

Agency review

Richland Newhope (Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities) hosted six surveyors from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) July 12-13. They reviewed the agency's services and supports, ranging from case management to early intervention services, and interviewed several individuals and families during the two-day visit.



During an entrance meeting, the surveyors heard about some of Richland Newhope's best practices, such as person-center planning, autism supports, and awareness efforts.

Accreditation reviews are conducted by DODD to ensure that county boards meet accreditation standards as outlined in the Ohio Revised Code. Based on the results of the review, county boards are awarded an accreditation for one to three years. We expect to hear the results later this summer.

Day of Service held

About 30 employees from Richland Newhope took part in a Day of Service on Tuesday – one of a number of activities being held this week across Ohio to help mark the 50th anniversary of county boards of developmental disabilities.



Richland Newhope staff assisted the Mansfield Parks Department with its Summer Fun Time program at North Lake Park and Johns Park - helping with games, lunch, and other activities for the dozens of children who attended.

Richland Newhope also offered some disability awareness activities and distributed more than 300 books to the children. The books were donated by staff and by Bendon, Inc. in Ashland. Check out the photo gallery from the day on Facebook!

Each county board of developmental disabilities in Ohio was asked to do a service project as a way to say thanks and to show how county boards are 'Always There' for the community.

The Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities will be officially marking its 50th anniversary on Oct. 25.

Ohio's newest pageant for girls & young ladies with Disabilities



Some girls dream of wearing a sparkly crown and performing on-stage. This dream can now come true for girls and women with developmental disabilities thanks to the Miss Amazing program.

On Oct. 14, 2017, the first Ohio Miss Amazing pageant will be held in Akron. The program is open to girls and women ages 5 and older who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Individualized Program Plan (IPP), 504 Plan, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or physician's records proving a disability. There is no cost to participate; contestants are asked to donate five cans of food.

The goals of the Miss Amazing program are to nurture friendships and social skills, build life skills, and break stereotypes. Contestants participate in one-on-one interview, evening wear, personal introduction, and an optional talent showcase.

Those who are interested in participating can find more information and register at www.missamazing.org or contact Winnie Garey and Troy Sutton, Ohio Directors, at oh@missamazing.org or 330-807-4241 or 330-607-7816.

Richland Newhope Physical Therapist Allie Hoffman will also be volunteering at the event and can help with answering questions. You can contact her at ahoffman@rnewhope.org.

July Employee of the Month

Name: Ron Frasher

Position: Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology (IT) Department

Employed since: Sept. 30, 1996

Nominators Comments: “Too often we take Ron for granted. He’s in and out all day long traveling from building to building fixing our IT problems. For the 20 years of services that he has spent at Richland



Newhope, he has been the most visible and consistent face of the IT department's help desk. His role as the department's technology "desktop mechanic" takes him to all of our locations, where he interacts with both staff and the individuals we serve. He is constantly learning new skills, and he has kept current with the rapid changes in technology. We really have appreciated his customer service mindset."

Employee of the Month Comments: "To be singled out among so many talented coworkers, I'm honored to be chosen as the Employee of the Month. It's humbling to know that someone has acknowledged the hard work I do but the whole IT Department, as we work as a team. The old saying 'if you love your job you will never work a day in your life' really takes meaning as I really do love my job!"

Car Wash!

Workers' Council at Richland Newhope Industries, Inc. held its annual car wash June 29 at Long John Silver's on Park Ave. West in Mansfield. Several staff and individuals washed vehicles. The car wash netted \$180 in donations, which will go toward future council activities. Thanks to everyone who participated.



IN MEMORIAM

Rebecca Funston

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