

Monroe County Board of DD receives Three-year Accreditation Award

In January, 2022, the Monroe County Board of Developmental Disabilities received a three-year (highest level) accreditation award from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) for its commitment to providing excellent service and support to people with disabilities who reside in Monroe County. “The highest level of accreditation is a testament to the care, compassion and energy that our employees put into their jobs every day,” stated Monroe DD Superintendent Helen K. Ring.

A team of professionals from DODD’s Office of Provider Standards and Review conducts accreditation reviews for all of Ohio’s 88 county boards. The Office of Provider Standards and Review, within the DODD Division of Legal and Oversight, is responsible for monitoring and oversight of county boards of developmental disabilities. The purpose of an accreditation review is to ensure county boards are meeting standards outlined in Ohio Administrative Code. In December, 2021, DODD reviewed all aspects of Monroe CBODD’s operations, including service planning and delivery, human resources, early intervention, nursing, behavior support, Medicaid waiver administration, and the health and welfare of people served.

This award allows us to continue providing services without disruption and demonstrates that our staff is well trained, knowledgeable and passionate,” said Helen K Ring, Board Superintendent. Ring attributed the successful operation of the Accreditation Review to Jodi Shafer, Administrative Assistant/Fiscal Officer; Michelle Black, Asst SSA/Fiscal Clerk, Misty Dierkes, Karrie Lafferre, and Misty McGirr; Service and Support Administrators; Barb Marmie and Staci Isaly; Early Intervention. Ring also commended all agency staff employed by the program for their tireless commitment to individuals and families they serve in their departments.

In DODD Director Kim Hauck’s acknowledgement letter to Donna Craig, Board President, she wrote, “You (the board), your Superintendent, and your staff are to be commended for your efforts in achieving this status. Department staff and I are well aware that this accomplishment required considerable commitment of resources and energy. Your efforts are now acknowledged as being in substantial compliance with state accreditation standards.”

The Board coordinates and funds supports for more than 125 eligible children and adults with developmental disabilities. Supports include early intervention (birth to age three), school-age program, (ages 6 to 22), residential, information and referral, community integration, crisis intervention, transportation, and respite. The Board also coordinates and funds Adult Services (job-related training, employment, transportation), provided by Active Day/PCS Inc. and MACO Workshop.

Each of Ohio’s 88 county boards is governed by a seven-member volunteer board of directors. Donna Craig is president of the Monroe County Board of DD, Amanda Blackstone is vice-president, and Brittany Betts is secretary. Also serving are Rev. Susan Parker Lehosky, Terri Cook and Francis (Sonny) Block.

The Ohio General Assembly created county boards of developmental disabilities in 1967. This act marked a shift in philosophy and public policy, giving people with physical and intellectual disabilities the opportunity to live, work, learn and participate in their communities.



L-R Front: Jodi Shafer, Helen K. Ring, Misty Dierkes
Back: Barb Marmie, Staci Isaly, Karrie Lafferre,
Misty McGirr, Michelle Black