


Ottawa County Board of MRDD
 235 N. Toussaint South Road
 Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449

2006 Board Members

James Crawford, President
 Rev. Lisa Peterson, Vice-President
 Judge David Zeitzheim, Recording Secretary
 Rick Comings
 Mike Snider
 Linda Sorg
 Jennifer Zelms

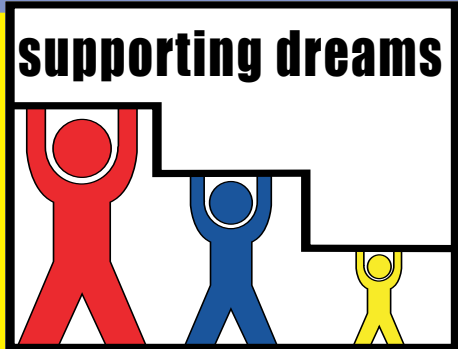
embracing change & supporting dreams

2006 Stats



- Number of individuals receiving service coordination: 324
- Number of individuals receiving residential supports: 55 on Independent Options waiver, 20 on Level 1 waiver and 6 in Supported Living Program
- Number of People in People First: 50
- Number served as Authorized Representative: 38
- Number assisted to maintain Social Security and/or Medicaid benefits: 40
- Number assisted to acquire Medicaid and Social Security benefits: 21
- Number enrolled in Early Intervention: 95 (January – August 2006)
- Number of children served through Parents as Teachers: 31 (July 2005-June 2006)
- Number served through Tuesday/Thursday Senior Activities: 13
- Number served through Community Seniors Activities: 10

embracing change



2006
 Community Report
 Ottawa County Board of MRDD
 Jim Frederick, Superintendent

Letter from the Board

embracing change

One of the philosophies of the Ottawa County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OCBMRDD) is "We will embrace change as a positive opportunity." And we do. Change can be frightening and it often challenges us to reach deep inside ourselves to consider what is best for the individuals we serve and for the community. Change often comes from the outside, and it is up to us to manage it as best we can. That is the essence of our philosophy: whatever changes happen in relation to our work, we are committed to making it positive. No individual within Ottawa County will ever lose out because we on the board were resisting a change that was inevitable.

Many things changed at OCBMRDD in 2006. We broke ground on a new building to house our currently overcrowded staff. We moved into this new facility March 12, 2007, which was built entirely without use of local levy dollars. Changes in state and federal laws and regulations seemed to continue coming at us from all directions throughout 2006, but we have held firm to our commitment that we will hold services steady for Ottawa County residents. More about our accomplishments for 2006 can be found inside this annual report, along with budget figures and information about our programs and services.

It is our hope and goal that many years from now, future OCBMRDD board members will look back at 2006 and recognize that our efforts allowed the program to make a big leap toward the day when all Ottawa County residents with developmental disabilities "will enhance their quality of life, the quality of the community, and the lives of others while working toward their dreams."

Sincerely,
 Ottawa County Board of MRDD/2006



supporting dreams

2006: A Year of Change and Progress Toward Goals

supporting dreams

The Ottawa County Board of Mental Retardation and developmental Disabilities (OCBMRDD) is required by law to complete three different planning documents each year: a Strategic Plan, an Annual Management Plan, and a Medicaid Plan. The board regularly reviews these documents and updates them as achievements are made or as circumstances change. As 2006 came to a close, the board reviewed its goals for the year against accomplishments. Shown below is the 2006 Annual Plan with achievements highlighted in italics.

Goal I: Aggressively work toward eliminating waiting lists:

- A. Review and revise current fiscal policy and procedures to maximize funding.
 - *Quality Improvement Team is half-way through a process of reviewing fiscal sections of our policies that include those that govern certain support cost centers such as Supported Living, Adult Day Supports, Early Intervention, and Family Supports.*
 - *Developed "Payer of Last Resort" policy to emphasize the philosophy of the Board that all funds available including federal, state, and natural supports should be used before local levy dollars for expenditures on supports indicated in the assessment process. The priority for local levy dollars is the health and safety of our customers.*
- B. Assess and develop infrastructure to meet increased workloads efficiently.
 - *OCBMRDD Service and Support Administrators have the smallest caseloads in the State of Ohio.*
 - *The new building that will be occupied in the first quarter of 2007 will increase efficiencies.*
- C. Request all available waiver slots in a timely manner as financially feasible.
 - *Complete. The state approved our transition plan for the new rules.*

"Doing our goal-setting and planning is one of my favorite parts of the job. It gives us a chance to think about our future vision and our past accomplishments all at the same time. It reminds us how far we've come over the years. The possibilities are endless."
Jim Frederick, Superintendent

- D. Provide incentives for provider agencies to recruit and train qualified staff
 - *No progress beyond required training in Major Unusual Incidents, Delegated Nursing, and Behaviors.*

Goal II: Develop innovative supports so that persons with disabilities may live a life that makes sense to them, protects their health and safety, and moves them toward their dreams.

- A. Review all wants, desires, and needs to discover those supports that are needed to be offered by the Board. Priorities, evaluate and consider funding other community resources to meet those needs.
 - *Community survey conducted through a contract.*
 - *Board and staff attended in-service training on Strategic Plan, Annual Plan, and Medicaid Plan.*
- B. Develop day opportunities for seniors and others not appropriate for employment.
 - *Started to remodel Riverview Industries and instituted the beginnings of Day Habilitation.*
 - *Encouraged partnership with The Ability Center for a recreation program in golf.*
 - *Created non-hostile environment for other Day Habilitation and recreational providers.*
- C. Support and encourage efforts by contract agencies to develop creative ways for individuals with MRDD to live, work, and socialize in their communities.
 - *No progress.*
- D. Encourage utilization of community activities and generic services
 - *No progress beyond current levels of utilization.*
- E. Expand supports to families with older adults and children by creative use of waivers.
 - *This issue has been controlled by the state through waiver allocation and new rules,*

Stakeholders Respond to OCBMRDD Questions About Program Strengths and Weaknesses

In 2006, 66 individuals representing families, public schools, social services agencies, government, and law enforcement gave interviews to an outside consultant concerning their expectation for the Board of MRDD and their evaluation of how well the board is performing its role. Interview respondents were asked to address any gaps in services throughout the county and also to help identify any areas where OCBMRDD needed to make improvements or strengthen existing programs. A great deal of information was gathered which helped the Board form its Annual Plan for 2007. Among the key findings were:

- The need to improve information sharing and communication.
 - o Individual and family education regarding available services and supports.
 - o Peer to peer information from staff to colleagues in education and social services.
 - o Community awareness and outreach.
- The need to address recreation, leisure, and socialization activities for a range of ages.
- The need to increase respite services.
- The need for increased quality and reliability of private service providers.
 - o Limited options.
 - o Lack of trained, compassionate, and motivated direct service staff.
- The need to improve our relationship with the school age population to improve planning, provision of supports, and consultation for transition and after school times.
- The need to expand and create better partnerships with school districts and appropriate services and supports for school age individuals.
- The need for more supports for those individuals not on waivers beyond what is current.
- The need to address some of the unintended consequences of integration.
 - o Loss of community among individuals with disabilities and their families.
 - o Reduced understanding how to provide parental involvement in advocacy.
 - o Lack of social activities and opportunities.
 - o Loss of contact for families of school age children and educators.
- The need to continue transition into new funding methods with public dollar accountability.

- The need to continue growth in the Early Intervention Program and address need of "Help Me Grow" as population increases.
- The need to address community support emergencies of individuals with aging parents or extenuating circumstances.

A number of these needs have been addressed in the Board's planning and future goal-setting. The Board would like to thank all of the people who took time out of their busy schedules to be interviewed for this process. Your feedback was enlightening and very helpful. The Board and staff of OCBMRDD are always open to feedback and suggestions from our customers and community. Please use the contact information on pages 5 and 6 of this report to address your concerns to the appropriate people.

philosophy

We have and will continue to contribute to a rich and supportive community that supports the best quality of life.
 We believe that all people have the right to self-determination and support from others. They have a social responsibility to take informed risk and make decisions.
 Our community has many services to offer and we should avail those services to citizens with disabilities.
 We believe the use of natural supports (family and friends) and public acceptance of citizens with disabilities is important to their success in the community.
 We believe public dollars are to be used for supports, needed to support individuals in the community, when other funding and natural supports have been exhausted.
 We will embrace change as a positive opportunity.

OCBMRDD Teams and Contact Information (cont.)

Seniors/Wellness Team: Provide activities to those individuals who have been identified as needing typical senior day activities other than vocational endeavors. Wellness provides social and recreational day activities on a limited basis.

Contact: Seniors Coordinator Bev Roberts 419-898-0400 ext. 7474

Contact: Wellness Coordinator Sharon Virtue 419-898-0400 ext. 7484

Sheltered Workshop (Riverview Industries): Provides non-Medicaid adult individuals vocational day activities in a sheltered environment. It also provides limited community employment and employment enclaves in community settings.

Contact: Riverview Industries Executive Director Brenda Smith 419-898-5250.

Residential Program: These are provided through Supported Living Services and Waiver Services to include Day Habilitation Services, and affordable housing through a contract with Ottawa Residential Services, Inc. (ORSI.).

Contact: ORSI Executive Director Ned Neuhausel 419-734-7622

VISION Individual citizens with disabilities will enhance their quality of life, the quality of the community, and the lives of others while working toward their dreams.

OCBMRDD Board Establishes Long-Range Goals

At their meeting on December 18, 2006, the Ottawa County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities adopted the following goals for the years 2007 through 2011.

- Be able to serve additional eligible children through a number of supports in the community to include respite, recreational, after school, and summer camp programs.
- Have in place a joint plan with education to support eligible school children in their educational settings and transitions.
- Improve and provide supports to all seniors and individuals who choose to be in a setting other than vocational.
- Have a program of incentives to provider agencies to encourage new providers and to retain compassionate qualified staff.
- Have an ongoing program to address emergency situations for families in crisis.

- Move our organization's philosophy from a program-centered approach, where programs were offered and people fit into them, to a self-determination approach, where individuals and their families work with us to determine how we might secure the supports they need.
- Have the capacity to continue system redesign to meet future changes in a way that does not jeopardize our mission and vision.
- Have an organization which will reflect these values for those we serve:
 1. Autonomy and self-determination through informed choice.
 2. Community presence and participation.
 3. Continuous personal growth toward their dreams.
 4. Increased independence, productivity, and economic self-sufficiency.
 5. Opportunity to develop social relationships and friendships.

2006: A Year of Change and Progress Toward Goals (Cont.)

implementation of the Developmental Disabilities profile, transition requirements and more.

F. Equip the program to offer ever-expanding opportunities and further the potential of people served.

- *Finished new office building and started remodeling process for workshop building.*

Goal III. Identify environmental, political, and social directions and position the organization to meet future changes.

A. Participate in local and state forums discussing approaches to health, safety, general care, and technology.

- *Ongoing.*

B. Provide leadership to early childhood supports and services.

- *Ongoing through Family and Children First Council and Help Me Grow.*

C. Provide a forum for communication and exchange of information concerning services for people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

- *Contracted with a consultant to help provide quarterly newsletters, annual reports, and a community survey that was both an educational tool as well as an informational tool for the strategic plan.*

D. Provide leadership in any other matter which affects the provision of services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

- *Ongoing memberships in a number of community service organizations that may be instrumental in the community life of citizens with disabilities.*
- *The board supports a number of non-profit agencies that provide supports to the community beyond just the disabilities community such as early childhood Help Me Grow, Ottawa County Transportation Agency, Ottawa Residential Services, Inc. and more.*



Goal IV: Continue system redesign to meet future changes.

A. Train staff on new policies and procedures as rules change.

- *Passed accreditation review by State of Ohio Department of MRDD.*
- *Created a new position, Quality Compliance Manager, and filled it.*

B. Expand implementation of new waivers.

- *Created an approved transition plan to new waiver rules.*

C. Review position descriptions and team missions.

- *Some progress. See team missions on page 5 of this report.*

D. Support current provider agencies and encourage the development of new agencies.

- *Board took measures to ensure that a local agency, Independent Choices, did not financially collapse.*

E. Identify and implement means of using public funds in an even more fiscally responsible manner.

- *New "Payer of Last Resort" policy.*
- *New emphasis on public dollars should be used to protect health, safety, and quality of life.*

2006 Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue

Property Tax Levies	\$4,608,000
State Allocations	\$688,000
Federal Revenue	
Waiver Administration	\$50,000
Targeted Case Management	\$100,000
Title XX	\$40,000
Day Habilitation (includes transportation)	\$590,000
Grants (Help Me Grow)	\$73,500
Other Income	
Luther Home of Mercy (includes transportation)	\$536,000
Council of Government	\$15,000
Riverview Utilities	\$20,000
Mental Health Board	\$18,000
Total Revenue =	\$6,738,500

MISSION

To ensure the availability of supports that assist those eligible citizens with MRDD in choosing and achieving inclusion in their community. Further, we exist to assist and support families and individuals in achieving a life that they establish for themselves.

Expenses

Mandated Services

Non-Federal Share of Medicaid Expenditures (including Waiver Administration by Clearwater Council of Governments)	
Individual Options Waivers	\$900,000
Level One Waivers	\$20,000
Day Habilitation (not county-provided)	\$65,000
Targeted Case Management	\$75,000
Total	\$1,060,000
Provide Mandated Staff (Superintendent, Business Manager, Major Unusual Incident Investigator, Medicaid Service Manager)	\$285,000
Services and Support Administration	\$870,000
Transportation (workshop)	\$320,000
Capital Costs for Operations	\$400,000
Other Operating Costs	\$25,000
Total Mandated Services	\$2,960,000

Discretionary Services

Adult Day Services (non-waiver)	\$202,204
Additional Transportation	
Luther Home of Mercy	\$202,204
Demand Response	\$234,000
Bus Aids	\$16,000
Bittersweet Farms	\$30,000
Midwest Industries	\$8,000
Total	\$490,764
Early Intervention	
EI and Help Me Grow	\$254,000
EI Therapies	\$150,000
EI Travel	\$10,000
Total	\$414,000
Business Team	\$238,000
Medicaid Billing Services	\$50,000
Client Benefits/Family Supports	\$125,000
Seniors, Wellness, and Community Supports	\$130,000
Affordable Housing (Ottawa Residential Services, Inc.)	\$243,000
Nursing Coordination	\$68,000
School Age Services (excludes SSA support and Waivers)	
ARC summer program	\$13,000
Preschool field trips	\$300
FCFC contribution	\$1,000
Use of Riverview School	\$150,000
Miscellaneous costs (cell phones, services costs, etc.)	\$100,000
Total =	\$6,033,064

Total Income Minus Expenses 2006 = \$705,436

OCBMRDD Teams and Contact Information

Ottawa County Board of MRDD: the mission of the Board is to set policy and budgets that meet the standards of the community through strategic planning.

The Board of Directors is comprised of seven volunteers appointed by the County Commissioners (five) and the Probate Judge (two.) At least three members must have an immediate family member with a developmental disability. The names of the 2006 board members can be found on the front cover of this report. They may be reached through the main office at 235 N. Toussaint South Road, Oak Harbor, 43449.

Superintendent: The mission of the Superintendent is to be responsible to the Board for the operations of the Board; to advise the Board on policy and budgets; to hire staff to carry out Board Policy; and to conform to Accreditation Standards that will meet the organization's Mission and Vision.



Contact James B. "Jim" Frederick 419-898-0400 ext. 7459

Quality Improvement Team (Management Team): The mission of the QI Team is to recommend to the Superintendent improvements to meet or exceed the expectations of the community based on data collected and analyzed by the Quality Assurance Team. The QI Team members will supervise team functions and act in place of the Superintendent when he or she is not available.

The QI Team is comprised of the Associate Director, Ronald S. Green, and the Business Manager, Ruthi Gaietto. Call 419-898-0400 for more information.

Quality Assurance Team: The Quality Assurance Team collects and analyzes data to ensure that teams meet current standards of quality supports. QA makes recommendations based on data collection, needed improvements, and actions to the QI Team.

Contact: Quality Assurance Coordinator Alan Sennich 419-898-0400 ext. 7478

Business Team: The mission of the Business Team is to assist the Superintendent to acquire, allocate resources (manage contracts and budgets), and to provide administrative business support to include facility maintenance, data storage, personnel functions, communication, etc.

Contact: Business Manager Ruthi Gaietto 419-898-0400 ext 7460.

Major Unusual Incident (MUI) Investigation: The mission of this team is to provide credible information on possible health and safety issues. Through investigation, reporting, and trend analysis recommendations are made to the superintendent for actions that should be taken to address Health and Safety issues.

Contact: Investigative Agent Mary Pridemore 419-262-3314

Service and Support Administration Team: The mission of the SSAs and Assistant SSAs is to assist individuals in the construction and administration of an individual support plan based on a needs assessment that will maximize the individual's quality of life in the community. This is accomplished through the determination of eligibility, assessment, Individual Support Plan construction, ongoing monitoring of supports, and budgeting of assets/resources to meet real consistent and intended outcomes. Secondly, they inform and train individuals and families of the rule established for the allocation of public funds and the role of the Board.

Contact: Associate Director Ronald S. Green 419-898-0400 ext. 7461 or SSA Coordinator Renae Whiting 419-898-0400 ext. 7485.

Early Intervention Team: The mission of the EI Team is to provide a system of services through direct service coordination, therapy cost assistance, and Developmental Therapy (an early Intervention Specialist) to children up to the age of three that meets the needs of the family in enhancing their child's development. They inform parents of many support options through the Individual Family Service Plan, and working with the "Help Me Grow" system to identify, enhance, and maximize intervention supports.

Contact: Early Intervention Coordinator Margaret Szabo 419-898-0400 ext. 7482



embracing change