

**Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
2026 Annual Plan**

**Individuals Served During 2025 (estimate)**

Administrative Services	
Family Support Services	6
Educational Services	
Early Intervention Services	175
Transition Services	100
Community Integration Services	200
Service and Support Administration	
Active Individuals	241
Employment Services	36
Waiver Services	
IO Waiver	64
Level One Waiver	79
Self-Waiver	4
Local Funded Services	94
Waiting List	6

**Administrative Services**

Family Support Services: Family Support Services (FSS) is a program that provides support, services and assistance to eligible families for the purpose of:

- Enabling a family to care for their family member with developmental disabilities at home by assisting with specific expenses.
- Enhancing the quality of life for the family, including the individual with developmental disabilities.

The Family Support Liaison (FSL), with input from the FSS Committee (consisting of the FSL, and at least one representative from each department) administers the program. The program is evaluated on an ongoing basis by the administrative staff of the Board of Developmental Disabilities. This service is a collaborative effort with referrals often given by Service and Support, Early Intervention, the DD Educational Services Administrator, the Health Department, local school districts, Clinton County Family & Children First Council (CCFCFC) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

FSS is the payor of last resort. Funds are to be used for goods and services that include, but are not limited to: adaptive equipment, home modification, car repair/car

payment, transportation (must utilize an agency provider), medical needs, therapies, rent/utilities, and other goods and services specific to meeting the needs of an individual or family.

A family is eligible for FSS if their household includes a child or adult with a disability who has been determined eligible by the Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities and has a current IFSP, IEP, or ISP. The family's income is not considered in determining eligibility for the FSS program. Individuals living in residential facilities, group homes (semi-independent or independent), or in foster care, and those enrolled in a Medicaid waiver are not eligible for FSS funding.

## **Educational Services**

Early Intervention Services: Early Intervention (EI) is Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), a federal law that provides children's rights in special education including early identification and referral. Early Intervention services are offered in all 88 counties throughout the state of Ohio. Children birth through age two are eligible to receive services if they have a diagnosed physical or mental condition or a documented developmental delay. Early Intervention builds upon and provides supports and resources to assist families/caregivers to enhance their child's learning and development through everyday learning opportunities. In addition, Early Intervention helps to build parents/caregivers competence and confidence and works to teach caregivers to be lifelong advocates for their child.

The Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities offers service coordination and the provision of specialized services to families using an evidence-based model that supports the family in the child's natural environment using coaching interaction strategies. Other services are coordinated by the EI team and provided to the family in accordance with the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). The county board offers a Play and Language for Autistic Youngsters (PLAY) project consultant service for young children receiving EI services and preschoolers to age 5. The EI team coordinates with other community agencies to offer family activities in the community.

Transition Services: Employment First (EF) is a policy to ensure every person with a disability of working age has opportunities to seek employment if desired. A person-centered process supports each person assessing services to identify their desired employment goal and their place on the path to community employment. The Transition Coordinator (TC) strives to build and maintain relationships with employers in the local community, local school districts, students, young adults and their families, and other supporting agencies. This is completed through work experiences and job readiness programs, and collaboration with agencies to support

individuals in securing and maintaining employment. In addition, the TC works closely with the individuals on their path to employment.

Community Integration Services: Community Integration is a service that provides opportunities for interaction and inclusion in a variety of community settings. The coordinator facilitates activities and events for the individuals served by the agency that are community-based and integrated through group partnerships in the community. In addition, the Community Integration Coordinator (CIC) provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to learn how to become advocates for themselves through meetings, training opportunities, and local advocacy organizations created by the Board. Special Olympics, SOYA, and recreational events are also overseen by the CIC.

### **Service and Support Administration**

The Service and Support Department has eight Service and Support Administrators (SSAs) with assigned caseloads, one Eligibility and Investigation Coordinator, one Provider Support Coordinator, one Employment Coordinator, a Service and Support Manager, and a Service and Support Director.

The SSAs have an average caseload size of 30, with approximately 241 active individuals. There are 147 Individuals enrolled on a Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver, which is 61% of the individuals served. There are 94 individuals, or 39%, receiving services that are funded locally. Out of the 39% of individuals receiving locally funded services, 1 individual receives residential services in the home. The remaining 93 individuals receive service coordination and/or adult day services under local funding. At the end of 2025, we had 7 individuals on the waiting list for a Home and Community Based Services Waiver.

The SSAs serve as the single point of contact, to assist in coordinating all services for individuals served. The SSAs are responsible for: conducting person-centered assessments; conducting level of care assessments; developing individual service plans (ISP's) utilizing a person-centered approach; promoting employment first; assistance with selecting residential, employment, and day program providers; reviewing all funding options available; providing on going service coordination, linkage, and monitoring to ensure each individual receives quality services. The Service and Support Department also has an on-call system where someone can be reached 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, if/when there is an emergency or a major unusual incident (MUI). The OT, PT, Family Support Liaison, and the County Board Nurse also work closely with the Service and Support Department by completing observations, assessments, and recommendations for individuals served.

The Board provides in-kind services to the non-profit housing board, the Residential Advisory Council Inc. (RACI), to ensure affordable, quality housing options are available to individuals served. The Service and Support Manager and the Director both serve on the housing board to assist in ensuring housing options are available to individuals. All of the homes operated by the housing board are integrated within the community. RACI evaluates the fair market rent amounts annually to determine if the monthly rent amounts are affordable. Housing is currently provided by the housing board to 23 individuals, or 10% of the individuals served. RACI maintains approximately three vacancies each month in the homes under the housing board.

## **2025 GOALS REVIEW**

### **INTEGRATION**

#### Summary:

In 2025, the Transition Coordinator participated in several county wide employment programs including a job fair for all county schools and community members, and a Transition Fair for all county juniors and seniors in high school. Employment outcomes are incorporated into the ISPs for individuals based upon their interests and preferences. When individuals express an interest in advocacy, supports and outcomes are composed to assist them. The teams continue to disseminate information and educate individuals and families about community employment options. As part of the ISP assessment process each individual is asked a minimum of one time yearly about his or her desire for employment.

We have several DD representatives that attend local committee meetings such as the Domestic Violence Council, Community Corrections Board, Family and Children First Council, Clinton County Work Force Collaborative, Clinton County Youth Collaborative, Clinton County Community Action Governing Board, Clinton County Literacy Committee to collaborate with other agencies on serving individuals.

The Community Integration Coordinator (CIC) facilitates activities that are community-based and integrated as much as possible. Some of these events have included: sporting events, video game nights, movies, dances, canoe trips, and dining events. We will continue to work in our community to ensure activities are integrated and community based.

Special Olympics for Young Athletes (SOYA) has been in operation since 2017 and is now an ongoing event throughout the year for families of children ages 2-7. We have participated in all local school preschool programs field days and attended special

events with the schools to share SOYA activities with the students as well as a soccer camp at Denver Williams Park.

Our county's Special Olympics (coordinated by the CIC) offers competitive sports for individuals and also recreational teams.

We coordinated a track and field night with the support of all four local school districts. This event took place at Wilmington High School track and was a great success. Fayette County and Warren County's Track and Field teams joined us for the event. We have also continued with our bowling leagues in the early fall and have grown our Flag Football team.

The CIC has built relationships with all 4 school districts. Laurel Oaks and the Southern Ohio Educational Services Center Alternative school is teaching advocacy topics to high school classes. In addition, the TC has also developed relationships with these Local Education Agencies by coordinating work experiences for interested high school classes which has also created positive relationships with local businesses. The Transition Coordinator has work with all local school districts to provide the Real Money, Real World program to middle and high school students.

Advocates from our local advocacy group have been meeting monthly developing an anti-bullying campaign which they have presented at the local middle schools. They are asking students to make a pledge to stop bullying and sign a commitment card. They have also been participating in several other events supporting our community such as reading to Head Start students, making "birthday kits" for individuals in need, and volunteering at events.

An average of 25-30 individuals have been attending a monthly activity in the community called Just Hanging Out. Just Hanging Out is a once-a-month opportunity for socializing, meeting at different restaurants to explore new locations within our communities.

In 2025, we have continued to add new Non-Medical Transportation independent and agency providers to assist individuals in accessing integrated community employment opportunities. The Provider Support Coordinator (PSC) and the Employment Coordinator (EC) also met with FRS about expanding their transportation services to Clinton County. FRS is set up to provide transportation services through GT Independence and can bill HCBS Waivers for services provided; however, FRS hasn't provided services under HCBS Waivers to individuals in Clinton County in 2025.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

### Summary:

Outcomes are developed and based upon each individual's current path to employment to ensure individuals are progressing toward community employment if desired. If/when, an individual expresses an interest in pursuing an entrepreneurship, the SSAs will incorporate services and outcomes into the ISP as well to support this. We had thirty-six individuals employed at the end of 2025, compared to thirty-four at the end of 2024. SSA made twenty-one referrals in 2025 to the EC and/or OOD compared to twenty-eight in 2024. The TC made 10 referrals to OOD as well.

Our TC organized summer youth programs for high school students and young adults for the past eight years working collaboratively with OOD, local providers, and our community youth council. There was positive interaction with local businesses hosting student tours and information sharing sessions. Many participants discovered career paths they had not originally considered.

The TC has had regular communication with OOD counselors through quarterly meetings. She has arranged tours of local businesses for OOD counselors to welcome them into the community to help generate job ideas for interested individuals. The TC has also worked in coordination with the regional transition council to create a regional transition fair for high school juniors and seniors. Quarterly PAN meetings are held to share information and resources for OOD, Agencies as well as SSAs. Local employers, such as Amazon, and Clinton County transit have been invited to these meetings to share information about job opportunities and services.

The Service and Support Director and the Employment Coordinator met with OOD Representatives to learn more about becoming a certified OOD Vendor/Provider in 2024 and again in 2025. We initiated the application process in 2025 and are planning to become certified in 2026 as an OOD Vendor /Provider, so individuals that are interested in community employment have other options to choose from in Clinton. We met with another County Board of Developmental Disabilities to learn more about their employment program and how to bill for services provided through OOD as well.

## **PROVIDER SERVICES AND RELATIONS**

### Summary:

In 2022, we hired a Provider Support Coordinator (PSC). The new position is dedicated to recruiting new providers and providing support to those serving in Clinton County. The PSC is also responsible for completing compliance reviews, on site trainings to DSPs, facilitating regular provider meetings, helping with certification

and billing, and being the agency's main contact for supportive technology. The PSC has started recognizing providers that go above and beyond on a regular basis via social media and through a quarterly newsletter. The PSC will survey the providers, to determine how the county board can better support them moving forward. We will utilize the feedback received from the surveys in developing future goals, trainings, etc. Plans are to host a formal event in 2026 are being discussed to recognize all providers serving in Clinton County along with recognizing all employers.

We have transitioned fully to implementing the statewide Ohio ISP (OISP). The OISP assists providers and county boards when individuals transfer from one county to another for continuity of care. In 2024, we began the process of uploading the ISPs to the states system, which will allow providers immediate access to the authorized OISP for downloading, developing documentation sheets, etc. In 2025, we received confirmation from DODD that we were in compliance with uploading our ISPs to the states system with 99% of our ISP's being uploaded for those served. The PSC also assisted providers in 2024 that serve individuals in Clinton County through several trainings on how to access the OISP through DODD OISP application.

The Provider Support Coordinator schedules routine provider trainings to assist the providers in maintaining their certification and to promote quality services. Currently the PSC is certified to provide First Aid and CPR. The PSC became certified to provide Crisis Prevention Intervention training in 2023. The PSC began providing Crisis Prevention training in 2024 and it will continue to be offered to providers who feel they need additional training to support individuals with more intensive needs. In 2025, the PSC began visiting local high schools to recruit additional providers and educate students about Direct Support Professional opportunities with local agencies for those interested in working with the DD population before graduation. We plan to continue and expand these outreach efforts throughout 2026. Additionally, the PSC will implement Onseen's Statewide Provider Search Tool in 2026 to enable a broader search for providers who may be interested in delivering services to individuals in Clinton County.

## **HOUSING**

### Summary:

The CCBDD provides in-kind services to the non-profit housing board, the Residential Advisory Council Inc. (RACI), to ensure affordable, quality housing options are available to individuals served. The Service and Support Manager and the Director both serve on the housing board to assist in ensuring housing options are available to individuals. All of the homes operated by the housing board are integrated within the community. Housing is currently provided by the housing board to 23 individuals, or 10% of the individuals served.

Previously the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) had recommended that the CCBDD and RACI consider transitioning the residential properties under the RACI Housing Board over to a local housing authority or other entity. CCBDD and the RACI Executive Director met with a representative from the Fayette/Highland Metropolitan Housing Authority about transferring the homes in Clinton County that are under RACI. However, the RACI Housing Board has decided to wait on transitioning the homes until further discussion can occur with the OACB and/or DODD as to whether or not RACI can continue as a Housing Board with in-kind supports being provided through the CCBDD. In 2026, RACI and the CCBDD will contact DODD and the OACB to determine if RACI can continue to oversee the homes in Clinton County, with representatives from the CCBDD continuing to provide in-kind supports to RACI. If it is determined that the CCBDD can no longer provide in-kind supports to RACI with the Service and Support Director and Manager both serving on the RACI Housing Board; RACI with support from the CCBDD will pursue turning the homes over to another entity starting in 2027.

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

### Summary:

Over the year we have provided virtual services, in-person services as well as a hybrid of both in Early Intervention. With the majority of families receiving in-person services as determined by the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) process.

Two of our Early Intervention Developmental Specialists have received their certification as PLAY consultants and provide PLAY therapy to children up to age 5 years.

Early Intervention play groups have happened once a month and in collaboration with story time at the local library.

Interagency agreements have been completed with all local school districts addressing transition from EI services to preschool eligibility. We continue to support our districts with the Educational Services Administrator in attendance at many Transition Planning Conferences. We continue to work to ensure timeline are upheld for the families of early intervention children.

We supported 38 families in working with the local school districts at the preschool and school age level to ensure families understand the process of evaluation as well as resolving conflict due to misunderstandings or lack of information. Of the 48 students 26 of them were preschool age. Due to many changes in the local school districts more supports were needed transitioning elementary students to the middle school which delayed the goal work of building supports to transition preschoolers to kindergarten.



## **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

### Summary:

We set two goals to work on in 2025 in regards to customer service. The first goal was to present to a variety of community groups on a quarterly basis to improve community outreach, improve understanding of eligibility and services provided, and to develop new partnerships. Our Community Outreach Committee developed a presentation that anyone of them, or anyone at the agency, could use to present to various groups. This was to ensure we are sending a unified, consistent message. This has worked well, we are presenting to outside entities on a regular basis, and we have achieved this goal. The second goal was to explore possibility of developing a website separate from the county that is more engaging and promotes activities and events. We did look into this and determined it is best to stay with the county's site at this point. The county is looking to upgrade its website in the near future so we will see where that goes and if it meets our needs. We now have a process in place to ensure our calendar stays current and up to date on the website, which has also helped. For now, this goal has been achieved, but we will continue looking into this in 2026 if the county does update their site.

## **BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

### Summary:

We set two goals to work on in 2025. One of the goals was achieved and one of the goals was not. The first goal was to update our records retention schedule. We have completed this and it is fully approved and being implemented. The second goal was to engage staff in team-building activities that cross departments to improve morale and relationships. While we always work towards this, we did not do specific activities in 2025 to achieve this as written. We will continue this goal in 2026.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### Summary:

In 2025, the Provider Support Coordinator ensured that individuals, families, SSAs, and providers were kept abreast of emerging technologies through a technology first padlet, social media, and the CCBDD quarterly newsletter. In 2026 we intend to continue this practice.

The Provider Support Coordinator arranged several trainings in 2025 with plans to continue this in 2026. We have several individuals that access various forms of supportive technology along with remote supports. The supportive technology and remote supports utilized are determined based on assessed needs. The technology

supports are person-centered and incorporated into the ISP's as well. We will continue to provide information on the supportive technology options, so that individuals can become more independent in all aspects of their lives.

## **2026 GOALS**

### **INTEGRATION**

**Goal: Expand community-based engagement efforts to safely integrate all people into our community**

Action: Explore integration opportunities for Special Olympics and county board-sponsored recreational activities

Action: Work with providers to ensure that services are community-based, person-centered, and meaningful

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**Goal: Educate individuals on employment opportunities and support them on their path to employment**

Action: Increase the number of adults employed in the community to 45

Action: Educate youth and families regarding employment opportunities

Action: Obtain OOD certification so individuals served have another vendor/provider to choose from when receiving OOD services

Action: Become an OOD certified vendor/provider to support individuals served in becoming competitively employed

### **PROVIDER SERVICES AND RELATIONS**

**Goal: Ensure availability of a pool of certified providers that offer choice and quality services**

Action: Visit high schools and vocational schools to recruit and share information on becoming HPC and transportation providers

Action: Recruit additional HPC, SELF, and transportation providers

Action: Implement Onseen’s Statewide Provider Search Tool in 2026 to enable a broader search for providers who may be interested in delivering services to individuals in Clinton County.

## **HOUSING**

**Goal: Explore and plan for future residential needs**

Action: Consult with the OACB and DODD to determine if representatives from the CCBDD can continue to provide in-kind supports to the RACI Housing Board, or if the homes need to be turned over to another entity

Action: If it is determined that CCBDD can no longer provide in kind supports to the RACI Housing Board, begin the process of transferring the homes, including the state-funded houses, to a new oversight entity

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**Goal: Work with educational entities to expand opportunities for individuals**

Action: Support community understanding of Help Me Grow, Early Intervention, and Part B services under the new state-level cabinet

Action: Increase supports for pre-kindergarten to kindergarten transition for families and school staff

Action: Strengthen relationships with educational entities to determine areas that need to be improved

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**Goal: Ensure that the public’s interaction with staff is helpful and leads to positive experiences**

Action: Explore possibility of developing a website separate from the county that is more engaging and promotes activities and events

Action: Provide ongoing and consistent message as to financial need and value of services provided

## **BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

**Goal: Ensure that business practices increase awareness, foster financial stability, and provide opportunities that help to fulfill our mission**

Action: Engage staff in team-building activities that cross departments to improve morale and relationships

Action: Educate all staff regarding the functions of each department to ensure a better understanding of roles and responsibilities

## **TECHNOLOGY**

**Goal: Educate individuals, families, guardians, staff, providers, and community partners on the importance and effectiveness of utilizing technology as a strategy to support individuals in all aspects of their lives**

Action: Increase the number of individuals who access technology to 30 and incorporate the type of technology utilized into their Individual Service Plans

Action: Increase use of and types of social media used to increase outreach, promotion of technology as a tool, and education on a variety of topics (i.e., short instructional video clips)

## **2026 BUDGET**

The Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities shall plan and set priorities based on available resources and in accordance with OAC 5123:04-01, ORC sections 5126.04 and 5126.054, and all other applicable requirements. The board develops an annual waiver plan and sets priorities through the annual budgeting and strategic planning processes. The board continues to maintain a strategic plan and a 5-year financial projection (Appendix A) based on current resources. These plans are reviewed annually by the board and its committees and may be subject to revisions based on changing circumstances.

In accordance with 5126.054 the board will maintain a waiting list of individuals who seek enrollment on a home and community-based waiver as needed. The board plans enrollment of new individuals in home and community-based services in accordance with DODD procedures, waiting list, local policies, and when sufficient resources are available to support services. Case management services are provided as referrals are received, at which point service needs are assessed and annual costs are projected. The board commits to paying the required non-federal share of Medicaid services under ORC 5126.059 and 5126.0510. This non-federal share is funded by utilizing state waiver allocation and local levy dollars. The non-federal share is incorporated into the annual and long-term budgets.