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Region Welcomes New Superintendents

Fayette/Highland County Boards

SOCOG welcomes Deb Buccilla to the region as Superintendent of Fayette and Highland County Boards of DD. She assumed the responsibilities as Superintendent on September 1, 2014.

With more than 30 years' experience working with people with developmental disabilities, she has held positions in both the public and private sectors. As an advocate in the field of developmental disabilities, Buccilla has worked on a local, state and national level to promote policy change to benefit those receiving services.

Buccilla most recently served as the Chief Operating Officer for Alvis Inc. overseeing services provided to both people with DD as well as to all special populations being served by the agency. Prior to this, she worked for the Ohio Department of DD as a Developmental Center Superintendent and an Assistant Deputy Director overseeing all developmental centers in Ohio.



Deb Buccilla

Buccilla has worked for private community providers, county boards of DD and has been a small business owner. She is the recent past president of the Fairfield County Board of DD, the past president of the Ohio Community Corrections Association and a former board member for APSI.

Buccilla holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Ohio Dominican University and a Master's Degree in Education from Ohio State University.

Scioto County Board

SOCOG congratulates Julie Monroe on her appointment to her new position of Superintendent at Scioto County Board of DD effective August 2014. She had served as Interim Superintendent since Decem-



Julie Monroe

ber 2013.

Monroe has been employed at Scioto County Board of DD for 16 years in positions including community employment, direct service in sheltered workshop and as a Service and Support Administrator (SSA). Prior to becoming Interim Superintendent, she served as the Director of Community Services since 2006.

Her experience in the field of developmental disabilities includes five years at Scioto Residential Services.

Monroe has a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Mount Saint Joseph University in Cincinnati, OH, and a Master's Degree in Human Services and Business Management from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA.

New Regional Self-Advocacy Group

Efforts are underway across the state to encourage and promote self-advocacy. To assist in improving and coordinating these efforts, the Southern Ohio Council of Governments (SOCOG) will be hosting monthly regional self-advocacy meetings in Chillicothe, Ohio, beginning in January.

The meetings will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ross County Public Library Annex, Meeting Room D, 140 S. Paint St., Chillicothe, OH, 45601, (building behind the Main library) on the third Tuesday of each month from January to December 2015. Participants should bring a sack lunch and be prepared to learn about topics related to self-advocacy, as well as, share their own stories about advocating.

Meetings will be held on the following dates in 2015: 1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/20, 11/17, and 12/15.

SOCOG recognizes the importance of regional training and networking opportunities for self-advocates in the region and invites anyone who is interested to attend. Contact Lori Lippert (740-775-5030, ext. 103 or llippert@socog.org) to register to attend, to request specific topics, or to present a topic.

Changes to the Provider Compliance Review Process

All Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) certified providers are required to maintain compliance to the rules related to providing waiver services for the individuals they serve. A routine compliance review is completed about once every three years for all agency and independent providers. DODD issued new review tools effective October 1, 2014 for provider compliance reviews.

The tools were modified to address TDD and SELF waivers, Employment First, and Person Centered Planning, and places a larger focus on MUI/UI reporting. The provider and Service and Support Administrator (SSA) questionnaires have

been eliminated from the process. Providers still are notified of their routine review 90 days in advance of the review deadline. At 60 days, providers work with the reviewer to schedule the review and are informed of the information that is needed at the review. Once the review is completed, the provider is notified of the outcome such as “no citations were found” or “some concerns were found that need to be addressed.” If the latter is the case, technical assistance can be offered to the provider by the reviewer.

If there is an issue with rule compliance, a citation is issued and the provider must submit a plan of correction to fix

the area of noncompliance. With the revised process, all plan of corrections are being posted on the DODD website and are public record. These can be reviewed at the provider search tool on the DODD website.

SOCOG stays current on the changing process for reviews as well as the software and computer systems related to the changes that are occurring. For more information on the changes, you may contact Jennifer Goodwin or Kelly Rosler at SOCOG. To view the provider search tool and to review plan of corrections, visit www.dodd.ohio.gov.

SOCOG Welcomes New Investigator

In May, 2014, Rachel Silvey was welcomed by the staff of Southern Ohio Council of Governments as an investigator. Rachel is a recent graduate of Cedarville University, Cedarville Ohio, where she earned a degree in Criminal Justice. While pursuing her degree, Rachel interned with the Ohio Attorney General’s Office – Bureau of Criminal Investigator

and with the Highland County Juvenile/Probate Court.

Rachel is a native of Hillsboro, Ohio, and currently resides there.

As an investigator, Rachel conducts investigations for the County Boards of Developmental Disabilities in Clinton, Fayette and Highland counties.



Rachel Silvey

Regional Staff Receive Good Life Training

Twenty-two staff of six county boards, three agencies and Southern Ohio Council began the Good Life Training from the Ohio County Board Association on August 5, 2014. Good Life training is designed to develop the skills needed in the DD field to change the culture of organizations with the goal of improving the quality of life for the individuals served. Participating in the program are staff of Fayette, Gallia, Jackson, Meigs, Pickaway and Scioto County Boards of DD, Frontier Community Services, Buckeye Community Services, Rescare and Southern Ohio Council of Governments. Pete Moore and Willie Jones of OACB present the program.

Good Life training enables facilitators to become an ally or partner and a coach or facilitator.

What is an ally? A Good Life ally is a partner in a mutually beneficial rela-

tionship.

What is a Coach? A good life coach engages in the practice of supporting fellow professionals through services of learning experiences paired with tools to influence beliefs, practices, and actions.

Results of training to become a Good Life ally and coach include:

- Assist and facilitate DD professionals to engage in self-assessment that results in actions that will help individuals to live a good life.
- Challenge DD professionals to shift their perspectives and look for other solutions and to support individuals served to reach their hopes and dreams.
- Ask questions and challenge professionals of the service delivery to find answers based on their

values, preferences and past experiences.

- Provide positive support and feedback to co-workers and members of the organization.
- Improve personal effectiveness of DD professionals while impacting the well-being of persons being served by their organization.
- Enhance strategic thinking, positively dealing with conflict and building an effective team.
- Facilitate discussion to enable DD professionals and teams to take action to help individuals they serve to live a Good Life.

Those participating in the Good Life Ally and Coach training will be graduating on December 10, 2014 in Columbus at the Xenos Center.

Provider Fairs Held in Highland and Fayette Counties



Fayette Provider Fair— Twenty-six exhibitors ([photo upper left]) participated in the Fayette County Board of DD Provider Fair on October 21. Eddie (photo lower left) was awarded a Kindle Fire for his winning art contest entry. Door prize drawings at both events were a hit. Attendees enjoyed meeting new people and learning about all the different services that are offered.



Highland Provider Fair— Twenty exhibitors shared information about their programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities at the Highland County Board of DD Provider Fair on September 9. Dale Elliott (Photo upper right) was awarded an iPad held by SSA Tammy Hidy for his winning art contest entry "OSU Rocks" (Photo lower right) Highco, Inc. was one of the exhibitors.



SOCOG Board Retreat

The SOCOG Board held its annual retreat and meeting on July 31, 2014 at the Lake Hope Lodge in McArthur, Ohio. Attending the event were county board superintendents (back row, left to right) Rosalie Durbin, Gallia; Rick Marriott, Ross; Nick Elliott, Jackson; Scott Amen, Adams; Fred Williams, Highland and Fayette; Kyle Lewis, Clinton; (front row, left to right) Lena Bradford, Brown; and Kay Davis, Meigs; along with Amy Cartwright, Executive Director of Southern Ohio Council of Governments.



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8:00AM-4:00PM**

The Southern Ohio Council of Governments was formed in March 1996 and began services in March 1997. The Council was created by Superintendents of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities in southern Ohio. The Council is a government entity created under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code, representing 15 County Boards of Developmental Disabilities. The Council provides administrative supports for County Boards in Adams, Athens, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton Counties.



SOCOG Mission Statement

- Do things together we can't do effectively and efficiently alone
- Offer members a trusted source of external expertise and feedback