

CCBDD News

Developmental Disabilities
Awareness Month
March 2025



Special Points of Interest

Welcome to the School
Superintendent Remarks
Welcome New Employee
School Nurse Advice
Carroll Hills Council
Carroll Hills School
In the Spotlight
Community Employment
Special Olympics



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March is Developmental Disability Month



CCBDD AWARD WINNERS

Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities, in conjunction with Carroll Hills Council, honored award recipients at the annual Developmental Disabilities Appreciation Dinner held on March 26, 2025. We changed the format of the banquet by recognizing more accomplishments of the children and adults served by the CCBDD.

Community Employment Years of Service were recognized; Matt Crough for 30 years at McDonalds, Becky Easterday for 10 years at Wendy's, and Alaina Ulman for 5 years at Pieces with Purpose.

Minerva Civic Club (Pam Dray), winner of the Service Award, Century Farms, (Kerri and Mike Lambert) winner of the Business Award, Lakisha Arnold, winner of the Helen Eick Outstanding Volunteer, Dalton Vogus and Nash Graham, winners of the Student Personal Achievement Award, Makenzy Burke and Noah Hinkle, winners of the Adult Personal Achievement Award. Cierra Payne, winner of the Carroll Hills Industries Provider Choice Personal Achievement Award, Travis Lawrence, winner of the Family Disability Services Provider Choice Personal Achievement Award, Piper Young, winner of the Mayle Homes Provider Choice Personal Achievement Award, Joan Kinsey, winner of the St John Villa Provider Choice Personal Achievement Award, and Dustin Shafer, winner of the Starlight Provider Choice Personal Achievement Award. Ellie Eft, winner of the Early Intervention Principal Award, Emberly Lasure, winner of the Preschool Principal Award, and Naomi Kelly, winner of the School Age Principal Award. Cody Conner, winner of the Superintendent Award.

Congratulations!

Matt Campbell, Superintendent

March was Developmental Disabilities Month. Each year the Carroll County Commissioners issue a proclamation recognizing March as Developmental Disabilities month. This year's theme was "Together We Can Achieve Anything." This aligns with the Board's strategic vision to "Live, Work, Play Together." As evidenced by the relationships I have observed in the community where people work, play sports, and socialize, I am encouraged that we are making great strides towards this vision.

The Board is blessed with

this community's support and income from gas and oil. This was the first year I saw our waiting list increase to sixteen people since the waiting list assessment rule change in 2018. The Board is also serving more people. Our current funding has allowed us to address the waiting list. The Board approved increasing the Level 1 Waiver cap from forty to fifty waivers and approved an emergency Individual Options Waiver. This means we can address everyone on our waiting list with the combination of federal funding and local funds for the required match.



Pictured, from left to right -

Seated: Matt Crough, adult employed in the community; Cole Starkey, senior; Commissioner Christopher R. Modranski; Knox Graham, PS2; and Nash Graham, PS1. Standing: Reva Castelucci, Job Coach; Commissioner Donald E. Leggett II; Cindy Stertzbach, Administrative Assistant; Jodie McCauley, Classroom Aide; Commissioner Robert E. Wirkner; and Matt Campbell,

The Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities was created in 1967 by Senate Bill 169. This was in response to parents advocating for their children to get services. We take that mission very seriously and provide services for as many as possible. I know the system is complicated. I would like to take time to explain our waiting list.

In 2018, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities revised the waiting list rule and developed a waiting list assessment. The process begins with a call from an individual or guardian expressing a need for services. The Board then has fifteen days to initiate and 45 days to complete a waiting list assessment. The results may show an immediate need the Board must meet within 30 days or it can identify a current need that can be met within the next twelve months with waiver funding, and they are added to the waiting list. There are also alternative funding sources that can meet a need that does not require a waiver. In short, if a need is identified the Board must address it.



The last thing I want to share is Carroll Hills Council decided this year to change the format of our annual banquet. We moved Board staff recognition to our annual in-service, allowing more time to recognize people with disabilities for their achievements. As a result, the Council added more categories for people with disabilities to be recognized including an additional personal achievement for students and adults as well as an agency provider recognizing one individual for their personal achievement. There were so many success stories this year and all the nominees and recipients are winners in our eyes!

Developmental Disabilities Month

Volume 6 Issue 1

Personal Achievement Award Winners

Noah Hinkle



Makenzy Burke



Nash Graham



Dalton Vogus



Superintendent Award
Cody Conner



Helen Eick Outstanding
Volunteer Lakisha Arnold

Principal Awards



Ellie Eft - Early Intervention



Emberley Lasure - Preschool



Naomi Kelly School-age

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month March 2025



Service Award
Minerva Civic Club
Pam Dray



Business Award Winner
Century Farms
Kerri & Mike Lambert

2025 Community Employment Service Awards



Matt Crough
30 Years at
McDonalds



Becky Easterday
10 Years at Wendy's



Alaina Ulman
5 Years at
Pieces with Purpose



Congratulations!



Carroll Hills Industries
Cierra Payne



Mayle Homes
Piper Young



St John's Villa
Joan Kinsey



Starlight
Dustin Shafer

The Winner of the
Family Disability
Services Award
Travis Lawrence was
Absent– Picture not
available

Provider Choice Personal Achievement Awards

These awards are new this year, to recognize an individual with developmental disabilities for outstanding personal achievement regardless of the severity of their handicapped condition. The provider agency chooses the individual to be recognized for their achievements in the past year.

Developmental Disabilities
Awareness Month
March 2025

Congratulations on your outstanding accomplishment!
Your success is an inspiration to us all.



Developmental Disabilities Month

We just ended a great March DD Month! It is always great to celebrate what makes each of us unique and different. The school had a lot of fun with spirit days and special events. The month was capped off with a great banquet that celebrated our individuals' accomplishments. Our children's programs from Early Intervention, Preschool, and School-Age are full of great successes and I am glad those got to be celebrated. All March long, the school collected change for Carroll Hills Council. We raised over \$500, and the winning classrooms got to throw a pie in the face of Mr. Ryan. This was too much fun for the students. For more pictures from DD Month and pictures and videos of the pie throwing, please see our County Board Facebook page. With less than two months to go in this school year, I am proud of all the hard work our students and staff have put in. The weather is changing, and summer will be here before we know it, but I just want to take this moment to thank the community for the continued support of Carroll Hills School and the Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Go Cougars!

Ryan Buck



Pie in the Face Fundraiser



CARROLL HILLS CIRCUS!



Celebrating DD Month in Preschool

Last month, Preschool 1 celebrated Read Across America with a full week of silly Dr. Seuss books. We also celebrated DD Month with a lot of fun activities including dressing wacky and listening to fun stories read by our mystery readers. We ended the month with a school art show and celebrated preschool's 100th day of school.

Maci Manfull



March was a busy month for Preschool 2. A leprechaun visited our classroom and made a huge mess because we were trying to capture him. The school art show was a lot of fun with family and friends visiting. We celebrated the 100th day of school with students dressing up like they were 100 years old.

Mrs. Malone



In the Spotlight

Merrick Fields

Merrick began attending Carroll Hills School three years ago and he has come so far since this time. His big personality fills the room when he arrives. He eagerly participates in circle time using his talker to request music.

He loves to dance and make music with instruments. He is now following our daily routine and participates in each subject! He is matching colors, letters, and numbers. His mischievous personality comes out when he looks at us and tries to turn on our smartboard for more music. More importantly though, he has gained so much knowledge on how to navigate the iPad when using his "talker" program which has greatly increased the sounds and words that he is trying to say. Each day he is at school is a celebration over the strides he is making in communication. The speech therapist, Miss Jules, is so proud of him, and Merrick's mom brags that he is communicating more at home, too.

During recess time in the past Merrick spent time just sitting in the rocks, but now he runs around the playground, goes up and down the slide, and even chases after his friends. Speaking of friends, sweet Merrick greets his classmates with a gentle lean in sort of hug. He has captivated all of us, children and adults alike, with his charm. We are so thrilled that he is a part of our program! Also, the occupational therapist, Miss Jami, and the Physical therapist, Miss Abbi, are overjoyed to see his development.



Introducing the newest members of our team!



Megan Cowden

I am so thrilled to join the Carroll County Board of DD as a Service and Support Administrator. Previously, I worked in the field of Medicaid, JFS programs and a long time ago, I was a DSP. My husband, two kiddos and I live in Hanoverton with our dog and several chickens. We are currently hatching some chicks to add to our flock! My son and daughter belong to a homeschool co-op so we spend our spare time finding new things to learn and do, we also camp and bake all things sourdough.

Happy spring from the boys in Primary 2!

WELCOME
SPRING

The **Primary 2 classroom** is enjoying the end of winter and start of spring. It's nice to be able to get on the swings and run around outside again! We passed the 100th day of school and are now counting down to summer break which feels like it is right around the corner. We participated in the school art show and were able to share some of our favorite work.

Mrs. Jeffries



HAPPY
100TH
DAY!

Easter word search

C	T	Q	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H	G	N	V	Y
B	E	A	S	T	E	R	M	B	M	N	R	A	P
K	H	J	P	A	S	T	E	L	O	T	D	S	N
B	L	O	O	M	I	N	G	H	E	N	E	N	Q
E	J	R	P	D	L	R	C	K	U	T	N	A	K
N	W	N	N	T	K	R	S	S	A	G	L	E	L
I	P	L	L	K	A	A	F	L	B	N	Y	B	T
H	M	I	M	M	B	K	O	T	U	I	F	Y	L
S	K	R	E	P	C	C	L	U	N	R	L	L	P
N	C	P	F	G	O	F	W	L	N	P	O	L	L
U	I	A	W	H	G	L	Y	I	Y	S	W	E	M
S	H	N	C	R	Q	S	L	P	T	Q	E	J	P
Z	C	Y	D	N	A	C	F	S	N	C	R	V	X
M	A	R	S	H	M	A	L	L	O	W	S	K	Z

Words to find

APRIL	HOLIDAY
BASKET	JELLYBEANS
BLOOMING	MARCH
BONNET	MARSHMALLOWS
BUNNY	PASTEL
CANDY	SPRING
CHICK	SUNDAY
CHOCOLATE	SUNSHINE
EASTER	TULIPS
EGGS	
FLOWERS	



Enjoying DD Month in the Transitional Classes

Staff and students have been enjoying the spring season and the DD month activities in the transitional classroom. The students loved participating in the different dress up days during DD month and had a great time watching the "Pie the Principal" fundraiser. Mr. Cole Starkey attended the March Commissioner Meeting and was part of declaring March as Developmental Disabilities Month.

In addition to the fun times, our students have been working extremely hard in community locations. They have been learning new skills, perfecting older skills, and earning money by working at the Assembly of God Church, Millstone Grind and Café, and The Chop House. Students use this valuable time and experience to help them decide what they would like to pursue once they graduate.

Thank you to Gary at The Chop House for your kindness and for rewarding the students hard work with a nice meal.

We have been so busy in the transitional classroom; the year is flying by!

Nancy Boley and Jessica Lafferty



Carroll Hills School Bagging with Bruce and Mitchell



Carroll County Special Olympics



The Varsity Basketball team had an awesome 2024/2025 season! The Cougars played hard and made it to the finals again this year coming in 2nd place for Division 5 with a difference of only two points. Varsity and JV teams had fun during the March Madness Fun Games playing against 4H Youth Leaders, ODOT, Fox Township Fire Department, Augusta Fire Department, Mayle Homes, St. John's Villa, Carroll County Board of DD, Eagles Club #2185, and Jimmy's Backyard BBQ & Pizzeria.

Bowling season will end for most of the athletes on May 29th. We will host a family and friend bowling event on the last day of the season with pizza, chips, and fun. The coaches will choose six bowlers to attend the 2025 Ohio State Summer Games, to be announced at the May 2nd practice. A "Bowl Off" event is scheduled for May 31st at Minerva Bowl, hosted by the local Knights of Columbus. This will be a friendly competition between ten Cougars bowlers and ten Knights of Columbus bowlers. Let's cheer on the Cougars to crush their competition!

Bocce and Athletics (Track & Field) began practicing for the NE Ohio Regional Qualifier and 2025 Ohio State Summer games in mid-March. It has been a little challenging with the spring weather, but the teams are working hard at honing their skills.

**Special
Olympics**
Ohio



Fun Games Group Pictures



Carroll County People First Advocacy Group Annual Talent Show

Carroll County People First Advocacy Group Talent Show, "Carrollton's Got Talent" was a Huge Success.

1st place - Abby Bland
2nd place -Randy Stacy
3rd place - Vinnie Schumer

Congratulations to all those participating! More pictures on Facebook



Carroll County People First Advocacy Group 2025-2026 Officers

April 2, 2025 the Carroll County People First Advocacy Group held their annual election for officers for the 2025/26 term.

Congratulations to the following members for their respective office positions:

President – Cayce Gray
Vice President – Sarah Price
Secretary – Kelly Burkhart
Treasurer – Marie Dehnart
Sargeant of Arms – Thomas Meagher



CCBDD News

Promoting positive awareness of people
with developmental disabilities

Board Members

Debra Shaw, President
Diana Strader, Vice President
Kristen Long, Secretary
Deb Postlewaite
Katie Bailey
Sally Ferrell

Superintendent

Matt Campbell

The Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities—CCBDD Equal Opportunity in Employment, Access, and Services.
CCBDD News—Editors, JoAnn Hilliard & Amy Swaim. Send information or inquires to jhilliard@carrollcbdd.org or call 330-627-6555



4/18/25 - Entire Program Closed
4/21/25 - Entire Program Closed
5/26/25 - Memorial Day - Entire Program Closed
5/29/25 - Last Day School for Students
5/30/25 - Last Day School for School Staff
6/19/25 - Juneteenth Day Observed—Program Closed
7/04/25 - Independence Day Observed—Entire Program Closed
8/13-15/25 - School Staff Inservice : Hours: 8am –3pm
8/18/25 - First Day of School for School-Age Program
9/01/25 - Labor Day—Entire Program Closed
10/13/25 - Columbus Day Observed - Entire Program Closed
10/24/25 - All Staff Inservice In-Service - Entire Program Closed
10/27/25 - School Staff In-Service - No Students
11/26/25 - School Closed
11/27-28/25 - Thanksgiving Holiday—Entire Program Closed
12/01/25 - Entire Program Closed
12/22-23/25 - School Closed for School Staff and Students
12/24/25 –1/02/26 - Entire Program Closed

DD Month and Advocacy Day

Each year in March, Ohioans with disabilities are invited to attend DD and Advocacy Day in Columbus, Ohio. This event is meant to educate



L-R Penny Hodgson, Monica Robb Blasdel, Sarah Hines, Sarah Price and Matthew Kishman

and empower people with disabilities, their families, and other community allies to address issues that directly affect the lives of people with disabilities. Sarah Hines and Sarah Price traveled with Penny Hogson, Carroll County Community Network Coordinator, to Columbus to take part in Advocacy Day at the Statehouse. They met and took pictures with Ohio State Representatives Monica Robb Blasdel, District 79, and Matthew Kishman, District 50.