New provider rating tool

A new resource is now available for rating providers of services for people with developmental disabilities in Ohio. It's called ProviderGuidePlus, and it works similar to Angie's List.

This easy-to-use, online system is designed to help people select a provider and improve overall services. If you or a loved one has recently received services from a service provider, the tool allows you to create an account and then write an anonymous review based on your experience as well as read other reviews.

The new website will also serve as a tool to help with the selection of a service provider. ProviderGuidePlus can be especially helpful if you have already narrowed your search to a few and want to compare how others have experienced those providers.

ProviderGuidePlus is sponsored by the Ohio Association of County Boards serving people with DD, the Ohio Department of
Developmental Disabilities, and the Ohio Provider Resource Association. Pilot testing was done for the past two years in Knox, Coshocton, and Cuyahoga Counties.


**Richland Newhope honors Employee of the Year**

Kodey Kreglow was recognized Monday as Richland Newhope’s 2017 Employee of the Year.

Kodey, who joined the agency in January 2015, is an employment navigation specialist/individual consultant in the Service and Support Administration. He was Employee of the Month last October.

“He is always upbeat and helpful,” said one co-worker. “He has a lot of dealings with the community, the local schools and organizations, and with employment-related agencies and services.”

Kodey is also described as being a good listener and someone who comes up with great ideas.

“He is engaged in many committees within the community to help promote career opportunities and learning opportunities for all individuals, not just those with disabilities, while promoting the county board,” noted his supervisor.

The Employee of the Year selection is made by a committee comprised of members of the
Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities and members of the community.

**Litt reappointed to regional council**

Interim Educational Services and Therapy Director Julie Litt has been reappointed to a second term on the Central Ohio Regional Prevention Council.

The group is part of the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund (OCTF) – an organization that leads child abuse and neglect prevention efforts across the state. Each regional council is comprised of county prevention specialists who are appointed either by the county's board of county commissioners or by the OCTF board.

Julie was appointed by the Richland County commissioners.

**May Employee of the Month**

**Name:** Delores Harris

**Position:** LPN

**Employed since:** May 18, 2016

**Nominators Comments:** "As a nurse, she is always willing to help out with extra hours, and she is flexible with last minute changes. Delores is a team player and is always helpful. Her focus is always on the individuals. She has taken the time to get to know the individuals and uses her knowledge to make their life the best for them in everything she does."


Employee of the Month Comments: "Having my peers nominate me for Employee of the Month is awesome and for them to say I am a team player means everything. What I like best about my job is working with the individuals and making differences in their lives. I will always put the individuals first. Another part of my job I love is when my buddy smiles at me."

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

21 Years – Michel Smith
17 Years – Amy Crager
12 Years – Megan Franta
11 Years – Toni Barabani
10 Years – Mike Bays
7 Years – Emily Baldridge, Ashlie Graves
6 Years – Christina Jamieson, Paula Ward

Bring a Grown-up to School!

Preschoolers invited a "grown-up" to attend school on May 9. Family members learned about many fun activities they can do at home to help their child with gross motor, fine motor, language, and academic skills. They also had fun getting their photo taken with their teachers, classmates and parents/grandparents at the "selfie station." What a fun day!
Richland Newhope Preschool
Early Childhood Center, 255 Hedges Street

Licensed Teachers
Serving typically developing children & children with special needs
Sliding Fee Scale
Low student to teacher ratio

Now Enrolling

Contact the preschool coordinator for more information or to schedule a tour
419-774-4289

About our program:
25 hours per day, 4 days a week, following school year calendar
- Children 3-5 years old
- ODE licensed program
- Follow Early Learning Content Standards
- Family Involvement Activities
- Therapy provided on site as needed

Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities
314 Cleveland Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44902
P: 419-774-4200
F: 419-774-4207
TOD: 1-800-750-0750