



# PCBDD ANNUAL UPDATE

## “Positive Outcomes, Amongst a Pandemic”

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Bethany Schultz  
Superintendent of PCBDD

## Why an Annual Report?

The purpose of the PCBDD providing our community an annual update, is to educate and provide the citizens of Preble County a glimpse of: what we do, who we serve, our outreach to county partners, our staff, our providers, and our valued supporters. It is the hopes of the PCBDD to continue to build and strengthen relationships throughout the Preble County Community, by continuing to raise awareness about our organization, create trust, build our supporter base, and above all, **serve our individuals and their families.** In short,

***“The PCBDD is in the PEOPLE BUSINESS!”***



***“I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.”***  
***~Rabindranath Tagore***

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Preble County Board of DD is to support individuals with developmental disabilities to live, learn, work and socialize as they choose.

## Ensuring Services Are Not Interrupted

### To people with developmental disabilities and their family members:

The PCBDD knows this a frightening time for many of you. Many people with developmental disabilities have co-occurring immuno-deficiencies that make them more susceptible to the COVID-19 virus, and many rely on aging caregivers who themselves are vulnerable. Our staff understands the day-to-day challenges you have faced and the supports you have relied on that are constantly being strained by this public health crisis. Many of our staff are parents, siblings, or people with developmental disabilities. We are in this crisis together, and we are working around the clock to find work arounds, that will continue to help ease the burden COVID-19 has placed on you.

### Here's how:

The PCBDD has and will continue to move swiftly to support service providers—those who work independently and for local agencies—with guidance, county-wide coordination, supplies from board sources, and hands-on support from board staff. **We are all still in this together.**

The PCBDD has and will continue working with the state and providers to make sure no one goes without care and support. We are working to make it easier for direct care staff to be hired and to move from one type of service to another.

The OACB is providing technical know-how to our board, so we can roll out these measures in your community.



Bethany



Brooke



Diana



Becky



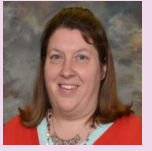
Karen



Hollie



Ashley



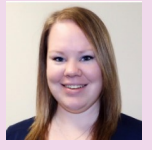
Danielle



Todd



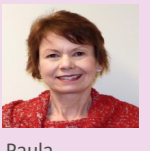
Leah



Ashley



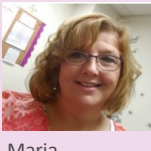
Christie



Paula



Chandra



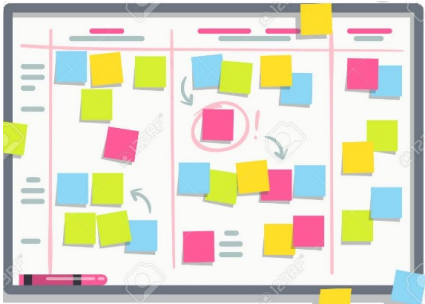
Maria



***Our doors never closed, serving people looked different, but we were all still there to do what was needed, when it was needed, and for who it was needed!***

Putting a plan together for 2020

January started off as usual for the PCBDD Team. We were working on getting our 2021 Strategic plan up to date, collaborating with the Preble County Commissioners to fill a vacant seat on our board, and promoting self-advocacy for our individuals. We had the date set for our Annual Cougars vs Generals Basketball Game. We put out the word about our Future Pancake Fundraiser and the donations started rolling in. We thought things were heading in the right direction and we had time to breath. February was in our sites and we had events scheduled.



Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Like This Page · January 29, 2020 ·

You Are Invited!

**January Regional Advocacy Meeting**  
*The Mineshaft – The Importance of Strong Supporters for Success*

Sam Bloch, Self-Advocate and Kyle Corbin – DIDD will present on the importance of our personal network and how to build it for success

**Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 22 for lunch count**

Location: First United Methodist Church  
102 W. 4th Street – Greenville  
Enter from the alley

Date: January 28th  
Time: 11 – 1pm

Everyone will have an opportunity to:

- ✓ Meet self-advocates from 7 neighboring counties
- ✓ Hear great motivational speakers
- ✓ Enjoy dinner with new friends

Sponsored by:



Preble County Board of Commissioners

101 East Main St., Eaton OH 45320

Phone: (937) 456-8143

commissioners@prebco.org

Fax: (937) 456-8114

Rodney Creech

Christopher M. Day

Denise Robertson

HELP WANTED

PREBLE COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BOARD MEMBERS

Please be advised that the Board of Preble County Commissioners is presently seeking individuals to fill two vacancies on the Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Interested individuals must be knowledgeable in the field of developmental disabilities and other allied fields and must be residents of Preble County. Of the members appointed by the County Commissioners, the appointments shall be individuals who to the maximum extent possible, reflect the composition of the county and have an interest in the field of developmental disabilities. Interested individuals will need to complete a declaration form which is required for this appointment. There is no compensation for these appointments.

The declaration form required for this appointment is available on the Preble County website, www.prebco.org, under the Employment Opportunity tab, or may be obtained at the Office of the Preble County Commissioners at 101 East Main Street in Eaton, Ohio.

Deadline for submitting the required declaration form is noon, February 5, 2020.

Publication Dates: January 22nd & January 29th, 2019 in the Register Herald  
Published on county website: January 15, 2020



Calling all FANS, PLAYERS, and VOLUNTEERS

Annual Cougars vs Generals Basketball Game  
February 29, 2020 at 10:00 AM  
Eaton High School

For additional information, please call the Preble County Special Olympics Coordinator, Regina Fullmer at (937) 470-3670 or email her at specialolympicspreblecounty@gmail.com.

Cheryl Goebel Koeller and Jerry Gabbard like this.

6 Shares

February brought about our first SOYA event of the year with the help of volunteers from Miami University. This event was free and allowed our children in early intervention and their parents a night out. Children of all abilities were able to participate in activities to build motor skills such as running, throwing, catching, etc. Parents met in a separate room for discussion groups and peer support.



SOYA



PREBLE COUNTY Board of DEVELOPMENTal DisABILITIES

February 4, 11, 18, & 25 (6-7PM)  
March 3, 10, & 17 (6-7PM)  
Parent's night out April 21st –5-8pm

Children of all abilities will participate in activities to build motor skills such as running, throwing, catching, etc. Parent's meet in separate area for discussion group.



Free! Open to all children ages 2-7 years old.

This event is organized by Preble County DD with volunteers from Miami University.

Location: L&M Products  
1407 N. Barron St.; Eaton, Ohio  
Use Door #7 for entry

More Info:  
(937) 456-5891



PREBLE COUNTY Board of DEVELOPMENTal DisABILITIES

Cougars vs. Generals– February 29, 2020

PCBDD was proud to be a part of the Cougars vs. Generals basketball game held at Eaton High School on Saturday, February 29, 2020. It was amazing to see our individuals perform in a sport that they love, on a court that was surrounded by many members of the Preble County Community. Our athletes enjoyed an awesome day of inclusion. Thank you Preble County!



Coronavirus Infections Around the Globe Reach 135,000 People, Nearly 5,000 Dead

MAR 13, 2020



Seeking Some Sense of Normalcy

Toward the end of March, the team was struggling to understand what was really going on and what their next line of defense would be. Isolation was taking its toll. Everyone was getting a dose of what it is like to have to stay in their home. It became evident that everyone would have to watch out for one another as a team.

Zoom discussions became, “How can we help? What can we do? Who needs us right now?” That is when the team realized that the true frontline workers were the DSP’s. The focus turned toward what ways could the PCBDD support the DSP’s.

Calls were made, everyone was ready to serve. It was decided to work on making meals for the DSP’s and deliver them by doing porch drops.



March 13, 2020—Pandemic Hits

Things were getting real, fast. The PCBDD Team were made aware of the risks of the Pandemic and received word that everyone would be working remotely and by appointment only. The telephones were set to forward calls, a sign was hung up on the door, and everyone headed out.

The months ahead would be filled with anxiety, anger, and loss. The uncertain times left everyone feeling like there was no end to the race that they were running in.

Zoom became the PCBDD’s new virtual meeting room. The team met on a regular basis to get updates, collaborate, and plan.

The Superintendent, Bethany Schultz, wanted to ensure everyone: individuals, providers, partners, and the PCBDD team, were being taken care of and their health, mentally and physically, were being taken care.

The months of March, April, and May were going to be uncharted territory and keeping everyone safe was her top priority.



PCBDD ANNUAL UPDATE

Guidance: Temporary Changes to Adult Day Services April 09, 2020 | DODD

Supporting a person directly in their home remains a top priority for DODD and is the preferred method of service delivery during this state of emergency. However, it is acknowledged that this may not always be possible for everyone. Most services within the adult day array already permit services to be delivered in ways other than in-person for specified situations. For example, the Vocational Habilitation service allows for monitoring and counseling to be delivered through contact over the telephone.

In Ohio, Adult Day Support (ADS) has only allowed for services to be delivered in-person and does not allow for those services to be provided in the home of the person with disabilities. DODD received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to temporarily modify the service definition of ADS within its home and community-based services (HCBS) waivers in three specific ways:

- 1. Include the delivery of ADS services in the home of a person with disabilities,
- 2. Include the delivery of ADS services on behalf of a person with disabilities,
- 3. and include the delivery of services through technological means, such as by phone or other electronic options.

These changes permit ADS services to be delivered in locations other than the physical adult day centers and to support people by offering ADS services on behalf of the person, such as picking up and delivering groceries or medication for people who might need assistance in those areas. It also allows for ADS services to be delivered through electronic means in situations where there are no direct support services needed at home during the day or the needed ADS services cannot be delivered in-person in the home of the person.



Christie Anderson, SSA/ Employment Navigator



Chandra Thompson Transition SSA

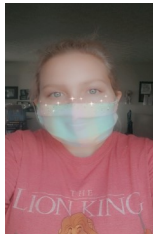


Community Education/ Special Projects Coord.



PCBDD New Team Members:

Even in the mist of a Pandemic, the PCBDD was still serving our individuals throughout the Preble County Community. In April, the PCBDD Superintendent and Board decided to add Christie Anderson, SSA/Employment Navigator and Chandra Thompson, Transition SSA. In late May-early June, Maria Morgan was brought on as Community Education and Special Projects Coordinator.



Searching for a “New Normal.”

By June, the PCBDD Team, our Board, our Partner Agencies, DSP’s, individuals, and their families were working collaboratively to find what is to be our “New Normal.” Zoom calls, porch visits, and setting in person appointments were sometimes a struggle, but services never waived. The biggest struggle was ensuring PPI inventories and pulling our resources together.

Putting Plans In Place:

April 13, 2020

In an effort to help individuals and providers around the state who are hampered by the Direct Support Professional shortage and Adult Day Services Providers closing, we are asking if you need employment to contact us at 937-456-5891.

As everyone works together across our state and nation to minimize the spread of the Coronavirus, and because our priority is ensuring the safety of everyone while minimizing exposure for all, the PCBDD will be postponing ALL events until further notice. We ask that meetings take place via phone or email and that contact remains at a minimum in our offices.

The Preble County Board of DD is prepared and ready to serve people, even in the light of current precautionary health measures. In the event individuals and families with emergencies may call our 24-hour emergency line at 937-733-1616.



Bethany Schultz, Superintendent



Brooke Warren, Team Lead SSA



SSA/Provider Liaison



PCBDD Team Stepped Up:

Once a plan was in place for the staff to work remotely from home, the PCBDD Team realized that those on the Frontline could not simply work from home. Our Residential Service Partners had to still be staffed and in person. The Team met for a Zoom meeting to come up with a plan to continue to prepare meals to be porch dropped. Funding, preparation, and delivery were all at the cost of dedicated PCBDD Team Members, who wanted to show their support for our Providers and find a way to “bring a little positivity” to their day. Providers were working long hours, short staffed, and without breaks. Their “Service Above Self”, was evident in these uncertain times.



COVID RESTRICTIONS PREVENT PLANNED EVENTS:

As COVID 19 numbers continue to climb, the Pancake Fundraising Event and the Events planned for Special Olympics are still postponed. It is the PCBDD’s first priority to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved. Future dates will be shared, once determined.



July thru September was spent working on finding ways to build communication and create ways for PCBDD to provide Community Outreach, while adhering to COVID Restrictions. PCBDD worked to find ways to partner with other Community Partners. We also were able to Celebrate our DSP's .

Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities

# PCBDD NEWS PAGE

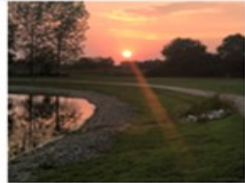
Issue 5, August 24, 2020



Our team is trying to make to most of these "Uncertain Times," by engaging our community.

### Special Projects List:

- A.S.K. Playground-Continue Daily Monitoring
- Accreditation Review-Helping to prepare
- Preble County District Library - Story Path



Submitted by B Warren



Submitted by B Schultz



Submitted by D Pieratt



Submitted by P Burke

The PCBDD Team used the month of August to work on building some healthy routines by taking daily walks or runs and snapping a photo of what we saw.

Each team member sent in their photos to be put on our Facebook Page, to share their walk/runs with our community.

We started our challenge on August 3, 2020 and we asked for help from all of you. We needed you to vote for your favorite photo each week.

We uploaded the first photo's entered on Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

The first week winner was Brooke Warren. Maria Morgan was our second week winner, and there is still time to vote for our third week winner.

The challenge and photo contest will end today, August 31, 2020. Please go to our Facebook page and vote for our week 3 winner.



Michelle Gebhart joined the PCBDD Board. Michelle owns a Gebhart Counseling Solutions, LLC.

Welcome Michelle!



### COVID 19-UPDATE PCBDD Inclusive Whirl Dedication Ceremony Postponed

Merry-go-rounds come in all shapes and sizes, making them the ideal play component for anyone. The traditional merry-go-rounds that you likely can recall from your own childhood, have been updated to be inclusive for everyone to enjoy.

a merry-go-round that focuses on removing barriers, so that all people can play without limitation.

The Inclusive Whirl provides ease of access for people of all abilities with its zero-entry design. The whirl surface platform is at ground level with no need for ramps or transfer mechanisms.

Our organization understands that a truly great inclusive play space provides access, promotes inclusive play between children of all abilities, and allows each individual to play as they choose.

The Inclusive Whirl has been installed and is ready for play.



The Dedication Ceremony planned for Tuesday, September 1, 2020 has been postponed to a later date.

Due to the recent change in status for Preble County, sadly we have decided this is what is best for our community at this time.

We very much value our community and health is our first priority. We hope you can understand and we plan to reschedule this event in the future.

"Coming Next Week"



"Volunteers aren't 'Useless'. They are 'Priceless'."

"PCBDD 'Top Three Photos'"

You pick the winner!!!

\*\*\*What is going on in Preble County?"



We need direct support professionals to serve adults with developmental disabilities today!

Call us today: 937-456-5891



### PCBDD NEWS PAGE

If you are interested in COVID-19 updates over the weekend, please refer to [coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards) and view Preble County information. Preble County Public Health will continue to post updates Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

### Ohio Celebrates DSP Week

September 13 – September 19



Thank you for all "You" do.



Couldn't do it without you!



You make a "Difference"!

### What makes Direct Support Professionals so very important?

During the week of September 13 – September 19, 2020, the Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities celebrated the Direct Support Professionals within our community.

It is especially during these uncertain times, that we need to understand how important it is to take a step back and recognize the vital people who are on the frontlines each day ensuring that the people we serve are getting the support and services they need.

The PCBDD staff and board members are very honored to celebrate our Direct Support Professionals, not only last week during the designated national appreciation, but every single day.

A Direct Support Professional (DSP) is someone who works directly with people who have intellectual or developmental disabilities. DSP's aim to assist the people they serve in realizing their full potential. They help the people they serve to become more independent and encourage these individuals to be more engaged in their community.

Gone are the traditional roles of a DSP. They no longer trained to be a caregiver. They are no longer trained to do things for people. They are trained to be advocates of the people they serve. They are focused on helping the individual to learn how to do things for them self and to live life as they choose.

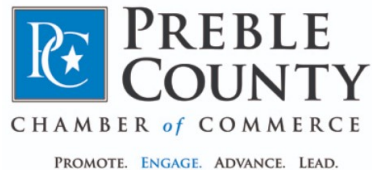
The PCBDD and board members want to say "Thank you DSP's" for everything you do and for putting the people we serve first!

### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE A HELPER DURING THIS PANDEMIC?



1. Check on your family, friends, and neighbors.
2. Use your electronics to find ways to help out.
3. Be mindful of your purchases.
4. Donate what you do not need.
5. Be strong, lead by example.
6. Create a community network.
7. Remember those who are still working the frontlines.
8. You cannot pour from an empty cup.

Thank you DSP's!



### 2020 REGIONAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

MY STORY  
A JOURNEY INTO SELF-ADVOCACY  
Friday, 09/25/20  
10AM - 12PM  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85869261665>

A conference for self-advocates, family members & guardians



***Building strong partnerships with our fellow community organizations and other county boards allows us an opportunity to share information, best practices, and finding the work around.***

A large, colorful collage celebrating the PCBDD Annual Track N Treat event. The collage features various photos of volunteers in costumes (Spider-Man, Superman, Wonder Woman, Ghostbusters, etc.), children in costumes, and bags of candy. Text overlays include "CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES PCBDD Annual Track N Treat DRIVE THRU", "22 OCT thursday", "FORT SAINT CLAIR 135 camden rd eaton, oh 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm", "THE CITY OF EATON OHIO EST. 1806", "PCBDD Track N Treat | What's your Superpower?", and "Preble County Takes Care of Preble County!". Logos for Preble County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Preble County Chamber of Commerce, and Preble County Public Health are also present.

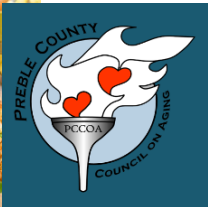
PCBDD ANNUAL UPDATE

November– December



In late November, early December, one of our Provider Partners was hit with COVID within their facility. Their staff was on lock down. Overworked, but dedicated to the individuals they serve, they persevered. PCBDD reached out to the Preble County Community for help. A huge shout out to Preble County Council on Aging, Eaton High School, National Trail Schools, Danielle Pieratt, and Barb Brower for providing a weeks worth of meals for the staff.

This small gesture was such a huge help. Thank you!



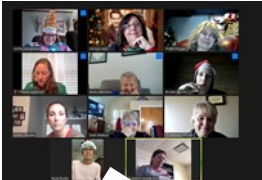
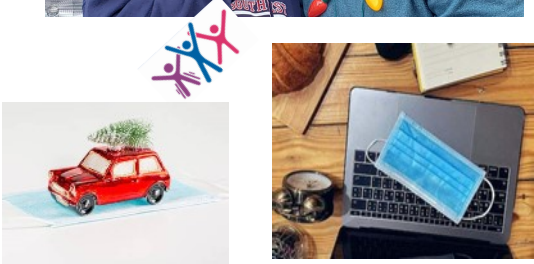
**\*COMMUNITY\***  
\*\*In December, the PCBDD partnered with Butler County ESC and did handmade holiday ornaments and Christmas Cards for the Preble County Council of Aging.



The second week of December, the PCBDD Launched "Operation Elf." Volunteers stuffed goodie bags and staff did porch deliveries for our individuals.



**\*TEAM\***  
\*\*The PCBDD held a Team Building-Holiday Party. Due to COVID Restrictions, the party was held via Zoom, with planned activities to boost moral and enhance Team Building. Ornament making, Santa hat decorating, Holiday Jeopardy (In honor of Alex T.) and a Secret Santa Gift Exchange were some of the activities.

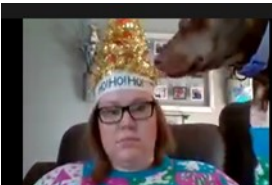


"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

"In the new year, never forget to thank your past years because they enabled you to reach today! Without the stairs of the past, you cannot arrive at the future!" — Mehmet Murat Ildan"

"May the best of your past be the worst of your future."- Unknown

The PCBDD Team is ready for 2021 and the opportunity to continue to serve.



**PREBLE COUNTY**  
Board of  
**DEVELOPmental**  
**DisABILITIES**

PCBDD ANNUAL UPDATE

What are county boards of DD?

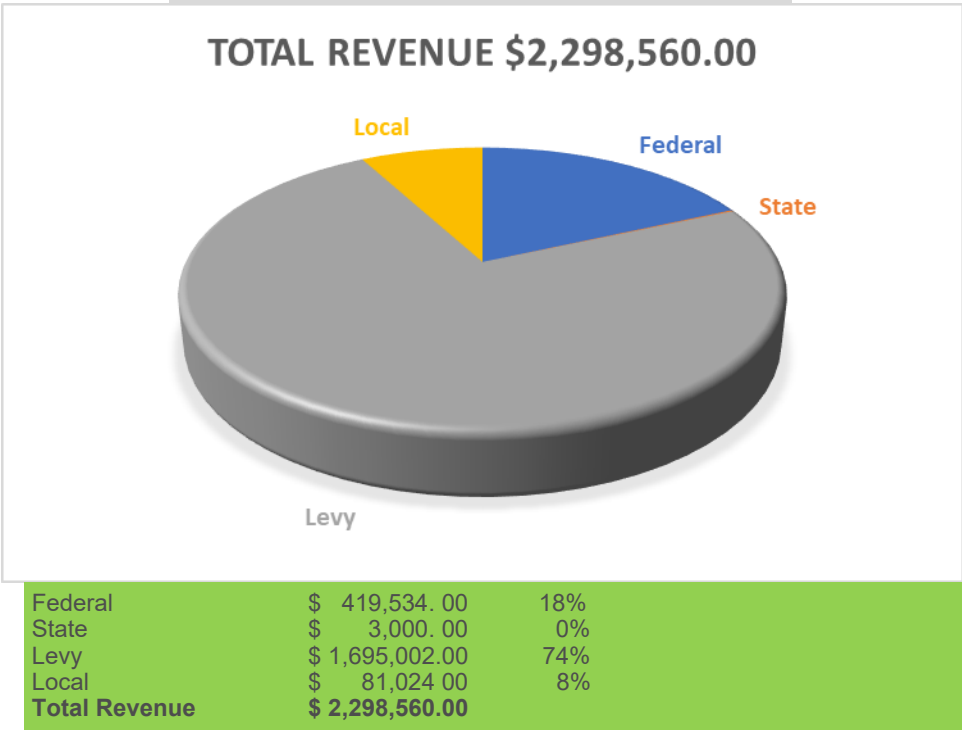
Ohio’s county boards of developmental disabilities are the local government agencies fund, oversee, and sometimes directly provide services and supports needed by people with developmental disabilities to live happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives.

Each has a governing board composed of residents of the county in which the board has been established. Because they are county-based and locally-controlled, boards are able to meet the unique needs of the people who live in each county.

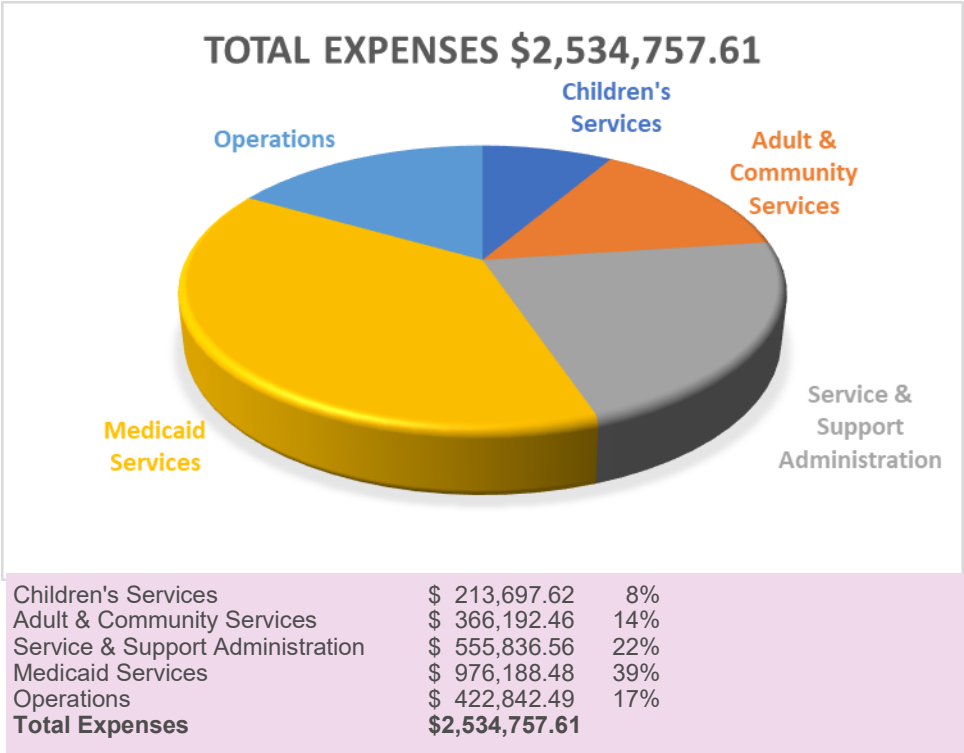
County boards of DD were originally created in the Ohio Revised Code in 1967 when the state recognized that no other existing systems were able to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities and their families. To learn more about the history of Ohio's county boards of DD, visit [www.alwaysthereforohio.org/history](http://www.alwaysthereforohio.org/history).

County boards of DD have the ability to put tax levies on the county ballot (with permission from the county commissioners) and collect levy dollars to fund the operations of the agency and the services needed by people with disabilities.

PCBDD Funding



YEARLY EXPENDITURES



PCBDD ANNUAL UPDATE

Responsibilities of a County Board of DD include:

- Assessing county residents’ eligibility for board services;
- Administering, operating, and funding some facilities, programs, and services;
- Coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating existing services and facilities available to people with develop mental disabilities;
- Providing or contracting for early childhood services, supportive home services, and adult services;
- Providing or contracting for special education services;
- Adopting a budget and authorizing expenditures;
- Submitting annual reports of board work and expenditures;
- Authorizing all positions of employment, establishing compensation (including but not limited to salary - schedules and fringe benefits for all board employees), approving contracts of employment for manage ment employees that are for a term of more than one year, employing legal counsel, and contracting for employee benefits;
- Provide service and support administration (case management);
- Certifying respite care home;
- Implementing an Employment First policy that clearly identifies community employment as the desired -outcome for every person of working age who receives services from the board; and
- Setting benchmarks for improving community employment outcomes, among others.



Preble County Board of DD  
200 Eaton Lewisburg Rd.  
Eaton, OH 45320

Bethany Schultz, Superintendent  
Email: bschultz@prebledd.org  
Phone: (937) 456-1854  
Fax: (937) 456-1760



Resource Links:

- <https://prebledd.org/> -Preble County Board of DD
- [www.ocali.org](http://www.ocali.org) – Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence.
- [www.apsiohio.org](http://www.apsiohio.org)- Advocacy & Protective Services Inc.
- <https://.ood.ohio.gov>- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
- <https://dodd.ohio.gov>- Department of Developmental Disabilities
- <https://ohioemploymentfirst.org> – Ohio Employment First Transition

