

HOPE Round Up



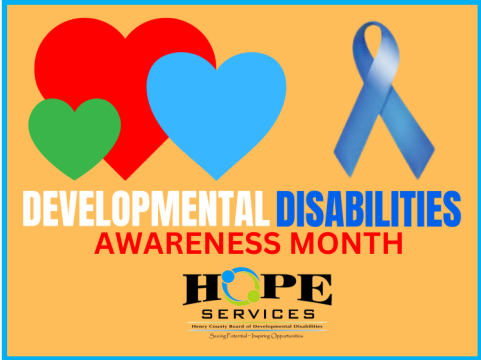
News from HOPE Services

Seeing Potential ~ Inspiring Opportunities

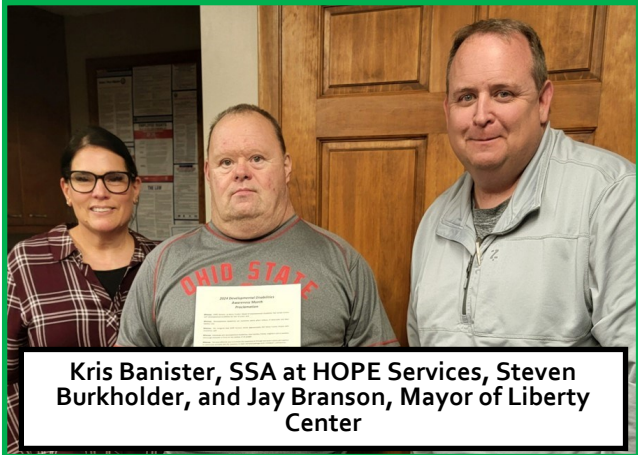
April 2024



Ryan Shaffer, Hamler Council Member, Robyn, Breckin and Matt Maas, and Kailee, Rosie and Brad Leonard



Professionals from HOPE Services took the opportunity to attend council meetings throughout Henry county. A proclamation declaring March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month was signed by the mayors. Individuals that are served by HOPE were also in attendance to share information about HOPE and how they benefit from the services provided.



Kris Banister, SSA at HOPE Services, Steven Burkholder, and Jay Branson, Mayor of Liberty Center

HOPE Services provides or funds supports for approximately 400 people in Henry county, currently ages three months to 87 years.



Curt Badgley, Mayor of Malinta, Ashley, Quincy and Ashlynn Cox, and Jessica Harmon, HOPE Services' Early Intervention Director

HOPE Services employs 31 professionals, and contracts with 45 independent and agency providers, that are committed to the mission of the agency and focused on seeing potential and inspiring opportunities for all we serve.



Kelsey Wayne is shown here with Holgate council members Chris Healy, Jeff Rothman, Nick Steph, Mike Medina and Jamie Hohenberger.



Mike Woods, Deshler Mayor, and Tiffany Swihart, HOPE's Community Relations Coordinator

Service and Support Administrators spend each day focusing on supporting, empowering and advocating for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in their pursuit of life-long goals.



Early Intervention services are implemented to support families of children ages birth to 3 who have developmental delays and/or disabilities.



Chris Buchhop and Brenda Bost, Mayor of the Village of Florida

Individual Employment Services encourages individuals with disabilities to access and succeed in employment in a community setting. HOPE Services currently has 75 individuals competitively employed in the community.



Carol Nagy, Mayor of McClure, Brayden, Lydia, Joe and Caitlyn Kuehner, and Kathy Bishop, HOPE Services.

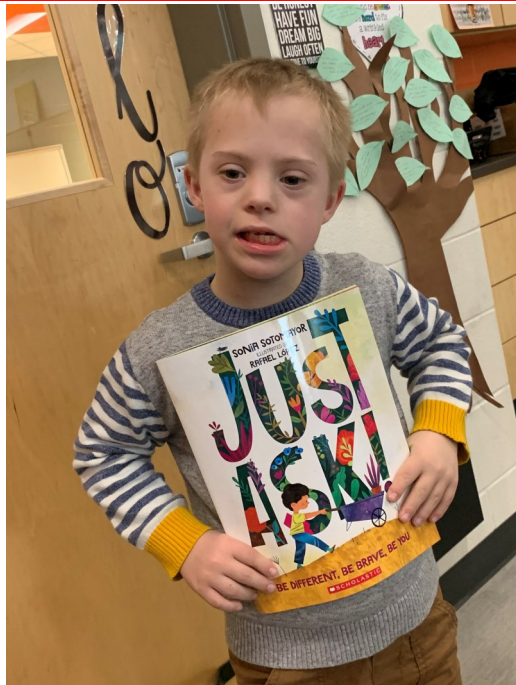
By partnering with agency and private providers, HOPE Services is committed to creating living situations that are successful in meeting individuals' current needs and helping them achieve their future goals.



Joe Bialorucki, Napoleon Mayor, Nate Vogelsong and Carrie Fuller, and Kelly Aldrich, Superintendent of HOPE Services



Blake Stambaugh, SSA Director at HOPE Services, Jerry and Terry Rettig, and Steve Aelker, New Bavaria Mayor



In recognition of DD Awareness Month, we have had the opportunity to read to the area 3rd graders. Lydia Knepper, Jessica Clapp, Christina Clark, Kristin Moehle, LaNae Thompson and Samantha Dorrington enjoyed reading "Just Ask! Be Brave, Be Different, Be You". It is a story about children with different challenges. The book encourages readers to Just Ask when they come across someone who is different than them.

ROCK YOUR SOCKS
MARCH 21 WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

We rocked our socks along with many others on March 21st for World Down Syndrome Day. Thank you to everyone that sent us pictures or shared on social media!!



All = All

ALL ABILITIES. ALL VOICES. ALL OF US!



Shannon, Bethany, Steve and Christina traveled to Columbus on March 12th to celebrate DD Awareness and Advocacy Day. They enjoyed listening to a panel of speakers and meeting with representatives from Rob McColley's office. They then decided on Burger King for lunch.

2024 HOPE Services Community Champion Award

HOPE Services has started a new tradition, the HOPE Services Community Champion Award. Dave Kleck was the recipient of this award. Dave is a valued member of our community, he received this award for his outstanding service to the Developmental Disability Community. This award is a testament to Dave's unwavering dedication and commitment to our agency and the community.

Dave's tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we are proud to recognize his contributions to our community. We want to take this opportunity to thank him for his exceptional service and commitment to our agency.

Congratulations, Dave, on this well-deserved award!



Do you have an article to submit or pictures to share? We are always looking for stories. Submit items of interest to:
tswihart@henrydd.org



Listen to WNDH 103.1 every Thursday at 12:20 p.m. for more information about HOPE Services.



Kelly's Column

April is nationally recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of protecting children from abuse and neglect. It is a time to educate communities about the signs of child abuse, the impact it can have on a child's life and the resources available to help prevent it.

Child abuse is a pervasive issue that affects children of all ages, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds. According to the National Children's Alliance, nearly 700,000 children are abused in the United States annually. These children may suffer physical, emotional, and psychological harm that can have lasting effects on their well-being.

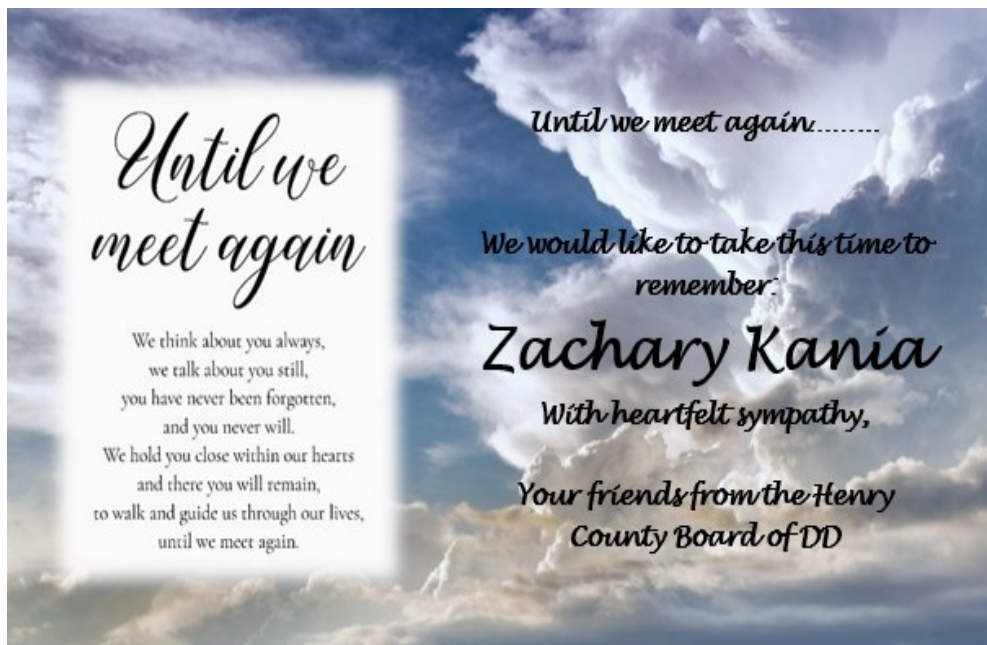
There are many ways to get involved in child abuse prevention efforts during this month and throughout the year. You can participate in events and activities that raise awareness about the issue, volunteer at local organizations that support children and families, or donate to organizations that provide resources and services to help prevent child abuse.

By coming together as a community to support and protect children, we can create a safer and more nurturing environment for all children to thrive. Let's work together to prevent child abuse and ensure that every child can grow up in a safe and loving home.

This is a time for our community to celebrate the small actions each of us can take that make a big impact on the well-being of our children. This is a time when each of us recommits and collaborates across our community to raise awareness about our role in strengthening families to keep families, kids, and communities strong.

Sincerely,

Kelly Aldrich



The next Board meeting will be held on April 17th at 4:00pm in the activity center.

Let's get cooking

Cook Night sponsored by HARC Inc.



This month we prepared copycat KFC bowls, biscuits, and no bake peanut butter buckeye bars. These recipes were prepared by Jacob, LaNae, Christina, Brayden, Abbie, Caitlyn, Kateena, and Linda. We added the new recipes to our cookbooks and discussed our thoughts about the recipes. The group felt this meal was a 9 out of 10. If you are interested in joining the group sign up by contacting Randy Barnes at 419-591-6498 or 419-599-2892. Hope to see you next month!



Monthly Movie Quote from Jessica



We look forward to next month's quote.

"Please tell me that was insured! Oh, it's not but that was very, very pretty."

-Kurt Hummel and Blaine

Glee



Early Intervention

Early Intervention Services are provided at no cost to families that live in Henry County who have infants and toddlers from birth up until their third birthday. These little ones have diagnosed medical conditions (such as prematurity, syndromes, hearing or vision concerns, autism, etc) or who have a delay in development (in the areas of motor skills, problem solving skills, social skills, communication, or self help skills). Delays are determined by parent interviews, observations and evaluations completed by the Early Intervention Staff.

Anyone can refer a child to Early Intervention. The number for referring a child is: 1-800-755-4769. This is a voluntary program and parents need to be aware that they are being referred.

If a child is determined to have delays, they are eligible for services provided by a Developmental Specialist, Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, Physical Therapist, Mental Health Consultant and Vision and Hearing Consultant. The Early Intervention Team uses a Primary Service Provider Model, meaning that the staff member most qualified to meet the child's and families' areas of concern will be the one that provides services to the family. Other team members are always available to consult.

Early Intervention Service Coordinators are responsible for all referrals and gathering information from caretakers and families, monitoring services and assisting in providing resources and referrals to other agencies.

All Early Intervention staff understand that young children learn through activities they enjoy and have interests in with the people that are familiar to them. Early Intervention takes place in the child's home, daycare settings, or other places that the child spends their day. Activities are developed with the adults in these settings that encourage the development of skills and can be provided throughout the child's daily routine. The adults meet with Early Intervention Staff to develop goals/outcomes that are important to the family. The PSP supports family members and caregivers in this process and model, coach and teach them how to implement them.

By providing information, activities and strategies, supports and resources, young children's learning is enhanced and parents are able to strengthen parenting competence and confidence.

Early Intervention also offers monthly Playgroups that allow children to be with others their age, families to meet each other and have fun learning and trying new things.

If you have any questions about Early Intervention or a child's skills, please call HOPE Services Early Intervention at 419-599-2892.



Congratulations to everyone who is celebrating a birthday in April

Christopher Hanson
Amanda Fahrer
Samantha Phillips
Christopher Elder
Nola Hoskins
Debra Thome
Victoria Michael



Work Anniversaries:

Zachary Wendt - 2 years at Pizza Hut

Brandon Gomez - 2 year at Ollie's

Cody Steen - 3 years at Walmart

Juan Delgado - 5 years at McDonald's

Marco Delgado - 5 years at Bil-Jax

Zachary Parcher - 6 years at Wood County Board of DD

John Stout - 14 years at Walmart

Blake Stambaugh - 14 years at HOPE Services

Carrie Fuller - 15 years at All God's Children Daycare

Jennifer Cordes - 27 years at Northwest State Community College

APRIL
AUTISM
 AWARENESS MONTH



In April, we celebrate Autism Acceptance Month. During this time, we spread understanding, acceptance, and support for the autism community. Let's recognize the contributions of people on the autism spectrum and their families, and work towards creating a world where everyone in the autism community is connected to the support they need.

Autism

Autism, or Autism spectrum disorder, refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. It is estimated by the CDC that Autism affects 1 in 36 children and 1 in 45 adults today.

Each person with Autism has a different set of strengths and challenges. Some autistic people can speak with others are nonverbal or minimally verbal and communicate in other ways. Some have intellectual disabilities, while others do not. Some require significant support in their daily lives, while others do not, and in some cases, others live entirely independent.

Autism is diagnosed around age 5 in the US, with signs appearing at age 2 or 3. Many people with autism can experience other medical, behavioral or mental health issues that affect their quality of life.

Among the most common occurring conditions are:

- *Attention-deficit-hyperactive-disorder (ADHD)
- *Anxiety and depression
- *Gastrointestinal disorders
- *Seizures and sleep disorders

This information was taken from www.autismspeaks.org/what-autism

Child Abuse Prevention Month in America, is an annual observance in the United States dedicated to raising awareness and preventing child abuse. Since 1983, the month of April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month, emphasizing the necessity and responsibility of protecting the most vulnerable among us.

This year's theme, "Building A Hopeful Future, Together," focuses on creating nurturing and supportive environments for children and families across the nation. The goal is to empower communities and support families, ensuring that all children grow up in safe, stable, and nurturing surroundings. Prevent Child Abuse America, along with its national network of state chapters, advocates for prevention, addressing structural and social determinants of health and well-being to create a more equitable society where every child thrives.



**Wear blue to show
 support April 10th**



March is the start of new sports each season. We finished off our basketball season in a couple different ways this year. The University of Toledo gave our adult teams tickets to watch a men's basketball game on February 28. We had a great time cheering for the Rockets. The other way that we traditionally end our basketball season is our Homecoming Event. Our annual Homecoming Dance took place on March 8th. We played against the Fulton County Jaguars during our games. Then we enjoyed a macaroni and cheese bar, played carnival games, and enjoyed music. Our Out of this World theme was a hit, and a great time was had by all. We want to thank all the volunteers that helped make this event possible. Volleyball season is underway. We have two teams in Henry County. There is a traditional team, which plays by high school rules. And then we have a modified team that plays with a few specialized changes to the rules including serving line adjustments and even the size of the ball changes. This year we have over 25 athletes just on those two volleyball teams. Our friends the Wood County Wildcats have invited us to play some open volleyball sessions to get in some extra practice. Not only can we work on skills, but we also get the opportunity to see old friends and make new ones.

Our volleyball games will be starting the first week of April.

4/11 – Away Game vs. Wood

4/17 – Away Game vs. Fulton

5/8 – Home Game vs. Sandusky

5/9 – Away Game vs. Sandusky

5/15 – Away Game vs. Lucas

5/29 – Home Game vs. Wood

All Home games start at 6 pm at the Filling Home Gym . No admission fee to come out and cheer on the Cougars. We have a concession stand at every home game, and all proceeds support the Cougars.

On Saturday, March 16, we held our annual Athlete Polar Walk and this year we added a pancake breakfast. There were also several donations to our Silent Auction held that day. Joseph Bialorucki, Mayor of Napoleon kicked off our walk with athlete Katy Kuehner. Henry C Cougar was also out front leading the way. The community support was tremendous.

On March 21, we worked with Business Professionals of America from the Four County Career Center to host the school age bowling tournament at River City Bowl-A-Way. Over 150 students from the four-county area competed in two games of bowling. The Business Professionals of America raise money to sponsor, and they volunteer at this event every year. This year there were over 70 students from the BPA organization that helped the bowlers compete and have a great time. Thank you to the Four County Career Center BPA organization.

The Cougars Fitness Squad won another Winter Fitness challenge through Special Olympics Ohio. This round was 6 weeks long. Our squad needed to not only focus on our physical activity but also check in on our mental health. We did this through daily reminders about taking time to step back and checking our stress levels. This round of amazing athletes and coaches include Cassadra Seesholtz (and the entire Seesholtz family), Tyra Knepper, Sammi Adkins, Lydia Knepper, Job Knepper, Anthony Delgado, Krysta Delgado, Joe Kuehner, Michelle Rose, and of course Coach Zach and Coach Renita. Congratulations to the Cougars Fitness Squad!

Along with volleyball, the other spring sports we have starting soon include powerlifting, track & field, golf, cycling, bocce, and summer cheer. If you have not signed up and want to be involved, please contact Zach or Renita as soon as possible.

We encourage you to follow us on Facebook, Henry County Special Olympics and Young Athletes. We keep this updated daily with all the Cougars movements, game information, and upcoming events. If you have any questions, always feel free to reach out to us. Zach (419-260-2176) and Renita (419-601-2372).



Training and Teamwork



Four County Career Center Bowling Tournament



We Rocked Our Socks on 3/21



We Walked for Community Inclusion Polar Walk '24



HARC Rec. for Kids

Movie, Games, Food and Fun for your kids!!!

April 26, 2024 6:00-8:00pm

May 11, 2024 10am-1pm

June 1, 2024 10am-1pm

Cost: \$10

At: HOPE Services Activity Center

135 E. Maumee in Napoleon

Call: Randy at: 419-591-6798 to sign up.

HARC-The Henry County Abilities Resource Council, a private nonprofit group, run by parents, offers Recreation and Camps for individuals with developmental disabilities. We are offering an Opportunity for kids aged 6-15, a chance to hang out with friends, do various activities and have a little time on their own.



April, May June Calendar 24

Contact Randy Barnes at 419-591-6798 or 419-599-2892 to sign up and Pay **ONE WEEK** prior to the event

	EVENT	TIME	COST	Sign up required	Name
Wednesday, April 3, 2024	BINGO	6-8:00pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Sunday, April 7, 2024	Magic Show	1:00-6:30pm	\$32 + money to eat	yes	Croswell in Adrian MI
Wednesday, April 10, 2024	Cook Night	5-7:00pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Friday, April 12, 2024	Movie at HOPE	6-8:30pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Sunday, April 14, 2024	HARC Talent Show	2-? pm	\$15.00	yes	Shadybrook Acres Road T
Saturday, April 20, 2024	Out to Eat and Movie	11-5:00pm	\$35 + money to eat on	yes	TBA
Sunday, April 28, 2024	Mud Hens	12:30-6:30pm	\$20.00	yes	Fifth Third Field
Wednesday, May 8, 2024	Cook Night	5-7pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Friday, May 10, 2024	Movie at HOPE	6-8:30pm	\$5.00		HOPE Activity Center
Thursday, May 16, 2024	Cedar Point	8-8:00pm	\$42+ money to eat on	yes	Cedar Point
Wednesday, May 29, 2024	Outdoor Game Night	6-8:00pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Wednesday, June 5, 2024	Outdoor Game Night	6-8:00pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Sunday, June 9, 2024	Craft Day	1-3:00pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Monday, June 10, 2024	WWE	5:30-11:00pm	\$49+ money to eat	yes	Huntington Center
Wednesday, June 12, 2024	Cook Night	5-7:00 pm	\$5.00	yes	HOPE Activity Center
Sunday, June 16, 2024	Mud Hens	12:30-6:30pm	\$20.00	yes	Huntington Center
Saturday, June 22, 2024	Kings Island	8am-9pm	\$45+money to eat on	yes	Cincinnati
Wednesday, June 26, 2024	Dinner Cruise	5-11:00pm	\$50.00	yes	Maumee River

VOICES of HOPE

SELF ADVOCACY GROUP



Empowering Lives With Tech

Tech and AI for Independence & Advocacy

Tuesday, April 23rd | 5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

Hope Services - 135 E Maumee Ave, Napoleon, OH 43545

Ever wondered how the magic of technology can change lives? Join us for an inspiring dive into the world of tech and AI where possibilities are endless! From gadgets that make daily tasks a breeze to smart tools that amplify our voice, technology is reshaping how we live.

Whether you're a student, caregiver, professional, or just curious about how tech can improve your life, this event is for YOU. Come discover groundbreaking tools, connect with tech influencers, and take a step into a future where everyone gets to live their best life.



HARC, INC. - Henry County Abilities Resource Council, Inc.



Parent/Caregiver Support Group

When: April 16th, 2024- 6:00pm-8:00pm

Where: Hope Services Activity Center
135 E Maumee, Napoleon Ohio

Guest Speaker (via Zoom): Mr. Derek Graham

Mr. Graham is an Attorney from Resch, Root, Philipps & Graham LLC in Dublin, Ohio.

Join us for our next parent and caregiver support group. This group is intended to create a safe and informal space to share common experiences of each others journeys supporting a loved one with developmental disabilities.

We are excited for our guest speaker, Mr. Derek Graham who will be joining us again via Zoom. He is an attorney who specializes in special needs planning and also has a child with down syndrome. His passion is to connect with other parents and to help them navigate and plan for the future. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided.

For More information contact: Kristine Dick (503)307-6806 or email KBL777star@gmail.com with questions or topics of interest for future meetings

THE HENRY COUNTY ABILITIES RESOURCE COUNCIL PRESENTS
THE 2ND ANNUAL H.A.R.C. TALENT SHOW
ALL AGES - ALL ABILITIES
FUNDRAISER DINNER AND SHOW
TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR
\$15 ADMISSION - 12YRS AND UNDER FREE
50/50 RAFFLE
PRIZES, JUDGES AND MORE!!!
APRIL 14TH, 2024
2:00PM AT SHADYBROOK ACRES IN NAPOLEON, OH

2024 H.A.R.C. Talent Show Registration Form
SIGN UP TO PERFORM HERE

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH REGISTRATION PLEASE MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK OR EMAIL KBL777STAR@GMAIL.COM

Cedar Point!

Date change May 16 to May 21

May 21 8am-8pm

\$42+ money for food etc.

ARC of Ohio is offering a day of Fun at Cedar Point for the reduced price of \$42. Sign up now.

Call: 419-591-6798 to sign up.

Leave HOPE at 8am and return there at 8pm.

Contact Us

www.henrydd.org

HOPE Services Office	419-599-2892
Special Olympics	419-260-2176
HARC Recreation	419-591-6798

Seeing Potential – Inspiring Opportunities



Our Mission

HOPE Services is committed to creatively working in partnership with eligible individuals and their families to discover, pursue and achieve what is important to them.

HOPE Services does not discriminate in provision of services or employment because of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age.

Napoleon, OH 43545

135 E. Maumee

