



Allⁱⁿ_{the} Family

In partnership with the Stark County Health Department Stark DD helps out during the COVID pandemic



Working in partnership with the Stark County Health Department, the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities was able to contribute both physical and volunteer resources to help our community during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Beginning in mid-January, the SC Health Department utilized Stark DD's Whipple-Dale Centre to vaccinate more than 60,000 Stark County citizens, including some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

A highlight of the Whipple-Dale clinic, was the visit by Governor Mike DeWine, and First Lady Fran DeWine on February 26. During the hour-plus visit, Governor DeWine toured through

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(Above) Stark DD worked in collaboration with the Stark County Health Department to host vaccination clinics at the Whipple-Dale Centre administrative building beginning in January 2021. (Right) Ohio Governor Mike DeWine visited the clinic on February 26, 2021.

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Mission:
Supporting people with disabilities and their families.

Superintendent's Message:



"GRATITUDE IS THE FAIREST BLOSSOM
WHICH SPRINGS FROM THE SOUL."

– Henry Ward Beecher

On behalf of our seven-member Board, the 3,950 people we support, the 125 agency providers and 125 independent providers, our 389 employees, and myself, we want to thank you, the citizens of Stark County. We thank you for putting your confidence in our Agency, for with your ongoing support, we are able to continue serving as the safety net for people with disabilities and their families in our communities.

We want to express our gratitude to you – our property owners, citizens, and taxpayers, as you make the services and supports that we provide possible. You have put your confidence in us to do the right thing; to ensure the people we serve are

healthy, safe, and living their best life, and we are grateful to have your support.

Please know that in fulfilling our mission of "Supporting choices and creating opportunities for people with disabilities and their families", we are each working daily to conduct ourselves in a manner that is responsible and answerable to people with disabilities, their families, and you – the taxpayers.

Our identity is:

- Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities (Stark DD) provides vital services and high quality support to a steadily increasing number

(3950+) of people with developmental disabilities.

- By using bold thinking and strategic decision making, Stark DD is doing more with less, as we seek to be the "greatest benefit to the greatest number of people."

I thank you again for your support and trust as we strive to continuously improve, use resourceful decision making, and ultimately work each day to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

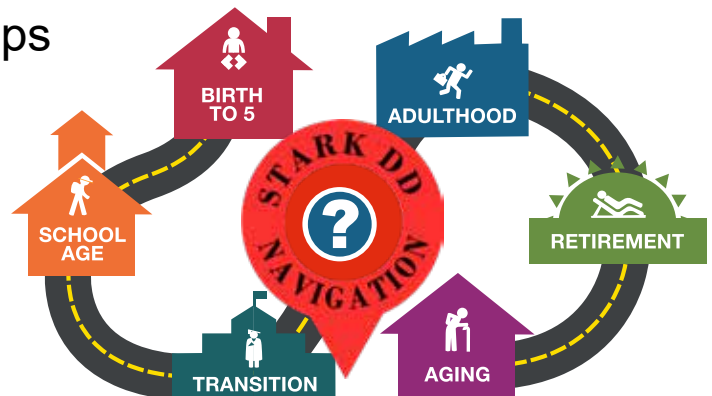
THANKS TO ALL OF YOU

Help and resources at your fingertips

The Stark DD Navigation is a tool you can use to help find resources, information and connections to help you and your family.

<http://www.starkddnav.org/>

Stark DD does not endorse any of these applications, they are resources available through research and the intent of this tool is to have them all in one spot to help you.



Stark DD Board Members



James
Anderson



Dr. Jessica
Falvo Lang



Maria Heege



Jennifer Moff



Carmelita Smith



Cindi Sutter



Daniel Sutter

Learn more about the Stark DD Board at www.starkdd.org/AboutTheBoard

Stark County Commissioners appoint Jennifer Moff to serve on Stark DD governing board

The Stark County Commissioners appointed Jennifer Moff to the governing board for Stark DD. Mrs. Moff was sworn in at the June 29 meeting. She replaces Roger Gines who retired from the governing board after 12 years of service.

Mrs. Moff is a wife, and mother to two boys, Alex and Kyle. One of her sons receives services from Stark DD. Mrs. Moff joined the Administrative Team at Plain Local Schools in 2018, as the principal of Avondale Elementary. Mrs. Moff earned a degree in Elementary Education from the University of Akron in 1996, and began her teaching career in Akron Public Schools in 1997. After teaching elementary school for seven years, she became the assistant principal at a middle school, and then became the principal. In 2010, she returned to her roots as an elementary principal. After residing in Akron for 11 years, Mrs. Moff and her family moved to Plain Township in 2014.

The governing board is made up of seven community members, and oversees the services provided by Stark DD. The board members receive no compensation and volunteer their time. Board members are appointed to four-year terms by the Stark County Commissioners and the Stark County Probate Judge.

COVID Clinic

Continued from page 1

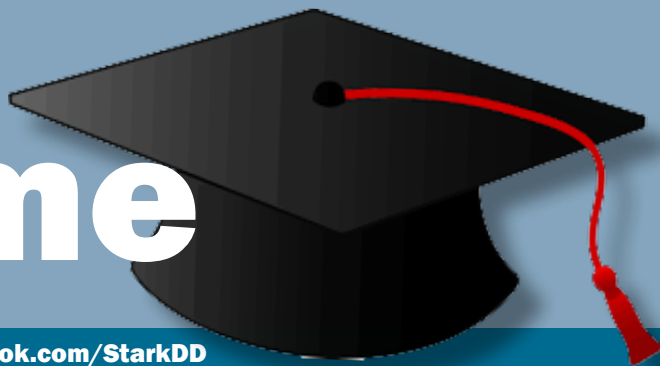
every aspect of the clinic operations, talked with surprised patients, and concluded with a press conference with regional media. In addition to the building space, Stark DD donated IT equipment and support, and maintenance assistance while on location.

Additionally, more than 70 Stark DD employees volunteered their time and skills in the clinic as their work schedules allowed. From administering vaccines, to registering and escorting patients, Stark DD employees were happy to be a part of the clinic success.

Clinic Vaccinations	
Non Hospital Healthcare workers	5,430
Over 65 years of age	18,650
Schools	8,946
EMS	655
Stark DD- clients, providers, staff	1,001
Other Eligible Criteria	27,045
Medical conditions	3,527
12-64 years of age	18,789
Total Vaccines Administered	61,727



Tassel time



For more graduation photos, visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/StarkDD

Springtime for many school age students means graduation. Stark DD celebrated the graduation of 31 preschoolers from the preschool programs located at both Taft Elementary and Eastgate Early Childhood and Family Center. Of those children, 29 will return to their home school district for kindergarten programming, and two children will attend Stark DD School programs.

"We were so happy to be able to provide in-person ceremonies to celebrate the progress made by each of our graduates during their time with Stark DD Preschool. We were honored to have the privilege of providing their early childhood education and wish each child all the best as they advance to the next step of their formal education," said Tammy Maney, Early Childhood Director.

Rebecca Stallman Southgate School returned to an in-person graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 27. The Class of 2021 honored four high school graduates before the intimate crowd of family and friends.

"I am so proud of each of these graduates," said Rebecca Holthaus, Principal of School Programs. "It was such a challenging year, but each of these graduates made the most of their time, whether it was in the classroom or in-home instruction."

The graduates look forward to spending time at home, working and making new friends.



Fateemh Wright



Jessica Varner



Mason Derry



Olivia Smith



Online Technology Fair slated for Fall



Stark DD is planning a virtual technology fair for Fall 2021! We want to help individuals and families in Stark County gain a better understanding of how technology can be a support!

We are planning to have providers and individuals who are familiar with this service share their experiences.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/techfair>

K-12 Teaching Excellence

In conjunction with Ohio Department of Education (ODE) K-12 award programs, Stark DD School Programs has recognized the following K-12 educators: (left to right) Alison Mayle, Southgate Principal's Award; Marti Jung, Franklin B. Walter Special Educator Award nominee; Amber Moulin, rookie teacher of the year; and Rebecca Shade, teacher of the year.



You Can Help!



Stark DD Eastgate Preschool School and School Programs collects [Boxtops for Education](#).

New to the process is you must download the app so you can scan your grocery receipts within two weeks of purchase for schools to get the full credit.

Please consider collecting Boxtops throughout the summer months to support our preschool and school programs in the upcoming school year. The money earned from this fundraiser goes directly back to our children to support them in special activities or equipment.



Looking for toddler-friendly ideas to do at home?

Sign up to receive our monthly Early Intervention Newsletter.

In there you will find:
Local Outings • Crafts • Recipes • Parenting Tips

Contact Chris Ehmer at EhmerC@StarkDD.org to receive our online newsletters.

Find past issues on our website at
<https://starkdd.org/news-and-publications/newsletter-publications/>

Keeping People

For more information, visit our website at <https://starkdd.org/services/investigative-services/>

Meet the team: Investigating Major Unusual Incidents



Sean McDonald
Lead
Investigative Agent



Jessica Sterzbach
Registered Nurse



Tom Vaughn
Manager, MUI
& Investigative
Services

Our mission is **supporting choices and creating opportunities for people with disabilities and their families**. The essence of what we do begins with making sure people are safe and secure in their homes, workplaces, and communities. One of the most critical services we provide is the investigation and follow-up of allegations of abuse, and neglect.

The Investigative Services Unit of the Stark County Board of DD has eight investigative agents and a Deputy Sheriff that investigate incidents that potentially affect health and safety.

This team is responsible for the investigation of all Major Unusual Incidents (MUI), and the development of prevention plans to reduce the likelihood that similar incidents will occur. A Major Unusual Incident (MUI) is any alleged, suspected, or actual incident that adversely affects the health, safety, or welfare of an individual with a developmental disability.

All providers who are contracted, certified, or licensed to serve persons with Developmental Disabilities are required to report MUIs, as well as all Stark DD staff. MUIs should be reported immediately, but no later than 4 hours after becoming aware of the incident.



Jeff Weber
Investigative Agent



Diane Fitz
Investigative Agent



Kim Humphrey
Investigative Agent



Chris Wright
Investigative Agent



Stephanie Bowen
IS Clerk



Melinda Mason
Intake Specialist

See Something, Say Something

MUIs can be reported to Stark DD by staff, individuals with disabilities, families, providers, or the general public.

Calls are answered 24/7.

Report suspicious activity to our MUI Hotline:

Call 330-477-4477

e Safe

Know Me

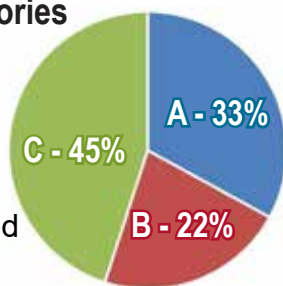
How many MUI's do we
see each year?

Review of the Stark DD report in
comparison to statewide data:
In 2020 the number of MUIs was
significantly impacted by the Covid-19
pandemic both at a county and state-
level. Stark County experienced an
overall decrease of just over 9%, while
the Ohio Department of Developmental
Disabilities (DODD) noted a decrease
of 11% state-wide. Stark County in
2019 had 977 Major Unusual Incidents
categorically, while ending 2020 with 907.

On January 1, 2019, the Major Unusual Incident (MUI) Rule was revised and
definition changes, which has impacted MUI data. Under current rule a MUI
can contain multiple categories when categories are related and meet a certain
criteria. Prior to the rule change, each MUI could only have only have one category.
This change has impacted how we should look at the data reported.

Breakdown of Categories and what they mean

Percentages
by category:



An incident reported
to the Investigative
Services department
is assigned a category during
investigation. These categories are
determined by the nature of the incident.
Category A includes alleged abuse,
neglect, exploitation, misappropriation,
and others. MUIs that are **Category B**
include medical emergencies, peer to
peer acts, significant injury, and more.
Only **Category C** are incidents that
involve law enforcement, unanticipated
hospitalization, or unapproved
behavior support.

NAME **Dennis Betz**

PASSION **Flipping Houses**

Since 2007, Stark DD has contracted with the Stark County Sheriff's Office for one detective to be assigned to work on cases involving individuals who receive services from Stark DD.

When a case involves someone with a disability, how do you become involved in the process?

I become involved in MUI investigations, when any individual who receives services from Stark DD, is the victim of a crime against them.

How does that process evolve once you are involved?

I work with the Stark DD Investigative Agent assigned to the MUI, to conduct an investigation into the alleged offense. Once the investigation is complete, and it is determined that criminal charges are warranted against the offender, I file the necessary paperwork with the local courts in Stark County, to begin the criminal court process.

How is the process different than with other typical investigations?

In cases where the victim has ID/DD, they are not always able to clearly communicate what happened. They are also most likely not able to testify in court, about the crime that was committed against them. This creates some challenges in the investigation, that you wouldn't have in a typical investigation. It requires a more in depth investigation, to gather evidence as to what actually occurred, when the victim cannot communicate due to their ID/DD.

What would be one piece of advice for service/safety forces who respond to cases involving people with ID/DD?

If you recognize that the person has ID/DD, try to slow things down, and assess the situation, as to what's really going on. Be patient when asking questions, to give them time to process, and answer.

Dennis Betz

Detective, 17 years,
Stark County Sheriff's Department
4 years, assigned to Stark DD



Special Olympics • Stark DD **Return to Play**

Follow Stark DD Special Olympics at www.facebook.com/StarkDDSpecialOlympics



COVID cancels traditional state summer competitions; Communities field Summer Games Reimagined events

*Submitted by
Paula Gardner, Special Olympics Coordinator*

Special Olympics Ohio competitions returned this spring, but with some COVID precautions still in place. Team travel was still not allowed, so only smaller, two team competitions were allowed for track & field, and bocce. The competition bowling team practiced, but did not compete in any tournaments.

The summer games typically include about 3,000 athletes for a weekend of events on Ohio State's campus. With Summer

Games Reimagined, more than 5,500 athletes competed in 80 events in their own communities throughout the state.

On Saturday, June 5, Stark DD brought 29 Track and Field athletes to the Summer Games Re-Imagined Regional competition in Medina. The Olympians finished with 18 -Gold , 30 -Silver, 14 -Bronze, six -4th place ribbons, and two -5th place ribbons.

On Sunday, June 6, 13 Stark DD athletes participated in the Bocce tournament, bringing home nine gold medals and four silver.

We're back and ready to run!

THE Great Pumpkin Race

23rd Annual

Saturday, October 30, 2021

Stark DD's Whipple-Dale Centre
2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton



Lil' Pumpkin 100 Yard Dash - 8 am
(7 and Under)

1 Mile Fun Run/Walk - 8:30 am
(non-timed)

4 Mile Competitive Run - 9 am
(USATF Certified Course)



Are you up for the
9 Lives Challenge?

We are teaming up with Run To You Racing the inaugural **Haunted Forest Marathon**, which is run the day after in Canal Fulton. Those who complete BOTH the Great Pumpkin 4 Miler AND ANY of the Sunday distances will receive a special

**9 LIVES CHALLENGE
MEDAL.**

Scary good pricing!

Prices increase after
Friday the 13th of August.

Register at:

[https://ohiochallengeseries.enmotive.com/
events/register/2021-great-pumpkin-race](https://ohiochallengeseries.enmotive.com/events/register/2021-great-pumpkin-race)

Calendar

Find more events www.starkdd.org/calendar

Education

Sharing Solutions IDD Support Group for Families, Caregivers and Professionals

Visit the [Sharing Solutions website](#) for a list of updated events and announcements, or follow them on [Facebook](#). For questions contact [Jodi Broom](#) or call 330-546-2001.



New Guardian Training

All Guardian Trainings have been postponed until further notice. Online training is available on the [Supreme Court of Ohio's website](#). For assistance, call 330-437-3720 or e-mail volunteerguardians@gmail.com

Recreation

Special Olympics

Softball teams and fundamentals run July 5 - September. To sign up, contact Special Olympics coordinator Paula Gardner at gardnerp@starkdd.org. Watch for updates on facebook.com/StarkDDSpecialOlympics

Soapbox Derby Inclusion Day

August 7, 11 am - 3 pm.
Derby Downs, 1000 George Washington Blvd., Akron
Individuals with all different abilities take a ride down the world famous Derby Downs Track in a ride-along Soap Box Derby car. Ages 5 & up. Participation is limited to the first 250 riders who [register](#).

Special Olympics State Team Softball & Individual Skills Competition

September 10-12, all day at Cedar Point Complex, Sandusky, Ohio. Athletes from across the state compete in team and individual skills softball competition.

23rd Annual Great Pumpkin Race

October 30, 8 am at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. Benefits Stark DD Special Olympics. Register at <https://ohiochallengeseries.enmotive.com/events/register/2021-great-pumpkin-race>

Social

Adult Social Night

Social Nights are cancelled until further notice.



Toddler Playgroup First and Third Tuesday's each month through September. Meet in-person or virtually. 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Please email [Chris Ehmer](#) to get weekly updates for playgroups.

Community



Nathan's Hope Make 'm Smile

July 10, 11 am - 3 p.m., Hartville Memorial Park, 335 Park Lane Dr. SW Hartville. Don't miss this great FREE resource event! Awesome Resource Exhibitors, Vendors and Smile Makers to give out free items, free food and much more! Register at <https://nathanielshope.org/2021-make-m-smile-ohio/>

Zoothing Hour

Akron Zoo; July 10 and August 8, 9 am - 10 am. Zoo opens one hour early for guest who do not like loud noises and/or crowds. Tickets must be purchased ahead of time online at

<https://www.akronzoo.org/zoothing-hour>



Diaper Drive

August 23 - September 3. Collecting newborn-4T diapers, PullUps, adult briefs, to benefit Stark County Diaper Bank. Drop off at any Stark DD facility. Learn more at

<https://www.starkcountydiaperbank.org/>

Monthly Board Meeting

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; August 24, 6:00 pm at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. Watch live at www.facebook.com/StarkDD.

Monthly Board Meeting

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; September 28, 6:00 pm at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. Watch live at www.facebook.com/StarkDD.



Monthly Board Meeting

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; October 26, 6:00 pm at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. Watch live at www.facebook.com/StarkDD.

Monthly Board Meeting

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities; December 14, 6:00 pm at 2950 Whipple Ave. NW, Canton. Watch live at www.facebook.com/StarkDD.

All in the Family

Published by the
Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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E-mail: info@starkdd.org
Fax: 330-477-2545

The All in the Family is a quarterly publication of the Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities. News releases, story ideas, comments and suggestions should be addressed to All in the Family at the Whipple-Dale Centre, 2950 Whipple Ave. N.W., Canton, OH 44708.

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The Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

- Accredited by NAEYC, DODD
- Equal Opportunity in Employment, Access and Services. M/F/H.
- Ohio Self Determination Association member (OSDA)

EMPLOYMENT
FIRST 

CITIZENS WHO CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PRESENTS

11th ANNUAL **GOLF OUTING**

Register to play at
<https://birdease.com/2021CitizensWhoCareGolfOuting>

JOIN US FOR A GREAT DAY OF GOLF. HELP SUPPORT PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Monday, August 2, 2021
Glenmoor Country Club

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

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Cindi Sutter

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Stark County Board of
Developmental Disabilities

All in the Family



Special Olympic athletes
Return to Play
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Mission:

Supporting choices and creating opportunities for people with disabilities and their families.