

HOPE SERVICES

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities

December
2016

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Listen to WNDH 103.1 every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. for more information about HOPE Services.

135 E. Maumee
Napoleon, OH 43545
419-599-2892

or

2254 North Scott St.,
Unit 2
Napoleon, OH 43545
419-592-0126

www.henrydd.org

HOPE SERVICES WELCOMES NEW SUPERINTENDENT



The Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities (HOPE Services) announces the selection of Stephen Tucker as its full-time Superintendent to begin January 1, 2017. Jake Freppel, Board President, stated, "Steve stood out among several excellent candidates. We look forward to bringing him on board as our full-time Superintendent".

Tucker is currently the Director of Business Operations for the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, a position he has held for the past six years. Before coming to Geauga, he spent eight years with the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities as the Assistant Director of Business/Medicaid Services Manager.

Prior to entering the field of developmental disabilities, Tucker spent 14 years in the private sector in accounting and later as a certified public accountant. Tucker holds a bachelor's degree in accountancy from the University of Akron and a master's degree in public administration from Cleveland State University.

Tucker explains, "I'm very excited for this opportunity that the Board has offered to me. I'm anxious to apply my experiences learned from both inside and outside of government as HOPE Services navigates the dynamic future ahead. I was drawn to HOPE Services by their commitment in enhancing the lives of individuals through strong self-advocacy and community employment programs, focusing on abilities not disabilities. As Superintendent, of both Henry and Ottawa county boards of DD, Melinda (Slusser) has had her hands full. I'm sure balancing the needs of two Boards has been challenging."

The HOPE Services' offices will be closed for Holiday Break beginning December 24, 2016. The offices will open again on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.



GERALD AWARD



Melinda Slusser introduced Gerald to the staff of HOPE three years ago as a recognition based on seeing beyond what others believe to be possible. The professionals chosen throughout the years have demonstrated gentle inspiration and a vision based on possibilities.

Sue Hartsworm (last month's recipient) chose to honor Melinda Slusser by returning Gerald to her. Because of Melinda and this recognition, many incredible people have been acknowledged for their contributions to this agency. We are able to recognize the individuals we serve are just like us and we are privileged that they and their families allow us to be part of their lives.

We hope that by giving Gerald back to Melinda she can take a little of HOPE with her and remember the good things HOPE stands for.

**THANK YOU MELINDA FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE
INDIVIDUALS AND PROFESSIONALS OF HOPE SERVICES!**

HOPE'S GIVING TREE

For the past several years staff at HOPE Services has extended the holiday spirit to assist others in need by participating in the "Giving Tree". This year we chose the House of Ruth and would like to extend participation to the individuals served, friends, family members and community members.

The House of Ruth is a domestic violence shelter that provides safe housing in a home-like atmosphere for women and children who have been victimized by domestic violence. While at the shelter, women receive brief individual counseling as well as support from staff and peer support groups. Since many women literally leave with "the clothes on their back," the shelter assists with personal hygiene products, bedding, towels etc. The shelter also provides healthy foods for families to use when preparing meals.

Please consider donating any of the following items: laundry soap for HE washers, fabric softener, dryer sheets, Lysol cleaning wipes, dish soap, disinfectant spray, window cleaner, Pine-Sol, all-purpose cleaner, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, storage bags, garbage bags, diapers, wipes, baby bath supplies, baby lotion, baby powder, soap, razors, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, shower puffs, socks, underwear, gift cards (Wal-Mart), gas cards, children toys, pillows, etc.

We plan to have the tree up through December 17. Items will be donated the following week just in time for Christmas. Items can be dropped off at either of our locations in Napoleon.

If you have suggestions for next year we would love to hear from you, just contact someone in the SES department by call 419-592-0126.



The Voices of HOPE Self-Advocacy Group would like to thank everyone who supported and gave pledges for the Hoops for HOPE. Your generosity allowed us to raise over \$2,000.00. This money will be used to send more individuals to Project STIR training and support the general expenses of the group.



VOICES OF HOPE

**Please join us for the
LAST GROUP
MEETING OF THE YEAR!
Friday, December 16
4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
at HOPE Services**

**Email tparsons@henrydd.org or call 419-599-2892
and tell us your favorite Christmas carol to add to
our music play list for the night!**

A MESSAGE FROM MELINDA

We have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season. HOPE Services has so much that shines throughout the year. We have supportive families and local citizens. We have SSA staff that are known to plan services with individuals in a very person-centered way and whom are passionate about meeting their needs. We have a vibrant SASS program that allows participants to do fun and creative things. Our Early Intervention team does an awesome job meeting the needs of the little ones we serve and their families. We have an employment program (SES) that regularly shines with placements and ongoing support in conjunction with the local business community. Our Special Olympics program is second to none with lots of options for participation. Individuals are actively involved in self advocacy and regularly attend functions to learn how to better advocate for themselves. We also have many caring and quality providers in our county that partner with HOPE Services to ensure those that we serve have good lives.

All in all, there is so much to be grateful for. As my time with HOPE Services winds down, I have been actively working with Steve Tucker, HOPE Services' incoming Superintendent, to ensure a smooth transition. I am certain that Steve will find, as I have, that HOPE Services is a supportive and high quality place to spend your career. Henry County has so much to be proud of and I have no doubt HOPE will continue to do great things in partnership with the individuals we serve.

Melinda Slusser, Superintendent

Christmas Exchange Store

**601 N. Bonaparte Dr.
at Crossroads Church in Napoleon**



Our second-hand Christmas store will open for two weeks to distribute **FREE** trees and decorations to families in need.

The store will only be open Monday, December 5 through Saturday, December 17, 2016

Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday!

Community members are invited to **bring in** their used decorations or to shop, making a free-will monetary donation for others' items they may want. This is a community service project of the HOPE Services Senior and Adult Day Program with all proceeds earmarked for **PROJECT: We Care**, a program to assist low-income Henry County families at Christmas.

Questions? Call 419-599-2892 ext. 232

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

HOPE Services appreciates the hard work and dedication of each of its employees which contribute to the overall success of the agency. As such, we would like to recognize the years of service given by the following employees:

Sally Roehl	21 years
Trisha Giesige	10 years
John Hoover	7 years
Tina Parsons	3 years

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

**ALL HCBDD BOARD MEETINGS BEGIN
AT 8:00 A.M. IN THE
HOPE SERVICES' ACTIVITY CENTER**

January 25, 2017

February 27, 2017

March 27, 2017

April 24, 2017

SENIOR AND ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES

November always marks the beginning of our busy holiday season. The sights, smells and sounds of turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie are quickly replaced by Santa Claus, Christmas lights, and wrapping paper! As always, we started the month off with our first performance of our new Country Christmas Rhythm Band Show at Fulton Manor in Wauseon. We continue to practice each week and already have several scheduled performances in Henry, Fulton and Williams counties that will keep us traveling through the month of December. We also invited our friends from Country View Haven over for a delicious Thanksgiving Day meal. We shared in providing the food and then exchanged laughs, joined in rhythm band and played several rounds of Cardo, a game similar to bingo, before parting ways. Our friends, Wayne Carpenter and his wife, visited us again and shared an awesome slide show about their recent travels to Bermuda and Washington, DC. To help honor this season of giving, the SASS individuals and staff at HOPE also participated in Operation: Christmas Child. We eagerly donated and then packed shoeboxes with small toys and daily necessities to be shipped to children in third world countries at Christmastime. Last, but not least, we wore our colors and engaged in some healthy competition at our own OSU-Michigan Tailgate Party before Thanksgiving break. We also discussed some rivalry history, trivia facts and watched videos of past Ohio State Marching Band performances. OH – IO!





Kent's Korner

December 2016

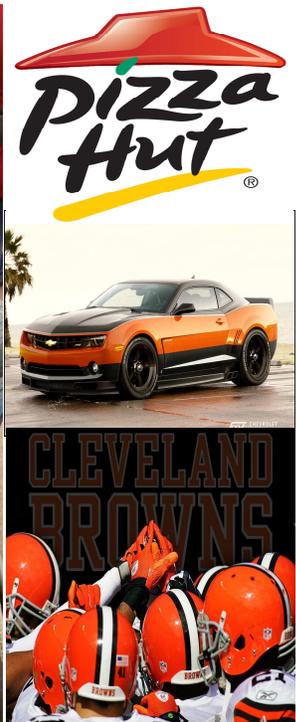


Upcoming events

December 1st School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30 -4:30.
 December 1st Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30 - 6:00.
 December 2nd Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home 5:00- 6:30
 December 3rd and 4th State Swimming at Columbus
 December 5th School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30- 4:30
 December 5th Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30-6:00
 December 6th Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way 3:55 - 5:30
 December 7th Team 1 Basketball practice at Filling Home 6:00- 7:30
 December 7th Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home
 December 8th School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30-4:30
 December 8th Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30-6:00
 December 9th Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home 5:00-6:30
 December 10th Young Athletes at Filling Home 10:00am- 11:00am
 December 12th School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30-4:30
 December 12th Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30-6:00
 December 13th Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way 3:55- 5:30
 December 14th Team 1 Basketball practice at Filling Home
 December 14th Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home
 December 15th School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30-4:30
 December 15th Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30-6:00
 December 16th Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home 5:00-6:30
 December 17th Young Athletes at Filling Home 10:00am- 11:00am
 December 19th School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30-4:30

Rockne Saunders

Rockne's most loved coach is Randy Barnes and his favorite Special Olympics sport is Bowling. Rockne has been involved with Special Olympics for 15 years. His beloved high school football team is the Liberty Center Tigers and College football team is The Ohio State Buckeyes and NFL team is the Cleveland Browns. Rockne's preference of sports car is a Camaro. His favorite hobby is listening to music. Rockne's most desired place to eat is Pizza Hut. His most memorable moment is getting his first strike in bowling. Fun fact about Rockne is that he likes to play hide and seek.



If you have any Special Olympic news and or pictures that you would like to see included in the newsletter please contact me at:
 Kentdawg51@yahoo.com or kspiess@henrydd.org

Upcoming events

December 20th Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way 3:55 - 5:30
 December 21st Team 1 Basketball practice at Filling Home 6:00-7:30
 December 21st Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home 7:00-8:30
 December 22nd School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30-4:30
 December 22nd Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30-6:00
 December 23rd Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home 5:00-6:30
 December 27th Bowling at River City Bowl-A-Way 3:55-5:30
 December 28th Team 1 Basketball practice at Filling Home 6:00-7:30
 December 28th Team 2 Basketball practice at Filling Home 7:00-8:30
 December 29th School Age Basketball practice at Filling Home 3:30-4:30
 December 29th Women's Basketball practice at Filling Home 4:30-6:00

Flashback Picture



Swimming Results

8 swimmers went to the area swim meet on November 6th at Oak Harbor High School. Here are the results:

Heather Stoner 3rd in the 50 F and 2nd in the 25 F

Caitlin McCafferty 5th in the 50 and 3rd in the 25

Ryan Moore 5th in the 50 and 4th in the 25

Jacob Heath 4th in the 50 and 1st in the 25

Josh Babcock 5th in the 50 and 2nd in the 25

Caty Kuehner 1st in the 25 F and 1st in the 25 back

Lydia Kuehner 4th in the 50 breast and 1st in the 25 breast

Hilary Gabers 2nd in the 25 back and 4th in the 50 back

The 4X 50 free relay team of Josh, Jacob, Ryan and Hilary took 3rd place

The 4X 25 free relay team of Caitlin, Caty, Lydia and Heather took 2nd place

Six swimmers will be going to the State swim meet in Columbus on Dec. 3-4. Jacob Heath, Josh Babcock, Heather Stoner, Lydia Kuehner, Caty Kuehner and Ryan Moore.

Sports Trivia

- Who is the shortest player ever to play in the NBA?
 - Michael Jordan
 - Lebron James
 - Kobe Bryant
 - Tyrone Bogues Aka Muggy Bogues
- Where did the sport of curling originate?
 - USA
 - Canada
 - Scotland ?
 - China
- A shuttlecock is used in what sport?
 - Hockey
 - Badminton
 - Basketball
 - Shuffleboard
- Which basketball team did Michael Jordan play for in College ?
 - North Carolina
 - Ohio State
 - Florida
 - South Carolina



1. D 2. C 3. B 4. A



Celebrate the NEW YEAR!

JOIN HARC, COREE AND HENRY COUNTY
SPECIAL OLYMPICS RING IN THE NEW YEAR!

Saturday, December 31, 2016
7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
Filling Home Gym

MUSIC + GAMES + SWIMMING +
KARAOKE + DANCING + FOOD

**ADMISSION: SNACK ITEM (CHIPS, COOKIES, ETC.)
DRINKS AND PIZZA WILL BE PROVIDED**

RSVP BELOW AND RESERVE YOUR SPOT

RANDY: 419-591-6798

ANGIE: 419-966-2713

**PARENTS—THIS IS YOUR NIGHT TO HOWL AND
SPEND THE NIGHT DOING NEW YEAR'S YOUR WAY!**

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARIES

Nathaniel Vogelsong
Celebrating two years at Lowe's

Theresa Baser
Celebrating 13 years at
McDonalds

JOB CLUB

The November meeting was held on the 15th. We created a mock business titled the "SES Treat Factory". Each attendee was hired for a very important position such as labeler, measurer, stirrer, packers, and quality control among others. Each position had assigned task(s) to complete. This activity allowed us to work on listening, communication, time management, and team work

while having a little fun. The attendees agreed each position was equally important regardless of the level of difficulty in task and was able to recognize if one person did not complete their job it impacted everyone. The employees did a great job and the treats were given to HOPE Services staff in recognition of Thanksgiving.



- ◆ Each year more than 3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S. alone.
- ◆ Christmas trees usually grow for about 15 years before they are sold.
- ◆ Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since 1850.
- ◆ All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts.
- ◆ Christmas wasn't declared an official holiday in the United States until June 26, 1870.
- ◆ Most of Santa's reindeer have male-sounding names, such as Blitzen, Comet, and Cupid. However, male reindeers shed their antlers around Christmas, so the reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh are likely not male, but female.



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

This article was taken from the OOD newsletter, Weekly Focus 11-10-2016.

Supported Employment Services of HOPE had the opportunity of assisting an individual, Matt Hines, in obtaining a position with Sauder's last month. The employees at Sauder's have been exceptional from management to the assembly line. We congratulate Sauder's on receiving this most deserved award.



Pictures above are OOD Director Kevin Miller (left) and Sauder Woodworking Company CEO Kevin Sauder.

Sauder Woodworking Company in Archbold, Ohio, was recognized on Wednesday as a Champion of Opportunity. Sauder's commitment to hiring individuals based on their ability is commendable as they continue to serve as a model for disability inclusion in the work force.

"Sauder is a company that places importance on disability inclusion. They have made a tremendous effort to ensure that they not only talk about being inclusive, but they incorporate it into their hiring practices and workplace culture," said OOD Executive Director Kevin Miller.

The Champion of Opportunity Award honors companies that go above and beyond in their commitment and who serve as statewide examples of what it means to provide quality employment opportunities and increased independence for individuals with disabilities. This award represents the highest recognition that OOD presents to a business partner.

Sauder is a statewide example of promoting diversity and inclusion in the workforce. They realize this largely untapped candidate pool can help their company produce world renowned products and contribute to their company's success. In addition to implementing policies and procedures to achieve an inclusive and diverse culture, they share their successes with other industries to help them in their inclusion efforts. They are currently a member of the Ohio Business Leadership Network and an active partner in the Workforce Initiative of Ohio in the Northwest area.

"Sauder Woodworking has a long history of providing opportunities for individuals with disabilities," said Kevin Sauder, President and CEO of Sauder Woodworking. "My father and grandfather both knew that with a little extra effort and patience, we could provide employment for people with all kinds of disabilities and the company and community would benefit greatly."

OOD congratulates Sauder Woodworking Company on receiving this award and for their commitment to integrate individuals with disabilities into the workforce.

For more information about OOD's Opportunity Awards, visit ood.ohio.gov/Employers/OpportunityAwards.



PLAY Autism Intervention

What is the PLAY Project?

The PLAY Project organization offers research-based autism programs that focus on play and relationships to support the social and emotional growth of the child with autism. PLAY Project methods, techniques, and principles are the foundation for PLAY Autism intervention. Professionals who offer PLAY Autism Intervention are trained and credentialed by the PLAY Project organization.

Do I need a diagnosis of autism to start the PLAY Project?

Before beginning PLAY Autism intervention parents typically establish the diagnosis of an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for their child from a pediatric professional.

What research exists for PLAY Autism Intervention?

The PLAY Project uses evidence-based best practices. PLAY Autism Intervention's parent-implemented early intervention model has excellent scientific evidence for its effectiveness.

In 2014, the *Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics* published the results of a randomized controlled trial of the program. This large-scale study demonstrated the following results:

- Significant improvement in:
 - Children's autism severity
 - Social-emotional development of children with autism
 - Parent and child interactions
 - Reduction in parent stress and depression

Increase the smiles and laughter in your home with PLAY Project!

Benefits to Children

PLAY Autism Intervention helps young children improve their language, development, behavior, social skills, and autism severity.

Play is the way young children learn best. The PLAY Project model helps children grow and develop through playful interaction.

Benefits to Parents

You and your Certified PLAY Project Consultant become partners in your child's progress. You receive individualized coaching that empowers you to have a closer, more satisfying relationship with your child.

You will learn to:

- Identify your child's unique strengths and needs.
- Make every interaction a growing and learning experience.
- Effectively respond to your child's behavior.
- Prepare your child for kindergarten.



PLAY Autism Intervention services typically include:

- Monthly home visits from a certified PLAY Project Consultant
- Modeling and coaching services to help improve the interaction between parent and child
- Direct play between child and Play Project Consultants
- A PLAY Plan report and video provided after each visit. The plan includes detailed recommendations for methods, techniques, and activities. The video captures the Consultant modeling techniques as well as the parent and child's interactions.
- Family support: ongoing email and phone call to ensure families get resources, help with school, and help with other needs.
- Case review and feedback on your child's development from a team of professionals.

What is a PLAY Project Home Visit like?

Our consultants show you practical ways to make every interaction with your child a growing and learning experience. Bath time, meals, outdoor play: each of these daily routines can be used to help your child improve communication and build meaningful relationships.

During visits, you and the PLAY Project Consultant engage your child in playful activities. Siblings and other caregivers are welcome to join. Your PLAY Project Consultant supports your learning, so that you gain confidence in the methods and techniques that you will use throughout your everyday interactions.

What is a Parent-Mediated model?

PLAY is a parent-implemented autism intervention, meaning that you gain the skills you need to support your child's social-emotional growth. Research shows that children on the autism spectrum have more success when parents are empowered to provide intervention at home. Parents can learn effective strategies for engagement, so that their children receive intensive intervention throughout the day. The PLAY techniques and methods become a regular part of family life.

Upcoming Events

- **Henry County Board of DD Board Meeting**—The Board meeting will be held Monday, January 23, at 8:00 a.m. in the Activity Center.
- **HOPE Services will be closed** in observance of the Christmas holiday beginning December 24. We will re-open on January 3.
- **New Year's Eve Party** is Saturday, December 31, in the Filling Home gym.
- **HOPE Services will be closed** on Monday, January 16, 2017, in observance of MLK Day.
- **The HOPE Services Soup Challenge** will be held Thursday, March 9, at the Filling Home Gym.

HOPE Services does not discriminate in provision of services or employment because of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age. Send news stories and items of interest to Kathy Bishop or Kent Spiess.

happy
new year!

Address Correction Requested

135 E. Maumee
Napoleon, OH 43545

Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities
HOPE SERVICES