



**Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
Strategic Plan 2019-2021  
Executive Summary**

**Board approved: November 20, 2018**

The Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities serves individuals with developmental disabilities and the families and friends who support them. On a typical day, Board services are available to almost 300 individuals supported by a staff of 39. The Board of DD has continued to maintain a minimally staffed operation while implementing the expansion of programs and services to meet the county's growing needs. We remain accountable to our community who extended their support in 2015 when the Board received an increase in local tax revenue from a recently passed replacement levy. Nearly all of the first two years of the additional revenue was used to pay deferred expenses that had been incurred to continue core services during our period of levy failures. This payback delayed the opportunity for us to implement new services or expand existing services. However in 2015, with the help of a one-time grant, we developed a completely new Early Intervention program that meets new state standards and strives to meet the growing need for families with young children.

It has been a challenging period of time since that date. Much of the additional revenue has had to be allocated to address rising Medicaid waiver costs which increase our "local match." This local revenue is necessary to continue to fund the provision of services and support for people who have Medicaid waiver funded services and those wholly locally funded, whether residential, adult day or employment services. The growing demand for support services for the aging population we serve continues to increase the local Medicaid match required. The loss of aging caregivers has created the urgent need for supports for adults who now require residential services to replace the supports they had received at home and this need will continue to be a growing concern. In 2018, the County Board assumed the primary funding and management of the county's Help Me Grow program to ensure those families would continue to receive these desperately needed services. We continue to work collaboratively with the Family and Children First Council to address the diverse needs of children and their families in Morrow County.

The County Board's primary services and supports include:

- Early Intervention/Help Me Grow
- Residential Services
- Service and Support Administration
- Major Unusual Incidents (MUI) Investigation
- Transitions Support and Advocacy Services
- Community Integration and Employment
- Adult Habilitation/Seniors
- Adult Pre-Vocational Training
- Transportation

The Board continues to efficiently maintain two facilities, Whetstone Center and Whetstone Industries. Our efforts over the past few years have focused on addressing major changes in our programs and services to meet new standards and mandates from the state and federal government. These efforts provided the foundation for the development of this strategic plan. Input was sought from staff, board members and stakeholders and the planning process was guided by the Board's Leadership Team. Implementation strategies and action steps will be developed by goal teams composed of staff and other stakeholders, with the realization that change will continue to challenge us. The board and employees of the Morrow County Board are committed to successfully navigating these changes and the future challenges we will face.

Nancy Foglesong, Superintendent

## Our Foundation

The foundation for the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan can be found in the Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities' Philosophy, Mission and Vision statements.

### **Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities Philosophy Statement**

We believe that persons with developmental disabilities are just like everyone else who have talents and skills that if recognized and developed will allow them to become contributing members of the community.

We further believe that the programs which best assist individuals with developmental disabilities in securing a full life, are those which are: independence producing (both economically and personally); placed or implemented in the actual locations and environments where community and life activities regularly occur; accepting of personal choice and the natural consequences of those choices.

Finally, we believe that individuals (program, staff, family members, etc.) who assist those with developmental disabilities to reach their fullest potential, are those who: hold reasonably high expectations for them; plan programming in ways that demonstrate a recognition of their individuality, freedom of choice, and right to self-determination; maintain knowledge of current (and past) best practices of the profession; and evaluate their efforts regularly to assure program focus and direction.

The Mission, Vision and Core Values Statements comprise the charter documents of the Board.

## Our Purpose

### **Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities Mission Statement**

*Our mission is to cultivate a dynamic community where people can make meaningful contributions and lead fulfilling lives*

## Our Direction

### **Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities Vision Statement**

**We will support individuals with developmental disabilities throughout their lives by**

- **embracing individuality and personal choice,**
- **developing community opportunities, and**
- **fostering relationships**

## Our Core Values

### **Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities Core Values**

**We will**

- **Ensure that health and well-being come first**
- **Be good stewards of the public's trust and money**
- **Do our job to the best of our ability and value those who do it differently**
- **Imagine new possibilities and strive to be better**
- **Own our actions and conduct ourselves ethically and professionally**
- **Promote our valuable mission with others throughout the county**