CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028

Vision Statement

Empowering all to embrace community transformation that encourages integration and positive relationships committed to trust and acceptance

Mission Statement

To inspire people of all abilities to embrace the pursuit of self-advocacy, choice, and integration

Strategic Plan 2024-2028

The Clinton County Board of DD will plan and set priorities based on available resources to meet the needs of children and adults residing within Clinton County, in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs, who are eligible for services 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 and financial plan based on current resources, which includes strategies to address identified gaps in services. These plans are reviewed annually by the board and its committees and may be subject to revisions based on changing circumstances.

The board will prepare annual strategic plan progress reports in November of each year. The strategic plan and the annual progress reports will be available to individuals and families who receive services, employees of the county board, citizens of the county, and any other interested persons. The strategic plan and progress reports will be accessible in the administrative offices and online at www.co.clinton.oh.us/boardofdd. A hearing will be held each November to accept feedback from the public regarding the strategic plan and progress reports. Notice of the hearing will be advertised in the local newspaper and on the Board's website.

In accordance with 5126.054 the board continues to maintain a waiting list of individuals who seek enrollment on a home and community-based waiver. 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 to reduce the number of individuals in the county waiting for 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 DODD subsidies and local levy dollars and is incorporated into the annual and long-term budgets.

INTEGRATION

People are volunteering in the community, advocacy is expanding, housing is integrated, EI services are in the natural environment, and special education services are provided in the local school districts. We have specific positions designed to ensure activities are community-based and integrated.

Goal

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

Action

- Work with providers to ensure that services are community-based, person-centered, and meaningful
- Explore integration opportunities for Special Olympics and county board-sponsored recreational activities
- Educate individuals on opportunities to become independent travelers and drivers
- Explore ways to provide transportation to events and activities to those without transportation alternatives
- Promote advocacy through person-centered planning, activities, and community connections

EMPLOYMENT

We have implemented and established an Interagency Local Leaders Agreement and Provider Alliance Network (PAN). We strengthened transition planning and developed work experience opportunities for students in all county school districts. In the past 4 years, we have increased the numbers of individuals engaged in competitive integrated employment to 30.

Goal

Educate individuals on employment opportunities and support them on their path to competitive integrated employment

Action

- Increase the number of working age adults engaged in competitive integrated employment to 45
- Work with providers to expand the quality and effectiveness of employment training
- Coordinate employment recognition and incentives to recruit and retain the pool of community employers
- Work with interested individuals to expand entrepreneurship opportunities
- Explore ways to increase transportation opportunities to help individuals get to and from work, particularly during non-traditional work hours
- Educate youth and families regarding competitive integrated employment opportunities
- Increase family and community perceived capabilities of individuals
- Work with state partners to determine the benefit of becoming a certified employment provider

PROVIDER SERVICES AND RELATIONS

We established an orientation program, bi-monthly meetings, and ongoing trainings for providers. We have a Provider Support Coordinator who offers support for billing, certification, documentation, trainings, and compliance.

Goal

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

Action

- Survey providers to determine supports needed from the County Board
- Ensure ongoing training of current providers beyond state mandates, focusing on quality outcomes
- Recruit additional HPC, SELF, and transportation providers
- Establish a procedure to ensure each newly certified provider understands the individual service plan, their responsibilities, and has county board contact information
- Visit high schools and vocational schools to recruit and share information on becoming HPC and transportation providers
- Encourage and incentivize providers to offer respite opportunities

HOUSING

A housing board, Residential Advisory Council Inc. (RACI), was established in 2008. We transitioned from large licensed facilities to ten residential homes in the community with the assistance of state funded grants. We take measures to ensure affordability by providing rent subsidies, family supports, and waiver funding.

Goal

Explore and plan for future residential needs

Action

- Explore possibility of partnering with an outside entity to assume responsibility for overseeing developmental disability housing options
- Determine process of transferring houses, including state-funded houses, to new oversight entity
- Develop method of accountability to ensure houses are maintained at optimal levels
- Develop strategy to maintain an arm's length relationship while remaining involved with new housing entity
- Ensure an adequate number of housing vacancies are maintained for individuals with developmental disabilities
- Determine availability of community-based housing voucher programs in lieu of current rent subsidy program

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

We have a Transition Coordinator who works closely with all county school districts in order to strengthen transition planning services. We continue to collaborate with school district staff to work towards community integrated employment. We have assisted the school districts in setting up work experiences and advocacy training for middle and high school students. We regularly consult with teachers in the school districts, from preschool through high school. We extended the PLAY Project from age 3 to age 4.

Goal

Work with educational entities to expand opportunities for individuals

Action

- Strengthen relationships with educational entities to determine areas that need to be improved
- Expand advocacy training and work experience opportunities at the middle school level
- Extend the PLAY Project to age 5
- Support community understanding of Help Me Grow, Early Intervention, and Part B services under the new state-level cabinet
- Increase relationship-building activities for Early Intervention Service Coordinators with families served
- Increase supports and presence at elementary and middle schools, with focus on raising family and community perceived capabilities of individuals
- Increase supports for pre-kindergarten to kindergarten transition for families and school staff

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Staff understand that they are to respond to all correspondence within 24 hours of contact. Processes are in place to ensure calls are answered by staff during business hours to avoid an automated call line. We have implemented a One Call system in order to communicate effectively with constituents. Applicable staff now have cell phones and tablets that can be taken into the field which strengthens communication and allows them to meet with families and others in more convenient environments.

Goal

Ensure that the public's interaction with staff is helpful and leads to positive experiences

Action

- Continue to improve the agency survey, seeking ways to receive feedback to identify perceived gaps in services from as many constituents as possible
- Provide ongoing and consistent message as to financial need and value of services provided
- 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
- Support families by offering educational and informational opportunities, based on their feedback and input, on a monthly basis
- Find ways to support individuals and families that need a minimal level of assistance, in lieu of full Service and Support assistance
- Explore possibility of developing a website separate from the county that is more engaging and promotes activities and events

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

We analyze our long-term projections on a regular basis and keep the Board and the Finance Committee up-to-date. We have been able to extend our current levy due to well-planned financial decisions, such as closure of the school, privatization of the day program, and other cost saving measures. We have educated the Commissioners and others as appropriate as to what services we currently provide and our ongoing financial condition. The Board has explored options to decrease capital expenses and operate as efficiently as possible. They have evaluated cost of doing business at our current site as opposed to alternative locations with emphasis on long-term cost projections.

Goal

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

Action

- Explore options to decrease capital expenses to operate efficiently
- Form a levy committee, explore future revenue needs, and develop a plan of action to secure additional revenue
- Update records retention schedule
- Identify one staff person to coordinate centralized ordering of all supplies
- Engage staff in team-building activities that cross departments to improve morale and relationships
- Educate all staff regarding the functions of each department to ensure a better understanding of roles and responsibilities

TECHNOLOGY

We have a Technology First policy and procedure. We currently have 13 individuals who utilize remote supports. We employ a Provider Support Coordinator who ensures individuals, families, SSAs, and providers are kept abreast of emerging technologies through Tech Talk Tuesdays and social media.

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, as a component of their service delivery options and incorporated into their Individual Service Plans, to 30
- Identify local Tech Ambassador(s) to help promote Technology First
- Educate individuals, families, guardians, staff, providers, and community partners regarding the technology options available
- 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)