



SECOND QUARTER 2021

WELCOME!

Putnam County Board of Developmental Disabilities is proud to collaborate with a number of community entities to improve health, safety, and quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities within our community. We provide support for infants, children, and adults with developmental disabilities in Putnam County and offer a full range of services throughout all the stages of their lives.

NEWS & UPDATES

In February, we were able to assist in facilitating a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic with the Putnam County Health Department. With this group effort, we helped at least 50 individuals who wanted to receive the vaccine. Thank you to everyone that helped out!

When the pandemic began, there were many restrictions and closures throughout the state for day programs. Now with these restrictions being lifted, day programs have begun to have more openings available again. If there is a day program you would like to attend, please contact your Service & Support Administrator (SSA) to check for openings.

Our theme for this year's developmental disabilities awareness month was "COVID didn't stop us!" In 2020, with the pandemic rising, we had many individuals who accomplished so many different goals. Some were able to gain new jobs, take trips, receive their driver's license, get married, and advocate for themselves. We are so proud of all of our individuals for continuing to remain positive throughout all of this!

We cannot thank our Providers and Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) enough. Their hard work and dedication to keep people with developmental disabilities safe, happy, and healthy are greatly appreciated! If you are a Provider or DSP and there is a way we can help you, please let us know.

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Our Mission

"To assist and support individual choices in social, emotional and economic growth by providing the highest quality services through a team approach."

Address:

124 Putnam Parkway
Ottawa, OH 45875

Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 4:00pm

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS ARE IN NEED!

Do you know anyone who is looking for a job with meaningful work? Consider telling them about becoming a Direct Support Professional (DSP)! They will gain valuable experience and help improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

To find out more, check out these links:

What is a DSP? <https://putnamcountydd.com/direct-support-professional-dsp/>

List of Providers: <https://putnamcountydd.com/resource/providers/>

Ohio DSP Main Page: <https://www.dspohio.org/>

**Create a bond.
Learn a skill.
Earn Money.**

**Free training.
Hands-on experience.
Make a difference.**

Be a DSP

OUR SERVICES: EARLY INTERVENTION

A SERIES OF ARTICLES DESCRIBING WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE SERVE THE COMMUNITY

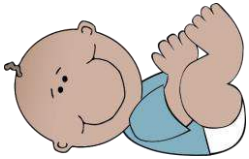
We provide a full range of services for infants, children, teenagers, adults, and elderly with developmental disabilities in Putnam County. Putnam County Board of DD also assists in connecting individuals to other organizations in our community with the goal of fostering skills, providing independence, and helping individuals reach their goals.

This edition will highlight Early Intervention (EI), explaining what it is and how it can benefit infants, children and families within Putnam County.

The Putnam County Board of DD provides Early Intervention services to ensure the children in our county develop the skills they need. With support from other community agencies like Ohio Early Intervention, we work to develop a plan for each eligible child and provide support and education for parents and caregivers.

WHAT IS EARLY INTERVENTION?

Early Intervention provides services to families and children birth to age 3 with a developmental delay. The program, through a collaborative system of services, helps children grow and develop in the best way possible.



Once a child is determined eligible for services, a team of Early Intervention professionals support the child and family. Your child's team is made up of a service coordinator, you, and a primary service provider. Depending on your child's needs, the primary service provider may be a speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist or developmental specialist.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY EARLY INTERVENTION

Early Intervention services are centered on what families want and expect. We work with families to meet their needs in a variety of settings, such as the child's home, the library, childcare center, or the park.

Services vary for each family depending on what is needed to help the child grow and develop. Our goal is to coach parents and caregivers on strategies that will help their child's development. By doing so, children can practice their skills throughout the day to build on them during their daily routine.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

Children birth to three years of age who have a developmental delay or diagnosed medical conditions that are likely to result in a delay are eligible for Early Intervention services. The child may have a delay in one or more of the following areas:

- Problem solving
- Movement
- Social and Play skills
- Feeding, Dressing or Toileting skills
- Language



Research shows that starting intervention services early gives a child the best chance to learn and grow, and early support can reduce the need for services later in life. There is no need to "wait and see." If you have questions about your child's walking, talking, seeing, hearing, or to find out if you and your child may benefit from Early Intervention services, please contact us at (419) 523-0124.

LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

Here are some helpful links for more information on Early Intervention Services:

- Putnam County DD Early Intervention: <https://putnamcountydd.com/services-for-children/>
- Ohio Early Intervention: <https://ohioearlyintervention.org/>
- Ohio Early Intervention Referral Form: <https://odhgateway.odh.ohio.gov/ochids/public/refer>

PEOPLE FIRST NEWS AND UPDATES

PEOPLE FIRST MEETING NEWS

Hello fellow advocates! We hope to see all your faces in person soon but for now we hope you join us through Zoom!

On April 21st we will be having our next big People First meeting.

If you would like to join our meeting the information is included below.

Topic: People First Elections Announcement

Date: April 21, 2021

Time: 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93529943607?pwd=ZldKdjFzUnFhcElhR2JnVHJvNGQzZz09>

Meeting ID: 935 2994 3607

Meeting Password: 941583



PEOPLE FIRST UPDATES

On March 17th we had our DD Awareness Meeting. Thank you all for joining us! It was such a great time and we loved getting to see everyone.

Due to COVID-19, we were unable to hold elections last spring. We now will be having voting for the officer elections the week of April 12th through April 16th. Everyone will have the opportunity to vote that wishes to. More details to come on how we will be voting.

We will announce election winners through zoom on April 21st. Please use the meeting details listed to the left if you wish to join through Zoom to for the winners announcement.

KNAP Sack will continue to be on the third Wednesday of each month.

It is located at the Putnam County Educational Service Center
124 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa, OH
Time: 2:00 to 4:00 pm (or until food is gone)

The following dates are the upcoming food distribution dates:
April 21st, May 19th and June 16th



Please contact the People First Advisors Christine Leathem or Morgan Schimpf for any questions you may have!

Morgan Schimpf

Christine Leathem

Cell: 419-890-2119

Cell: 419-890-2455

Office: 419-969-1014

Office: 419-523-0118

mschimpfpcdd@bright.net

cleathempcdd@bright.net

QUARTERLY EVENTS

CHECK OUT THE EVENT CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES OR UPDATES TO SCHEDULED EVENTS HERE: [HTTPS://PUTNAMCOUNTYDD.COM/CALENDAR/](https://putnamcountydd.com/calendar/)

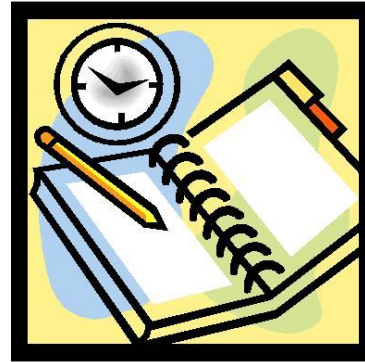
April 13: Board Meeting

April 21: People First Zoom Meeting

May 11: Board Meeting

May 19: People First Zoom Meeting

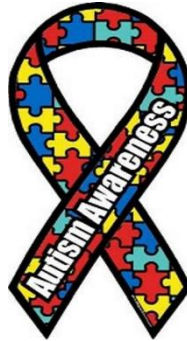
June 8: Board Meeting



NATIONAL AWARENESS MONTH MENTIONS

• April

- April 2: Autism Awareness Day
- National Stress Awareness Month
- April 7: World Health Day
- April 22: Earth Day
- National Volunteer Month



• May

- Better Hearing and Speech Month
- Mental Health Month
- Mobility Awareness Month
- Week of May 16: National EMS Week



• June

- National Safety Month
- June 5: World Environment Day
- PTSD Awareness Month



CONNECT WITH US:

Putnam County Board of DD

- 419-523-0122

Early Intervention

- 419-523-0124

SSA Manager

- 419-523-0115

MUI On-call phone

- 419-889-2980

WE BELIEVE IN

- Person Centered Planning ●
- Community Inclusion ●
 - Integrity ●
 - Excellence ●
- Good Life Practices ●
- Collaboration ●

Visit our website for more information

<https://putnamcountydd.com/>