



2024 Annual Report



Miami County
Board of
**Developmental
Disabilities**



Superintendent's Message

As always, accountability and transparency were a significant theme for us at the Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities (MCBDD) in 2024. With regard to our finances, we shared with the community that we were in an excellent financial position at the end of 2023, so we paused collections on one of our two property tax levies in 2024. Through careful stewardship, MCBDD was able to fulfill all our financial obligations. In recent years, lower total expenses and higher revenues resulted in a surplus. This was a voluntary decision of our Board based on their satisfaction with our cash balance and our budget projections for the future. We are appreciative of the support of Miami County citizens, and we have no desire to tax them beyond our need. We deeply value the trust Miami County taxpayers place in us to support those who rely on our programs, and we aim to spend wisely while fulfilling our mission.

Related to our support for those we serve, we took steps in 2024 to offer programs that reach their family members, as we see and acknowledge how important it is to support their support systems. We introduced programs such as Sibshops for siblings of children with disabilities, Moms' and Dads' Nights Out for parents to have some connection and downtime, and The Future Is Now for caregivers seeking to create a long-term plan for their loved ones.

Another way we cared for the community in 2024 was offering a Universal Changing Table at many local festivals and events. Not only did we partner with surrounding counties to purchase 2 companion care trailers with a changing table, accessible toilet and running water, we also have our own universal changing table and tent to offer when both trailers are being utilized by our partner counties. Our work through the years has identified that a lack of restroom availability for adults and larger children who need access to a changing table prevents them from participating in the community. By offering this service, we increase access to the community for those who might not otherwise participate and provide a way for all restroom needs to be taken care of while people are out in the community.

Last, but not least, in 2024 we refreshed our logo and made the difficult decision to retire the use of the "Riverside" name for our organization's identity. "Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities" is and has been our legal name, but we used the Riverside name for its familiarity and brevity. However, using both our legal and our historical names active in the community has been difficult and confusing for our customers. New clients and families often perceive "Riverside" to be a service provider, when it has simply been a nickname for our agency based upon our history. We realize for many that retiring the Riverside name is bittersweet, but as we strive for clarity in communicating who we are and what we do, it is necessary to finally make the change.

We hope you find this look back at 2024 to be helpful and informative as you learn more about our services and supports for people with developmental disabilities in our community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian W. Green". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Brian W. Green, Superintendent

2024 Annual Report - A Year In Review

Name Update



In October 2024, we announced our plans to officially retire the use of the "Riverside" name. While the name has historical significance dating back to when we ran a school, using both names caused confusion for our clients, the public and voters.



Cost Savings

By voluntarily pausing 1 of our levies and sharing administrative costs for executive roles, MCBDD saved Miami County taxpayers approximately more than \$4 million in 2024. Learn more about our cost savings through Shared and Contracted Services on pages 5 and 6.

Number of People Served



1,093 People Served in 2024

Services by Age Group



520 Children



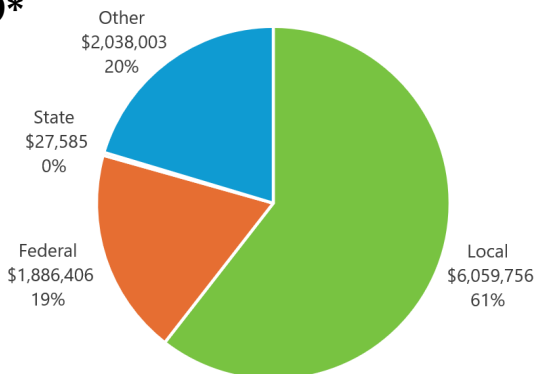
573 Adults

Funding Snapshot

Revenue:

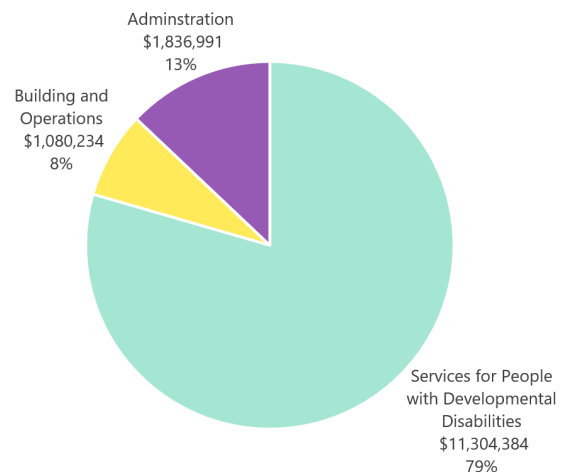
\$10,011,749*

**Note: We paused collections on our 1.7-mill levy in 2024 due to a healthy reserve account from previous years*



Expenses:

\$14,221,608



See Page 4 for more details

Our Finances

Revenue:

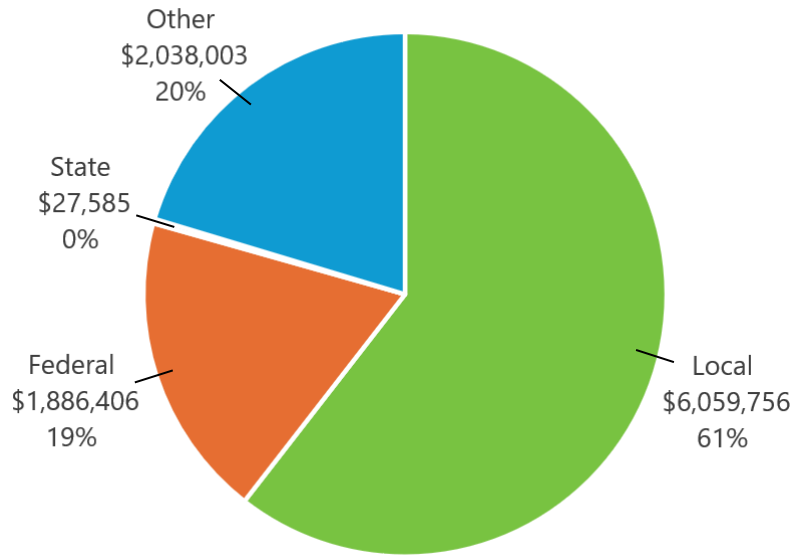
\$10,011,749*

**Note: We paused collections on our 1.7-mill levy in 2024 due to a healthy reserve account from previous years*

County Boards of Developmental Disabilities are mandated by Ohio law to coordinate services and administer funding for people with developmental disabilities who meet state criteria for eligibility. Funding for those services comes from a combination of federal, state and local dollars.

In 2024, more than 60 percent of our agency's funding came from our two Miami County levies. As an organization committed to supporting individuals with developmental disabilities, we understand the trust you place in us to manage resources responsibly while delivering high-quality services. Costs continue to increase as state-mandated increase in Medicaid waiver match payments to assist with direct support professional retention of 30% on January 1, 2024 and another 8% on July 1, 2024.

MCBDD assesses its operational needs to ensure efficiency for taxpayers while maintaining quality services and support for County residents with developmental disabilities. We can leverage just over \$17.2 million in funding from the federal government and the State of Ohio for local services. This additional funding provides support and housing for people with developmental disabilities in Miami County, creating numerous jobs for local residents and supporting the local economy.



Expenses:

\$14,221,608

MCBDD Directly Provides:

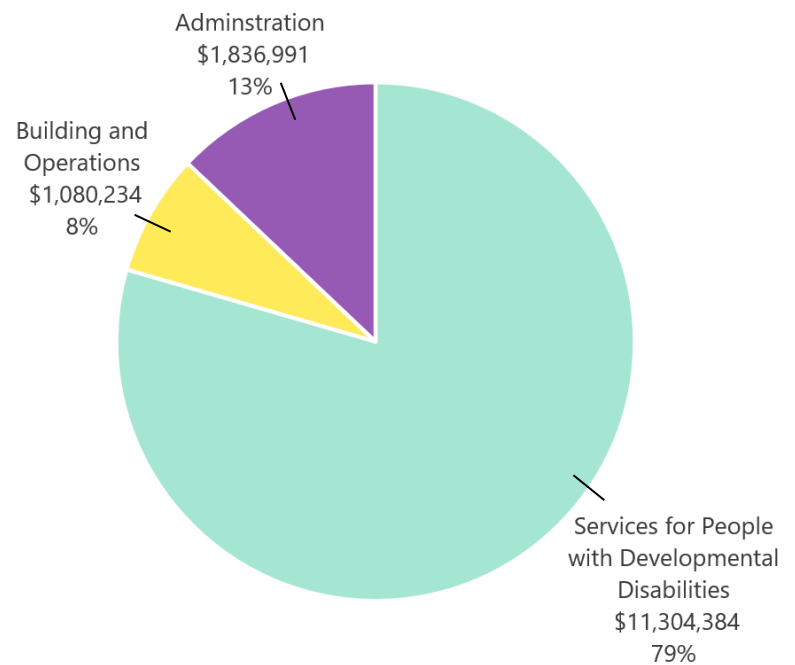
- Service Coordination
- Early Intervention for ages 0-3
- Advocacy Training
- Health & Welfare
- Training for Direct Support Professionals

MCBDD Funds & Coordinates:

- Adult Day Services
- Job Training & Support
- Community Integration
- In-Home Care
- Transportation

... through our network of service provider partners.

See page 11 for a list of those partners and the ways in which we support them



Contracted Services

Saving Miami County taxpayers by purchasing expertise as-needed

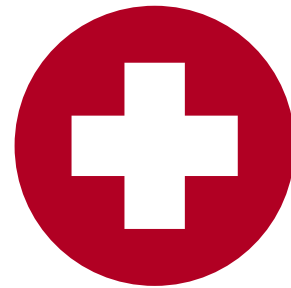
It is common for county boards of developmental disabilities in Ohio to contract services that do not have enough volume for full-time employees. There are several “councils of government” or COGs that offer “a la carte” services to multiple counties, providing high-level expertise for a low cost to each county. In Miami County, we often use services from the West Central Ohio Network (WestCON) Council of Government. Per Ohio Revised Code, reference ORC 5129.0219 F and B, county boards of DD are actually required to explore options to share when possible.

MCBDD proudly takes advantage of this option for many services needed by the people and families we serve. The practice of offering contracted services brings top notch expertise to the community while saving Miami County taxpayers significant amounts of money compared to offering those services with fulltime employees with paid benefits. Below are the services we are grateful to access through regional partnerships:



Early Intervention Therapies

including physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy



Quality Assessment Registered Nurse

perform quality assessment reviews of service providers in the setting where medication or treatment is provided with a DODD-approved certification and without nursing delegation



OT & PT Assessments

Occupational & Physical Therapists determine medical necessity for specialized medical equipment and environmental accessibility adaptations for a person served



The Academy for Professional Development Trainings

offers targeted training for Direct Support Professionals to ensure the highest quality of services are delivered to Miami County residents with developmental disabilities

Sharing Services & Saving Costs

Saving Miami County taxpayers through shared costs

We share a superintendent and two directors in our organization. There are two key reasons for this strategic decision:

1

Ohio Revised Code requires it whenever possible

The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 5126, which governs County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, authorizes county boards of developmental disabilities to enter into agreements with one or more other county boards to share resources.

2

It saves Miami County taxpayers money

MCBDD shares 3 administrative positions with Preble county, allowing the cost of these positions to be shared instead of paying full salaries. It is wise to partner with other counties and share positions when possible to lighten the financial burden on taxpayers while still gaining access to expertise.



Brian Green
Superintendent

Superintendent Brian Green has served as superintendent of the Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities since 2014, where he has worked since 2000, and has led the Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities since February 2022. As a parent of a son with autism, Brian brings both professional expertise and personal insight to supporting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

He has held leadership roles at the state level, including President of the Superintendents Executive Committee (2020–2021) and board member for the Ohio Self Determination Association and Synergy Ohio. He also served on the OACB Board from 2020 to 2024 and currently participates in statewide groups focused on IT and father engagement in the DD system.



Kathy Greenawalt-Cherry
Early Intervention Director

Kathy Greenawalt-Cherry is a highly-respected voice in the Ohio Early Intervention system. Since 1998, she has worked at the Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and has spent her career serving children and families to maximize early development in children with delays. Her extensive knowledge and expertise has led to her being asked by Governor DeWine to serve on the Early Intervention Services Advisory Council.

Kathy began her work in Preble County in 2023 and has led the effort to move beyond compliance to best practices in Early Intervention. Her efforts have also ensured parent's rights are honored, ensured service provider compliance and prioritized the use of evidence-based practices by all team members.



Steve McEldowney
Business Director

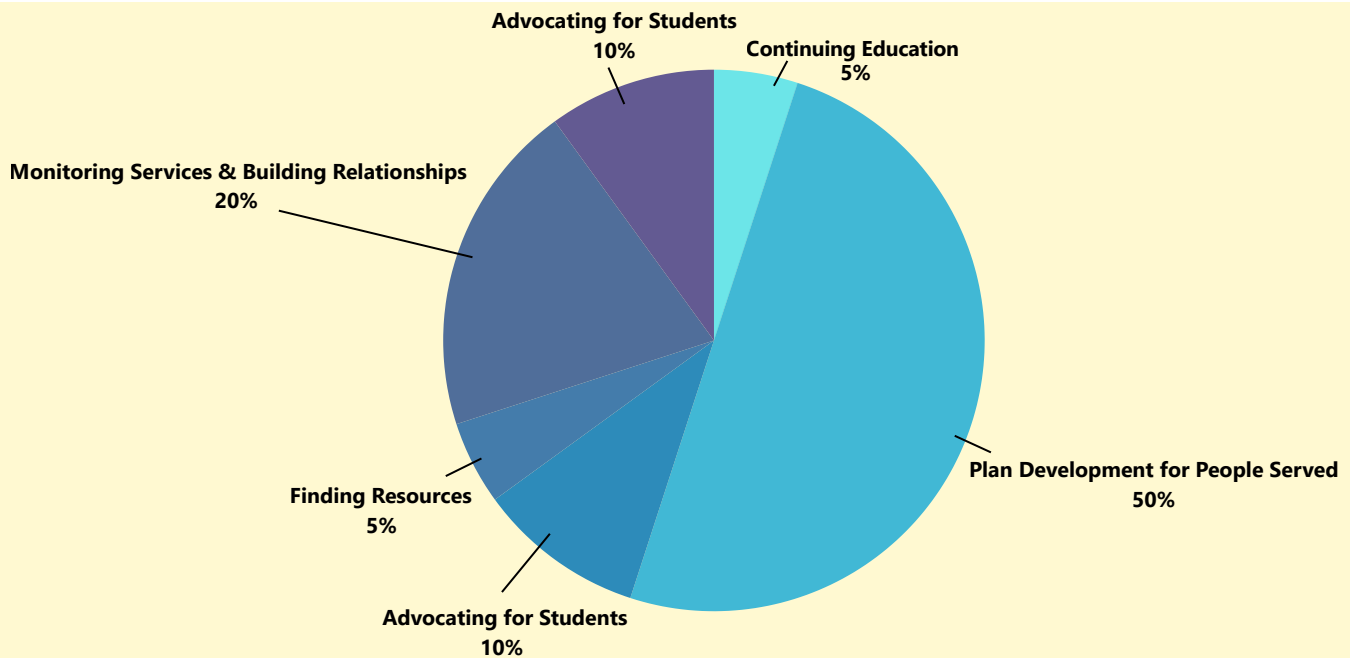
Business Director Steve McEldowney brings more than two decades of fiscal management service in the public sector to the Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Previously, Steve worked at Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services since 2001 serving the citizens of Darke, Miami and Shelby counties. He held positions of Chief Financial Officer, Director of Finance & Administration and Assistant Finance Director while there.

Steve has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a finance major from Bowling Green State University.

Service & Support Administration (SSA or Case Management Services)

for ages 3 to the end of life

Service and Support Administration is a required service that all county boards of developmental disabilities must provide in Ohio when a person requests the service, and is found eligible. The Miami County Board of Developmental Disabilities calls the employees who do this work Service & Support Administrators (SSAs). This is another name for case manager. SSAs serve as the primary point of coordination, and work closely with individuals and families to identify needs and obtain the supports necessary to meet those needs. This can be accomplished through community resources or through specialized services for people with developmental disabilities. SSAs then develop an Individual Service Plan (ISP) to address needs and outline services that will be provided. The chart below represents the allocation of time SSAs spend on their various responsibilities.



After graduating from Troy High School where he competed in cross country and track, Aiden decided to pursue a bright future by enrolling at Sinclair Community College in Fall 2024. Aiden has also participated in our Miami County Special Olympics swim program where he has earned several medals and was recognized as a BW3 athlete of the week. Outside of sports, Aiden enjoys listening to country music, building things with Legos and playing video games.


Early Intervention

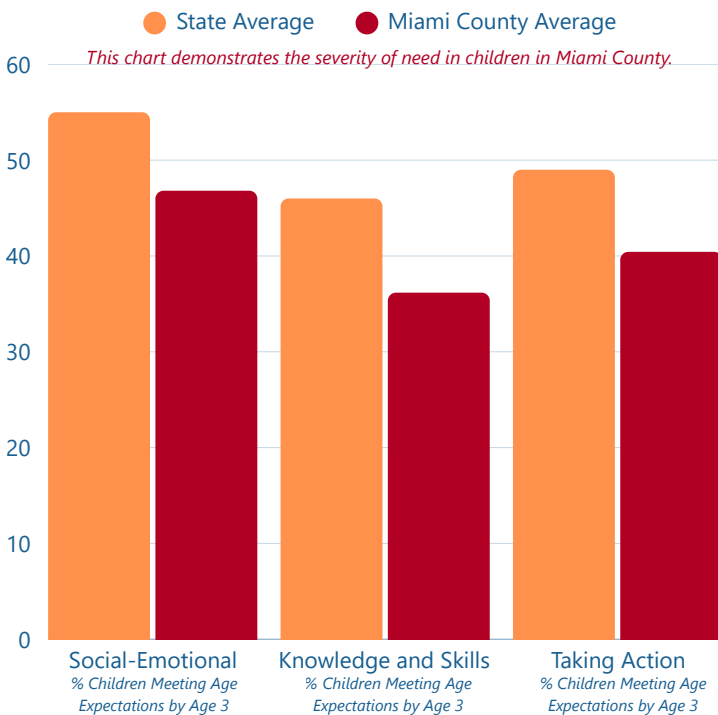
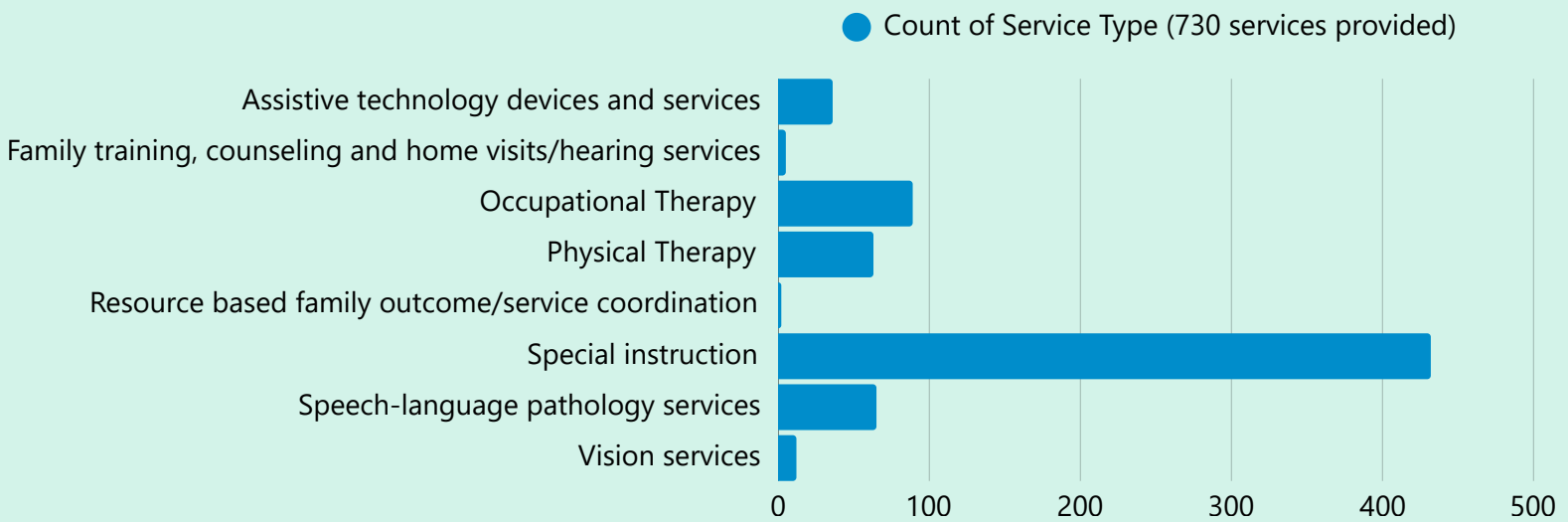
for ages 0 to a child's 3rd birthday

Early Intervention (EI) is a statewide system providing coordinated services to young children with disabilities and their families, until the child reaches his or her 3rd birthday.

EI is a home- and community-based collaboration where parents/guardians and our team work together to provide ongoing support for the child.

375  Children Served in 2024

162  Children successfully met developmental milestones and did not need additional services



Mary Jo received special instruction for a language delay from our EI team. By the time she turned 3, she was combining words and had more confidence to speak louder. She loves to play with her older siblings and participate in homeschooling activities.

Family Support Programs

Since support systems are crucial to our clients living meaningful and successful lives, our focus has expanded as we now offer programs that support their family members as well. To do so, we introduced programs such as Sibshops, The Future Is Now, and Moms' and Dads' Nights Out, while also offering Companion Care Restrooms at many outdoor events throughout the year.



Sibshops

Sibshops is a program designed for siblings ages 7-13 of children with disabilities, offering peer support and information in a lively, recreational setting. At Sibshops, children meet other siblings in a relaxed, recreational setting to discuss common joys and concerns with other siblings of children with support needs.



The Future Is Now

The Future is Now is a multi-part series designed to help caregivers and their family members with a disability make plans for the future. Throughout the series, families create a Letter of Intent -- a non-legal document that captures desires and goals for the future, to help them gain the peace of mind that comes with having a plan.



Moms' & Dads' Nights Out

Moms' and Dads' Night Out are events created to offer connection and peer support among parents of people of all ages with disabilities. Parents can connect, relax and get to know other moms and dads who are traveling a similar life path. These events are designed to create a community for parents who have children with developmental disabilities.



Companion Care Restroom Trailer

The air-conditioned trailer is fully equipped with an entrance ramp, universal changing table for all ages and sizes, ceiling lift system, sink and ADA toilet. MCBDD and 8 other county boards of developmental disabilities sponsor placement of the trailers at various community events throughout the region. In 2024, MCBDD sponsored such events as Hug the Earth, Fall Farm Fest and the Miami County Fair.


Waivers, Behavior Support & Investigations

What is a Waiver?

Waivers are a way to pay for services that support someone with developmental disabilities living on their own, with family, with a roommate, or with a provider through the Ohio Shared Living program. This allows them to receive care in the community, not in a facility. Many people qualify for county board services but do not meet the immediate qualifications for a waiver.

Once a person receives a waiver, they are eligible for this funding for their lifetime as long as they live in Ohio. The Ohio county that granted the initial waiver funding is then responsible for continuing to provide the level of waiver funding originally authorized.

For every \$1 spent on waiver services, approximately 63¢ is paid by Medicaid through federal funds. Approximately 37¢ is paid by MCBDD. This is called our "Medicaid Match." In 2024, approximately \$17.2 million was spent to provide waiver services in Miami County, with only \$2.4 million paid by local taxpayers. Waiver dollars help to employ people in Miami County by providing jobs at our local service provider partners (see page 12). It is important to note that costs for waiver services continue to increase, including a 38% increase to Direct Support Professional wages in 2024. This was a Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) improved increase to help agencies recruit and retain high quality employees.


380
PEOPLE
RECEIVED
WAIVER SERVICES
IN 2024

Behavior Support

The Behavior Support department at MCBDD exists to help people with developmental disabilities live fulfilling lives while ensuring their dignity, rights and personal freedoms are upheld.



Through a combination of positive strategies, the program aims to create supportive environments that address behavior challenges while promoting trust, respect and equality.

MCBDD's Behavior Support department has grown in recent years, with 2024 seeing the expansion to 1 Manager (who carries a caseload) and 3 Behavior Support Coordinators, all who meet rigorous qualifications, including advanced degrees and professional licensure in fields such as psychology, counseling and social work to provide expert care and guidance to address challenging situations.

Investigations

Did you know that per DODD rules, all county boards of developmental disabilities are required to look into Unusual Incidents (UIs) and Major Unusual Incidents (MUIs) involving people with developmental disabilities? The primary goals are to ensure the health and welfare of individuals served, identify the causes of incidents and develop prevention plans.



From minor injuries and unexpected hospital stays to situations of neglect, misappropriation and abuse, MCBDD employs 2 full-time Investigative Agents who work closely with law enforcement and our judicial system to ensure the safety and wellbeing of Miami County residents with developmental disabilities.

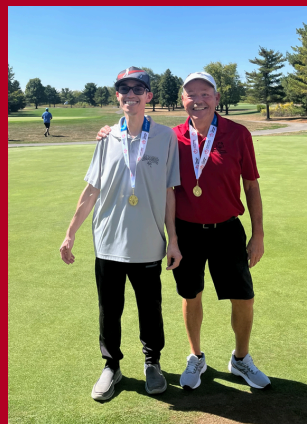
Community Connections Department

Our Community Connections activities promote the emotional, physical and social health of those we serve. Geared toward supporting people of different abilities, backgrounds and interests, our activities encourage independence, inclusion and friendship. By connecting with local community groups, area schools and volunteers, our programs teach self-advocacy, life skills and safety.

Our Community Connections team works with the SSA and Early Intervention (EI) departments to ensure we are helping the people we serve achieve their definition of a "good life." We then work with each person to create activities that address their goals and interests.

Programs offered through our Community Connections department include Advocacy trainings, Life Skills classes such as cooking with a microwave, Aktion Club community service projects, monthly events such as game nights, karaoke, BINGO and dances. All activities are aimed at helping people with disabilities make friends, gain independence and to be active and engaged in their community.

The biggest program offered through our Community Connections Department, however, is Special Olympics. Miami County Special Olympics is operated by MCBDD as an affiliate of Special Olympics Ohio and the international Special Olympics organization. We are proud to offer 8 sports year-round to children and adults ages 8 and up, who have a developmental disability. Each program promotes athletes' emotional, physical and social health and instills a strong work-ethic and sense of teamwork. Through successful experiences, athletes build confidence and a positive self-image which carries over into the classroom, job and community. While MCBDD offers in-kind support to the program through our staff time to run the program in addition to use of the MCBDD facility, grounds and transportation, Miami County Special Olympics is funded through donations and is heavily supported by volunteers.



Our Provider Partners

MCBDD connects the people we serve to the resources, support and opportunities that empower them to live, work and play as full members of our community. We believe in win-win relationships with our provider partners to cultivate a strong, diverse network that offers support and opportunities to the people we both serve.

Align Life Center (Enjunit Design Ltd.)
Annalize Home Health Care
Best Payments Foundation
Blaze Community Service
BLESS (Basinger Life Enhancement Support Services LLC)
Cap City Home Care Services
Capabilities, Inc.
Careforth (Caregiver Homes of Ohio)
CRSI (Champaign Residential Services, Inc.)
Divine Home Healthcare
Dominion Home Health Agency
Dungarvin, Ohio LLC

ECHO Residential Support
Empowered Community Services LLC
Encore Care Association
Gazelle Home Health Care
Goodwill/Easter Seals Miami Valley
Grace and Hope Home Health Care Agency
Guardian Medical Monitoring
I Am Boundless
LifeBridge Remote
Limitless Abilities
MANA Home Healthcare LLC
MPA Services
OnTime Home Healthcare Staffing Agency
Platinum Home Healthcare

REM/Sevita Health
RT Industries
S&H Products
Self Reliance
Tennyson Health Care Services
The Hard Acre Farm, LLC
Total Homecare Solutions
Toward Independence
United Rehabilitation Services of Dayton
Unity Care Group
ViaQuest
Your Happy Place

In addition to Miami County's service provider agencies, there are also **159 independent providers** serving people with developmental disabilities in our community.

As Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), our provider partners are the backbone of the developmental disabilities system. Whether it is through an agency or as a self-employed independent provider, these dedicated individuals make a difference in the lives of those we serve every day.

Commitment to Providers

Supporting Those Who Support Us

To show our gratitude and appreciation for our providers MCBDD hosted a food truck dinner during National Direct Support Professional Appreciation week. The dinner was a success and 280 people attended and got to spend time together with other DSPs. In addition to this annual dinner, we are committed to supporting providers in many other ways throughout the year to show them how thankful we are for our local DSPs and how they serve people with developmental disabilities in Miami County!

