



THIRD QUARTER 2021

WELCOME!

Putnam County Board of Developmental Disabilities is proud to collaborate with a number of local 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

We are excited to announce a new Safety & Security Grant Program! Similar to the Family Support Services that we already offer, the Safety & Security Grant is available to assist individuals with developmental disabilities in the purchasing of safety and/or security equipment to be able to provide a safe and healthy living environment.

You can stop in at the office to pick up a form to fill out, or click on the following link to download a copy from our website: [PCBDD Forms](#)

For questions or more information, please email Erin Recker at ereckerpcdd@bright.net or Eva Von Sossan at evonsossanpcdd@bright.net.

With summer under way, there are safety precautions to keep in mind for yourself and others to ensure a season of safety and fun. The following links provide safety tips for:



- *The Danger of Hot Vehicles
- *Preventing Dehydration
- *Burn Prevention
- *Insects (bees, wasps, hornets, etc.)
- *Recreational Boating Safety
- *Water Safety Precautions
- *Signs of a Heat Stroke
- *Summer Camp Tips
- *Grilling Safety
- *Fireworks Safety

[DODD's Tips on Staying Safe in the Summer](#) [Red Cross Summer Safety Tips](#)
[NSC Recreational Boating Safety](#) [NSC Fireworks Safety](#)

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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 meaningful and rewarding career? Consider telling them about becoming a Direct Support Professional (DSP) or Independent Provider! They are an essential link in improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities. Their primary purpose is to assist those who need support to lead independent lives and be a part of their local community.

[Check out these videos](#) to see how much it means to have this rewarding career.

Ready to become a DSP? Check out our [brochure](#) or [click here](#) to get started.

Ready to become an Independent Provider? Check out our [brochure](#) or [click here](#) to get started.

Create a bond.
Learn a skill.
Earn Money.

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

Be a DSP

OUR SERVICES: SERVICE AND SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION

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 Service and Support Administration (SSA), explaining what it is and how it can benefit children, adults and families within Putnam County.

The Putnam County Board of DD's Service and Support Administration (SSA) provides services to individuals from children through adulthood that have developmental disabilities. From school age, to teenagers, adults and elderly, we strive to meet the needs of each individual and help them reach their goals.

WHAT DOES THE SERVICE AND SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION DO?

The Service and Support Administration (SSA) Department assists individuals and their families to identify needs and obtain the supports necessary to meet those needs based on the available resources. SSAs serve as the primary point of coordination and work closely with the individual, their family, and other staff to develop and implement services and supports.

SSAs are responsible for:

- * Eligibility * Assessment * Individual Service Planning * Monitoring/Coordinating Services
- * Information/Referral * Community Residential Supports * Assisting in Provider Selection

SUPPORTS COORDINATED WITH SSAs

Residential

Offering freedom of choice, our residential supports enable individuals to live in the community. We can coordinate services to help with things like shopping, banking, budgeting, meal preparation, leisure activities, self-care, and general supervision. Residential support is coordinated and reviewed by SSA staff.

Family Support Services

Through the Putnam County Board of DD's Family Support Service program, our goal is to support families in caring for an eligible family member at home and to promote the unity of the family. The program also empowers families by sharing resource information.

"Family" is defined as those whom the individual resides, assumes ongoing care and legal and financial responsibility. "Family" means parent, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, or guardian of the individual with developmental disabilities and includes the individual developmental disabilities.

Eligible service categories include:

- * Respite Counseling * Supervision * Special Diets * Disposable Diapers
- * Home Modifications * Adaptive Equipment * Training and Education

The SSA Department is also responsible for:

- Serving as an information and referral contact to respond to questions and requests from individuals in the community regardless of their eligibility for services
- Providing a 24-hour hotline to report abuse and neglect: Call 419-889-2980 ****If a serious medical emergency exists, and/or an individual's immediate health and welfare is at risk, 911 should be called for immediate assistance.****
- Assisting in the reporting, review and prevention planning of Major Unusual Incidents, which would include alleged abuse, neglect, or other unusual incidents involving individuals with developmental disabilities



Investigative Agent

The Investigative Agent receives and investigates reports involving abuse, neglect, misappropriation, and other issues affecting the health and safety of individuals with developmental disabilities. The Investigative Agent works cooperatively with other county agencies to improve reporting, investigation, prosecution, and community awareness of crimes against persons with disabilities.



The Investigative Agent also does the following:

- Collaborates with local law enforcement for investigation of criminal cases.
- Reviews and monitors unusual incidents affecting health and safety of individuals eligible for services.
- Prepares quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reports on Major Unusual Incidents (MUI's) and Unusual Incidents (UI's).
- The MUI Investigative Agent works cooperatively with the assigned SSA to ensure the implementation of prevention plans.
- Provides training to Board employees, provider agencies, law enforcement, and local agencies and groups.
- All MUI's are reported to the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

Providers and Waiver Services

A provider is an agency or individual that applies and is approved for certification with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. We are thankful for our providers who support individuals with developmental disabilities throughout our communities. The local and statewide database is shared with individuals who have developmental disabilities when they are in need of a provider. With help from caregivers and family, they will interview and choose the provider they want.

Waiver Services

Residential and waiver services are available along with contractual agreements with certified providers. Services vary on the individual's choice and needs. They may range from a few hours a week to 24/7. Our goal is to create living situations that are successful in meeting an individual's current needs, as well as helping them reach their goals. For more information on SSA services please contact Patricia Lammers at 419-523-0115.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICE AND SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

A developmental disability is defined by federal and state laws as a severe and chronic disability that is attributed to a mental or physical impairment (other than mental illness) that manifests itself before the age of 22. It must be likely to continue indefinitely and results in a substantial limitation in major life activities.

Developmental disabilities are diverse and may be caused by mental or physical impairments. To determine if you or someone you know is eligible for Putnam County Board of DD services and support we must follow the following steps.

1. **Provide Proof of Disability:** School, medical, or psychological reports will show proof that a person has a developmental disability. Putnam County Board of DD intake coordinators will help you gather these documents.
2. **Visit and Overview:** Once the requested documentation has been received, the intake coordinator will meet with you or your family member. During this meeting, they will ask questions and listen to concerns. If the individual is six years or older, they will use state tools to further evaluate eligibility. Abilities in mobility, learning, self-care, self-direction, communication, capacity for independent living and economic self-sufficiency (ages 16 and up only.) will be reviewed. Eligibility redetermination takes place at ages 3, 6, and 16. This means you or your family member might not always be eligible for services.
3. **We will determine eligibility:** You will receive a letter telling you if you are eligible or not. If you are eligible, you will be introduced to an SSA and we will help you access the services you need. If you are not found eligible, you have the right to appeal and the agency will try to help you find other services.



Want to find out if you or someone you know is eligible for services? Call Beth Hempfling at the Putnam County Board of DD 419-523-0107.

LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION

Here is a helpful link for more information on Service and Support Administration:

- Putnam County DD Service: <https://putnamcountydd.com/service-support-administration/>

PEOPLE FIRST NEWS AND UPDATES

PEOPLE FIRST MEETING NEWS

Hello fellow advocates! We hope to see all your faces in person soon!

We are looking at tentatively hosting our Summer Picnic this year!

If you would like more information, please see the link below for future updates, or contact your People First Advisors listed at the bottom of this page.

Topic: Summer Picnic

Tentative Date: August 26, 2021

Time: TBD

PCBDD Event Calendar Link:

<https://putnamcountydd.com/calendar/>



PEOPLE FIRST UPDATES

We would like to introduce and congratulate all of those who are now serving as an officer for People First of Putnam County!

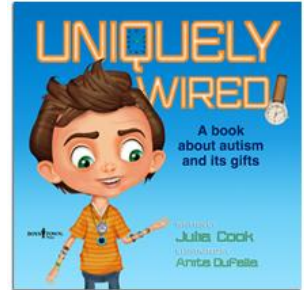
President: Lisa Burkhart

Secretary: Seth Johnson

Vice President: Jim Burkhart

Treasurer: Ashley Reindel

In the Spring, we sent out books to the local Putnam County Elementary schools titled "Uniquely Wired". This touching story helps others understand autism, as well as some of the unique behaviors or unconventional responses of kids with autism.



At this time, we are looking into individuals possibly attending the Synergy Conference. We have been informed that this will be in person at Kalahari this year. We will be looking into doing a Shirley's Popcorn fundraiser to help assist with funds to be able to attend. If you have not already informed the People First advisors of your interest, please call Morgan or Christine as soon as possible.

KNAP Sack will continue to be on the third Wednesday of each month. **Please note that they will not be distributing during the summer months.**

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:
September 15th



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

Morgan Schimpf

Cell: 419-890-2119

Office: 419-969-1014

mschimpfpcdd@bright.net

Christine Leathem

Cell: 419-890-2455

Office: 419-523-0118

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/)

August 10: Board Meeting

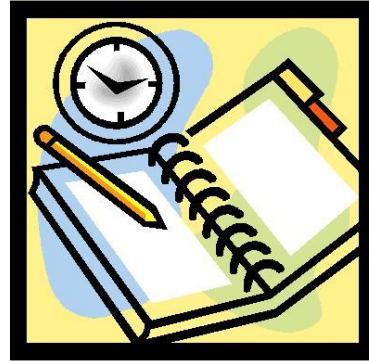
August 26: Tentative Summer Picnic

with People First

September 14: Board Meeting

October 6-8: Synergy Conference

with People First



NATIONAL AWARENESS MONTH MENTIONS

July

- o June 27 – July 7: Deaf-Blind Awareness Week
- o July 4: Independence Day
- o July 26: Americans with Disabilities Act Anniversary
- o Cord Blood Awareness Month



August

- o National Immunization Awareness Month
- o Psoriasis Awareness Month
- o Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month

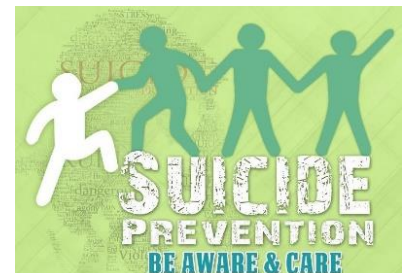


Immunization Awareness Month



September

- o Sept. 20-26: International Week of the Deaf
- o Sept. 21: World Alzheimer's Day
- o Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- o National Food Safety Awareness Month
- o National Suicide Prevention 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/>