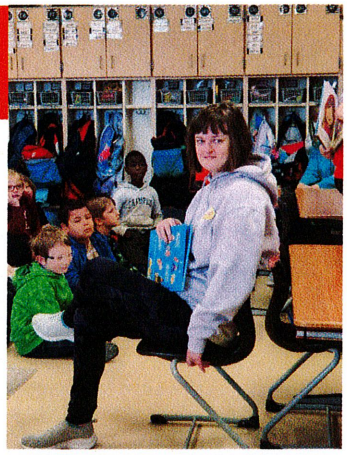
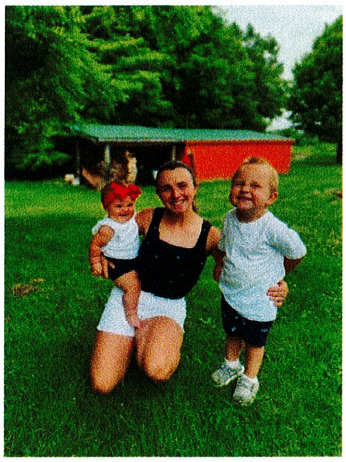
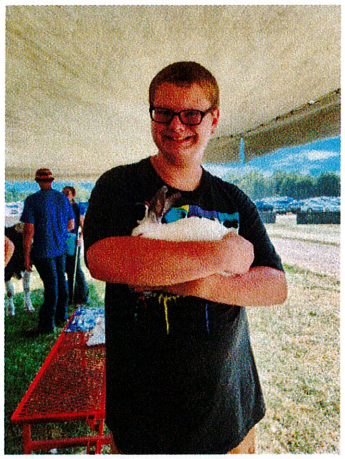


Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities

STRATEGIC PLAN





2025-2027

Empowering People Every Day

MORROW County Developmental Disabilities

Empowering People Every Day

MORROW County Developmental Disabilities

Morrow County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Strategic Plan 2025-2027
Executive Summary
Board approved: November 19, 2024

The Morrow County Board of Development Disabilities serves individuals with developmental disabilities, collaboratively working with the families and providers who support them. Board services are available to over 300 individuals, supported by a county board staff of 23. The Board of DD continues to rely on a lean staffing model while implementing the expansion of programs and services to meet the county's growing needs. We remain accountable to our community who provides funding support through one tax levy that was replaced in 2014.

Over the past few years, we expanded Early Intervention services and repeatedly receive state accolades as we address the growing need for families with children from birth until 3 years of age. We strive to provide greater support to families with children as they grow throughout their childhood years, while maintaining an array of adult support services as people enjoy the opportunities that adult life offers.

The last three years have been a challenging period of time with significant change and growth. Much of the additional revenue we have received since 2014 has been absorbed by rising Medicaid waiver costs which increase our "local match" and reduces availability of funding for other services. Local funding remains necessary to continue the provision of services and support for people who receive Medicaid waiver funded services and for those who are fully locally funded, whether residential, adult day, transportation, or other services. Projections indicate the need will continue to grow for support services for an aging population as well as for young children and their families who will need Early Intervention, multisystem and other support services. We will 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 Supports and Services
- Service and Support Administration
- Major Unusual Incidents (MUI) Investigation (abuse, neglect and other safety concerns)
- School to Adult Transitions Support and Advocacy Services
- Provider Support and Training
- Family Directed Services
- Technology Supports

The Board continues to efficiently maintain two facilities, Whetstone Center and the Whetstone building for Adult Services, which is operated by MARCA. Our efforts over the past few years have focused on addressing major changes in the DD system that will continue to benefit the people in our community who need DD supports. These efforts included the privatization of county board adult day and transportation services, addressing the increase in Early Intervention referrals and the many other changes in DD services. New requirements will continue to guide our strategic planning. This strategic plan was developed with input from staff, board members and stakeholders, and the planning process was guided by the Board's Leadership Team. We identified gaps in our service continuum, especially in the areas where local funding is required. Implementation strategies and action steps are coordinated by goal teams composed of staff and other stakeholders. Our strategic plan will change as we adapt to changes in Ohio's DD system and the local needs of Morrow County residents. We remain committed to doing our best, now and in the future!

Nancy Foglesong, Superintendent

Our Foundation

The foundation for the 2025-2027 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**
- **Support people to the best of our ability**
- **Respect people who do things differently**
- **Create new possibilities and pursue better opportunities**
- **Conduct ourselves ethically and professionally**
- **Live our mission**