

HOPE HAPPENINGS

AUGUST 2026 EDITION

Seeing Potential - Inspiring Opportunities

COME SEE US
AT THE FAIR!



HOPE
SERVICES

Henry County Board of
Developmental Disabilities

See schedule on page 2. →



HOPE Services newsletter is fully DIGITAL!



Stay connected in just a few simple ways:

- Follow the link:
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/uTHCLmJ>
- View online anytime: www.henrydd.org/resources/newsletters
- Follow us on Facebook: [HOPE Services - Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities](#)

The next Board Meeting will be held
Wednesday, August 19th, 2026 at 4pm
HOPE Services Activity Center



THERE WILL BE LITTLE BITS OF **HOPE** EVERYWHERE AT THE FAIR!

THURSDAY
AUGUST
13TH



COME SEE US WORKING AT THE
MILKSHAKE STAND
BUILDING SKILLS!

11:00 AM –
5:00 PM



SUNDAY
AUGUST
16TH



JOIN US FOR THE
HENRY COUNTY FAIR PARADE!

Starting at 6:00 PM through
downtown Napoleon and
routed out to the fair!

STARTING
AT
6:00 PM



WEDNESDAY
AUGUST
19TH



COME SEE OUR
EARLY INTERVENTION TEAM
AT KIDS DAY!

They will have a booth under a large tent
with other agencies and will be handing
out goodies and resources!

1:00 PM –
3:00 PM



AUGUST 13-20
Open Daily

★ ★ ★
UNDER THE
GRANDSTAND

FIND HARC
UNDER THE GRANDSTAND!

Come support HARC at their annual
concession stand – great food,
great people, great cause!



HARC, Inc.
Henry County
Abilities Resource Council



SUPPORT
EMPOWERMENT
INCLUSION

★ THE ★
HENRY COUNTY FAIR
★
ROOTED IN FREEDOM



COMMUNITY
ROOTED
POSSIBILITIES



Celebrating Dawn McBride's Retirement After 44 Years of Service

On July 13, 2026, HOPE Services staff, families, and community members gathered to celebrate and "send off" Dawn McBride as she begins an exciting new chapter in life, retirement.

For the past 44 years, Dawn has dedicated her career to Early Intervention, sharing her knowledge, compassion, and talents with countless families of young children with developmental needs from birth to age three. Throughout her incredible career, Dawn has been a beacon of hope and a guiding light, providing support, encouragement, and expertise to families during some of their most important early years.

Dawn's impact extends beyond the families she served. She inspired the Early Intervention team to continue learning, embrace new challenges, and "stretch" beyond their comfort zones to provide the highest quality services possible. Her passion for helping others and her commitment to children and families have left a lasting legacy at HOPE Services.

We wish Dawn all the very best as she enjoys this well-deserved retirement. Her dedication, wisdom, and kindness will be greatly missed, but the difference she has made will continue to be felt for many years to come.



2026 Henry County Fair Parade Sign Up

You MUST be signed up to walk with HOPE Services in the parade. You will need family and/or staff to accompany you per your plan. Upon arrival please check in with HOPE staff.

*Meeting at Emanuel Lutheran Church Parking Lot, 810 Scott St Napoleon **NO SOONER** than **5pm** Sunday August 16th*

Wear your HOPE Fair T-shirts and everything Red, White, and Blue!

Call Keri at (419) 599-2892, Text to (419) 966-3239 or email at kbunke@henrydd.org with any questions.

Sign Up Here: <https://forms.gle/SiXH3Wzh36gRymL39>



Mission Statement

"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."

2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT - SUPPORTS - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

507	257	250	143	63
Total Individuals Supported	Adults Supported	Children & Youth Supported	Special Olympics Athletes	Community Employed

Q: What is the primary role of HOPE Services?

A: HOPE Services is a community partner that makes sure people with developmental disabilities get the support they need at every stage of life. We don't just connect families to services, we help coordinate, guide and make sure individuals have support and funding to build their independence to live, work and thrive in Henry County.

Q: What are the terms and millage rates of the levy?

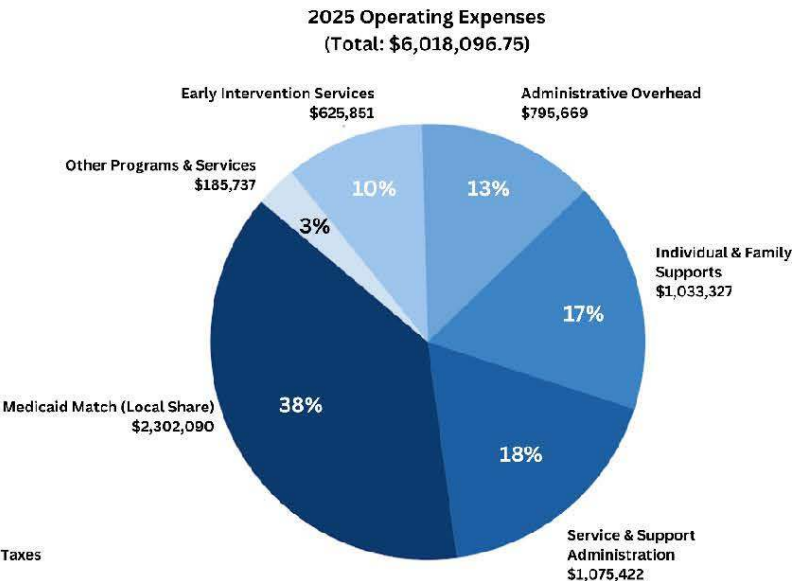
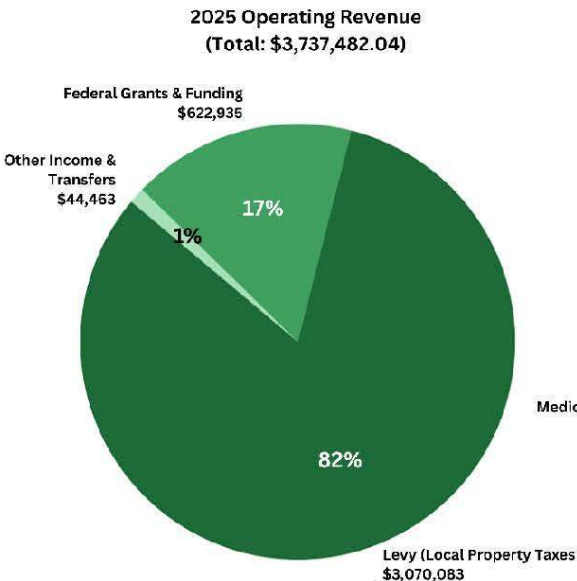
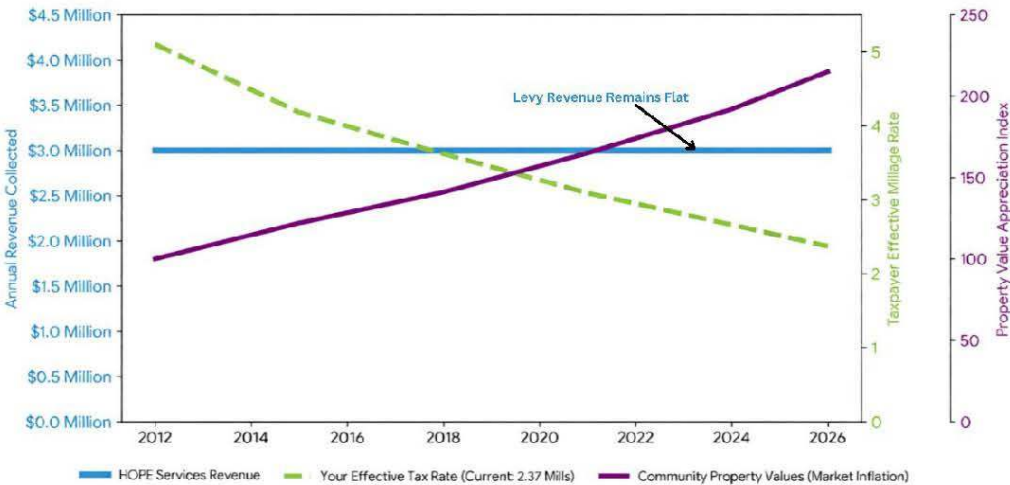
A: 2.5 mills levy for five years, which is estimated to generate \$2.95 million per year. It stands as the primary funding vehicle ensuring stable long-term local operations and would first be collected in 2027.

Q: What does the levy cost an individual local taxpayer?

A: For a home valued at \$100,000, the levy costs approximately \$88 a year (or just \$7.33 per month). Actual tax rates vary based on individual property valuations.

Q: Why is a levy needed?

A: A levy is needed because the cost of services continues to increase, while our current revenue is no longer keeping pace. Our existing levies are from 1982, 2000 and 2006 so they are still collected based on property values from those years. Updated levy funding would help ensure that individuals and families in our community can continue to access the support, resources and opportunities they depend on each day.





Donations for the fair parade will be accepted through Friday, August 14th.

Donations can be dropped off to HOPE Services Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m

SAVE THE DATE!

Trunk or Treat

Thursday October 15th
5pm-7pm



Your paragraph text

Candy-Fun-Food!

Welcome TO THE TEAM



Kenli Good

Kenli is a Service Coordinator with Early Intervention. She lives in Stryker with her husband Lane and son Kasen. Kenli enjoys being a mom, reading, spending outdoors with family and friends, and is obsessed with coffee.

Welcome Kenli!

≡Welcome≡

HOPE Services excited to welcome Kenli Good as the newest Service Coordinator with our Early Intervention program!

As a Service Coordinator, Kenli will work closely with families of infants and toddlers, helping them navigate Early Intervention services, connect with valuable resources, and ensure they receive the support they need during their child's developmental journey. By partnering with families and coordinating services, she will play an important role in helping children thrive during these critical early years.

We are thrilled to have Kenli join our team and look forward to the compassion, dedication, and positive impact she will bring to the children and families we serve.

Please join us in giving Kenli a warm HOPE Services welcome!



HOPE
SERVICES
FOUNDATION



ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

BBQ



★ DONATION \$10.00 ★

**** Pre-Sale Only ****

Secure tickets by September 4th

★ *Meal Includes* ★
PULLED PORK SANDWICH, MAC-N-CHEESE & BAKED BEANS



DATE

Friday
September 11, 2026



TIME

4:30pm – 6:00pm



LOCATION

HOPE Services
135 E. Maumee Ave.

**** Pre-Sale Only ****

Tickets are available at HOPE Services,
from any HOPE Services employee or
HOPE Foundation Board Member.



Please make checks payable to:
HOPE Services Foundation





What Is Voices of HOPE?

Voices of HOPE is our self-advocacy group made up of individuals who are passionate about speaking up for themselves and others. The group focuses on building confidence, developing leadership skills, and creating opportunities for members to make their voices heard in the community. Through meetings, activities, and special events, Voices of HOPE encourages independence, inclusion, and positive change for people of all abilities.



Interested in Attending Voices of HOPE Meetings? Please reach out to Keri Bunke
Call 419-599-2892 Text to 419-966-3239 or Email
at kbunke@henrydd.org



CPR

**CERTIFICATION
& RE-CERTIFICATION**



for Voices of HOPE

Self-Advocacy Group Members **ONLY**



DATE:
September 22nd



TIME:
5:00 PM –
6:30 PM



LOCATION:
WOW

2525 Oakwood Ave.
Napoleon, OH 43545



RSVP BY
SEPTEMBER 11TH
Please sign up today!

RSVP to Keri Bunke:

- Call **419-599-2892**
- Text **419-966-3239**
- Email **kbunke@henrydd.org**

*Self-Advocacy
in Action!*



We must have **at least 5 members** enrolled
for the training to happen.



HARC REC Calendar



September 2026

call/text Trace at: 419-906-0759

To sign up, Pay **ONE WEEK** prior to the event

Friday, September 4th, 2026	Toledo Mud Hens vs. Indianapolis (Star Wars Night)	5 pm - 10:30 pm	\$15	Fifth Third Field
Wednesday, September 9th, 2026	Fulton County Fair – Rodeo Night	5-10 pm	\$20 + Money for food	Fulton County Fairgrounds
Saturday September 12, 2026	Detroit Tigers vs. Rockies	10:30 am - 7:30 pm	\$37	Comerica Park, Detroit
Saturday, September 19th, 2026	Out to Eat & Movie	10 am - 4 pm	bring money (\$35)	TBA
Friday September 11, 2026	Hollywood Casino! (21+)	5 - 10 pm	\$ (?) Bring your luck	Hollywood Casino, Toledo
September	Michigan Stadium Guided Tour	TBA	\$20	Michigan Stadium, Ann Arbor

*For all events that are "TBA" please refer to the "HARC, INC" or HOPE facebook page closer to the month of the event for dates, times, and prices!

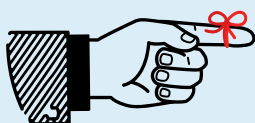
Reminder

All HARC events can be found on <https://www.henrydd.org/events/category/harc/>
The 3 month calendar of events will show the 1st of each month on the Events Page as well.

Or follow Rec and HOPE on Social Media!

HARC: <https://www.facebook.com/harchenrycounty>

HOPE: <https://www.facebook.com/HOPEservicesHenryCountyBoardofDD>





Voices of HOPE Advocates Attend OSDA Leadership Training

Several Voices of HOPE self-advocates recently traveled to Tiffin University on June 30 to participate in an Ohio Self-Determination Association (OSDA) leadership training alongside self-advocates from across the state.

This year's training, "Clicking with Confidence," focused on staying safe in today's digital world. Advocates learned practical tips for online safety, recognizing scams, protecting personal information, and using artificial intelligence (AI) responsibly. The interactive sessions encouraged participants to ask questions, share experiences, and gain confidence navigating technology safely.

The group also enjoyed a presentation from Special Olympics Ohio, where they learned about exciting opportunities to get involved beyond sports competitions. Presenters highlighted the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, as well as fun fundraising events like the Polar Plunge and Solar Plunge, which help raise awareness and support for Special Olympics athletes throughout Ohio.

The day provided valuable education, leadership development, and opportunities to connect with fellow self-advocates from across the state. Our Voices of HOPE members returned home with new knowledge, fresh ideas, and an even stronger commitment to advocating for themselves and others.

We are proud of our advocates for continuing to learn, grow, and represent Henry County with enthusiasm. Thank you to OSDA, Tiffin University, and all of the presenters for providing an engaging and empowering day of learning.

Voices of HOPE Learns Smart Money Skills

Our Voices of HOPE self-advocacy group gathered on July 16 for another fun evening of learning, friendship, and, of course, pizza!

We were pleased to welcome Amy Watson of WesBanco as our special guest. Amy shared valuable information about protecting yourself from scams, understanding the differences between debit and credit cards, and learning the basics of mortgages and borrowing money. Her presentation provided practical tips to help our members make informed financial decisions and recognize potential fraud.

Thank you, Amy, for taking the time to share your knowledge and expertise with our group. We also want to express our appreciation for your continued dedication to individuals with developmental disabilities through your service as President of the HOPE Services Foundation. Your leadership and commitment help create opportunities that make a lasting difference in our community.

A special thank you also goes to Voices of HOPE President Christina Clark, who once again did an outstanding job welcoming and introducing our special guest. Christina's confidence, professionalism, and leadership continue to make each meeting feel warm, organized, and engaging for everyone in attendance.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for another great Voices of HOPE meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone at our next gathering!



There will be no regular Voices of HOPE meeting in August because we'll be busy with all things Henry County Fair! 🎪

Instead, we'll be out in the community:

🎪 Walking in the Henry County Fair Parade

🍔 Volunteering at the HARC concession stand under the grandstand

We can't wait to see everyone at the fair! 🎪 ✨



HENRY COUNTY SPECIAL OLYMPICS

BUILDING SKILLS, SPIRIT, AND COMMUNITY ALL MONTH LONG

July has been a month filled with practices, teamwork, and strengthening our team spirit. While the weather brought its share of challenges, our athletes and leaders stayed focused, committed, and excited for what's ahead.



Golf Team Prepares for Regionals

Our Golf Team has been working hard all month, hitting the greens weekly and sharpening their skills for upcoming regional competitions. Their dedication is paying off – they've been performing exceptionally well and showing strong improvement each week.

On Sunday, August 2nd, the team will compete at Sycamore Springs and Findley. We're proud of their progress and can't wait to cheer them on.

This year's roster includes: Singles Matt Harris, Zach Parcher, Tyler Silveous, Jacob Heath, and Khristian Miller. Unified teams - Ashley Curtis and Cliff Curtis, Anthony Delgado and Joe Kuehner, Aaron Delgado and Tim Downey, Juan Delgado and Conner Bialorucki, Nate Vogelsong and Joe Bialorucki.



Softball Season Finally Underway

After several weather-related cancellations, both of our Softball Teams – the Traditional Division 2 team and the Skills team – finally kicked off their first home games of the season. And they came out strong.

Our athletes earned victories against Williams County and Wood County, showing teamwork, determination, and great sportsmanship. With the season now in full swing, we're excited to see their continued growth and success.

Athlete Leaders Learn About Local Government

Our Athlete Leaders have been working hard this month, focusing on

understanding local government and civic engagement. During July's meeting, they learned about:

- How to register to vote
- Why voting matters
- Ways to make your voice heard in your community

We encourage everyone to confirm voting information with trusted sources such as vote.gov.

Their enthusiasm for leadership and advocacy continues to inspire inclusion.

LEADER

Esports Team Attends Game Con at NSCC

On July 18th, our Esports Team attended the annual Game Con at Northwest State Community College – and they had an incredible experience.

The event offered a variety of activities, including:

- Dungeons & Dragons sessions
- Breakouts on creating cosplay costumes
- Smash Brothers tournaments
- A cosplay contest

ESPORTS



Our athletes explored new gaming avenues, learned creative skills, and enjoyed friendly competition.

We extend a huge thank you to Northwest State for hosting such an awesome event. We're already looking forward to next year.



🏌️ Third Annual Henry County Special Olympics Golf Scramble

Our Golf Scramble returns on Sunday, August 30th, beginning at 2:00PM at Ironwood Golf Club in Wauseon. Sign-ups are officially open, and we still have team spots available.

If you are a single golfer and would like to be paired with one of our athletes to form a team, please contact Zach or Renita. We will gladly help match you with a partner and get your team registered.

🏆 Annual Athlete Banquet

Our Athlete Banquet will be held on Thursday, September 3rd, from 6:00–8:00 PM at the Filling Home Community Center. Athletes are asked to bring a side dish to share.

🎯 Cornhole Assessments

Sign-ups and cornhole assessments will take place on Wednesday, August 12th, from 5:00–6:30 PM at HOPE Services.

If you have not yet signed up for cornhole, please do so as soon as possible. It is important that all athletes attend the August 12th assessment night so we can begin forming our teams.

📣 Upcoming Events & Announcements

Be sure to follow our Facebook page, Special Olympics Ohio – Henry County, for updates, photos, and reminders. We have several exciting events coming up as we wrap up summer and head into fall.

☀️ We hope you are all having an amazing summer. As always, please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Coach Zach and Coach Renita



KELLY'S COLUMN

AUGUST 2026



Thank You, Henry County: Your Support Builds a More Inclusive Community

by Kelly Rieke

Superintendent

On behalf of the Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the residents, families, employers, schools, service providers, volunteers, civic organizations, and community partners who continue to support people with developmental disabilities throughout Henry County.

Your support is more than kindness. It is opportunity. It means a young child can receive early support that helps them grow and learn. It means a student can be encouraged to participate fully in school and community life. It means an adult can pursue meaningful employment, build friendships, volunteer, enjoy recreation, and live with greater independence. Most importantly, it means people with disabilities are seen, valued, and welcomed as important members of our community.

At HOPE Services, our mission is to work alongside eligible individuals and their families so they can discover, pursue, and achieve what is important to them. That mission is only possible when the broader community believes in inclusion and takes action to make it real. Every welcoming workplace, accessible event, inclusive classroom, supportive coach, understanding neighbor, and encouraging friend helps create a Henry County where everyone has the chance to belong.

We are especially thankful for the families who trust us to be part of their journey, the providers who deliver daily supports with compassion and professionalism, and the businesses and organizations that open doors for employment, volunteering, recreation, and community involvement. We also appreciate the taxpayers of Henry County, whose continued support helps sustain services that touch lives across every age and stage.

People with developmental disabilities have gifts, goals, talents, and dreams. When a community chooses inclusion, those gifts are strengthened and shared. When barriers are removed, possibilities grow. When people are given the right support, they can contribute in ways that enrich all of us.

Thank you, Henry County, for continuing to believe in people and invest in possibility.

Explore the 2026 Ohio State Fair

The 2026 Ohio State Fair (July 29–August 9) is committed to making the Fair enjoyable and accessible for everyone. Visitors will find a variety of services and accommodations designed to help individuals with disabilities experience all the Fair has to offer.

Accessibility highlights include complimentary companion or sighted guide tickets, free Aira Explorer navigation for guests who are blind or have low vision, audio descriptions in the Ohio State Fair app, wheelchair and scooter charging stations, accessible shuttle vehicles, and accessible seating throughout the grounds.

Guests can also take advantage of quiet rooms in the Ohio Showcase Building and during concerts at the WCOL Celeste Center. Sensory-Friendly Day will be held on Thursday, July 30, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., featuring reduced lights, sounds, and ride speeds for a more comfortable experience.

Additional accommodations include ASL interpreters at select events and concerts, accessible parking and restrooms, service animal relief areas, and communication boards at Guest Information booths.

Before your visit, check the Ohio State Fair website or mobile app for accessibility details, maps, and schedules. With expanded accessibility services and inclusive programming, the 2026 Ohio State Fair is ready to welcome everyone for a fun and memorable experience!

Ohio
STATE
FAIR

FUN. TRADITION. COMMUNITY.

Celebrating Ohio's best—where memories are made year after year!





Donate To Enrich The Lives Of Those We Serve

The HOPE Services Foundation was formed in 1999 and assists in enriching the quality of life of children, youth and adults who are served by HCBDD.

This is a Tax deduction 501 (c) (3) opportunities for families, friends, neighbors to make a lifetime investment or leave a legacy in honor of or in memory of someone.

At HOPE Services Foundation Inc, we know that change starts with people like you. Every act of kindness, every dollar, and every moment of your time brings us closer to achieving our mission. Together, we can create a brighter, more compassionate world for all.

How you can help power our mission:

- Donate: Every dollar counts. Contribute now to help us reach our goal.
- Share: Share our campaign with your friends, family, and on social media. Your advocacy can amplify our impact.
- Volunteer: Your time and skills can make an impact too.

Thank you for supporting our mission, your support is invaluable. Scan the code below or: [Click Here](#)

SCAN ME



Contact Us

HOPE Services Office	419-599-2892
Special Olympics	419-260-2176
HARC Recreation	419-906-0759

COORDINATED ENTRY IN-PERSON OUTREACH HENRY COUNTY

HENRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1843 OAKWOOD AVE, NAPOLEON, OH 43545

3/25, 4/29, 5/27, 6/24,
7/29, 8/26, 9/30,
10/28, 11/18, 12/09
9AM-12PM

WHAT TO BRING: ID, PROOF OF INCOME, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

RESOURCES

ASSESSMENTS

HYGIENE BAGS

FURTHER INFORMATION: JESSICA FARNHAM 419-990-5135



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.

Scan Code to sign up for the newsletter!



Find Event Calendars on our website.
www.henrydd.org/events