests in Ohioans with DD



On July 18, 2019, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed House Bill 166, the state's operating budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, into law. The budget invests a historic \$370 million over the next two years to support Ohioans with developmental disabilities.

Governor DeWine introduced a bold budget recognizing that now is the time to invest in Ohio. The budget makes investments in many areas affecting Ohioans with developmental disabilities and their families, including creating opportunities for every child to succeed and supporting the workforce.

Learn what the budget for the next two years will do for Ohio's developmental disabilities system in an [article published by the DODD](#).

## Luncheon recognizes DSP All Stars



SAVE THE DATE

DSP Recognition Luncheon

Presented by the  
Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Saturday, September 14, 2019  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

La Pizzeria  
3656 Dressler Rd NW,  
Canton, OH 44718

The poster features a large, stylized trophy made of blue triangles on the right side. The text is arranged on the left side of the poster.



**Jeff Davis, Director**  
Ohio Department of  
Developmental Disabilities

On September 14th Stark DD Provider Compliance and Support Department will be hosting a DSP Recognition Luncheon to recognize this year's Direct Support Professional (DSP) All Stars.

The luncheon will feature Jeff Davis, Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD). The free event will be open to providers, persons served, families, and other community partners.

At the luncheon we will take time to recognize each of the 12 DSP All Stars from this cycle. We will also be handing out 4 additional awards for DSP of the Year, Leadership Award, Resourcefulness Award, and Energy Award.

Contact [Ed Lewis](#), Provider Compliance and Support Supervisor, to register. Seats will be limited.

# Baseball tournament hosts 500 players



*photo courtesy of Dave Mast,  
Tuscarawas County Bargain Hunter*

Tuscarawas County Challenger Baseball League hosted the 2019 Challenger Baseball State Tournament on July 27-28 at the City Park in Dover.

More than 42 teams and nearly 500 athletes and their families from across the state of Ohio converged on the community for a weekend of baseball, fireworks, a dance and more importantly, the chance to compete on the ball field.

Locally, the Canton Challenger Baseball league fielded ten teams of more than 125 players at the event.

Dover native and former professional baseball player Perci Garner was on hand for the opening ceremony.

[Read more about the event.](#)

## Looking Ahead



**August 12 / 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. / Stark County Board of DD - Whipple-Dale Centre, 2950 Whipple Ave. NW**  
Family Information Series "Special Needs Planning Workshop: Loose Ends or Legacy." For more information or to RSVP contact [Misty McGirr](#).



**August 12 / 6 p.m. / Walthers Twin Tavern  
440 Applegrove St NW, North Canton**  
Sharing Solutions, an intellectual/developmental disabilities support group for families, caregivers and professionals, will host a conversation with Robert Finn, Social Security Administration, "Understanding SSI & SSDI." [RSVP to Jodi Broom](#).



**Adult Social Night**

**August 15 / 7 - 9 p.m. / St. George Cultural Center  
364 First St. SE, Massillon**  
Adult Social Night. Must be 18 years of age and over, and follow the [Adult Social Night Guidelines](#) to attend. See a complete [Adult Social Night Calendar](#).



**August 20 / 12 p.m. / Stark County Board of DD - Whipple-Dale Centre**  
Stark DD Monthly Finance committee meeting. Open to the public.

**August 23 / 3 p.m. / Stark County Board of DD -**



**Whipple-Dale Centre**

Stark DD Monthly Personnel committee meeting. Open to the public.



**August 27 / 6 p.m. / Stark County Board of DD - Whipple-Dale Centre**

Stark DD Monthly Board Meeting. Open to the public.



**September 28 / 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / Stark County Board of DD - Whipple-Dale Centre, 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton**

Discover the resources available in our community. This is a one stop information event for people of all ages. Free and open to the public. [Vendor registration](#) deadline: September 6, 2019.



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