



THIRD QUARTER 2022

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

First Putnam County Track & Field competitor participated in the 2022 Special Olympic Nationals

At the Special Olympics Nationals in June held in Florida, People First Advocate, Ashley Reindel, qualified to compete in three events! Ashley won Gold for the 100-meter walk, Silver for the 400-meter walk, and was 7th Place in the javelin throw. The Kalida Fire Department met Ashley at the edge of town and gave her a ride to the town square. Once there, she was greeted with a glorious welcome ceremony from the community, People First advocates, friends and family.



Congratulations Ashley! Way to go in representing Putnam County!

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 News & Updates
- 2 Technology First
- 3 People First News
- 4 Dates & Details

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:

Mon. – Fri. 8am – 4pm

www.putnamcountydd.com

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

SUPPORTIVE TECHNOLOGY: CHOOSING TECHNOLOGY THAT FITS

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND REMOTE SUPPORT SERVICES

Many Ohioans with developmental disabilities encounter obstacles in daily tasks and activities as well as accessing education and jobs. Devices that engage in two-way communication or provide step-by-step assistance can help people overcome these barriers and help them live the lives they want. For example, many new technologies can help someone feel more secure in their home, provide instruction on how to prepare an evening meal, or help to access public transportation. With these advancements, more Ohioans with developmental disabilities will have the opportunity to experience a life more fully integrated into their community.

Technology First, created through a 2018 executive order, is not a technology-only policy but aims to help people learn more about how to use technology to improve their quality of life and how they can experience more independence and personal freedom. We at PCBDD firmly believe that technology can open doors to connection and independence. We approach technology in a person-centered way to connect you with options that work for you and your family.

WHAT TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

Remote Support: Remote Support allows an off-site direct service provider to monitor and respond to a person's health, safety, and other needs using live communication, while offering the person more independence in their home. Remote Support uses two-way communication in real time, so a person can communicate with their providers when they need them. A person can choose supports like sensors that call for help if someone has fallen or cameras that help monitor who is visiting a person's home. This service is always combined with Assistive Technology.

[Click here to learn more about Remote Support](#)

Assistive Technology: Assistive Technology can be used as a creative solution to help with a person's health and safety and can support a person's desire for more independence at home, in the community, or at work. This service enables people to use smart or electronic devices to increase their independence. It includes things that can help a person cook safely, call for help if someone falls or hurts themselves while at home alone, and remind a person to take medications.

[Click here to learn more and to see a Virtual Home Walkthrough of Assistive Technology examples](#)

LENDING LIBRARIES

Lending libraries are helpful for people with disabilities to try out different technology based on their needs before purchasing equipment, such as medical equipment or adaptive toys. Many programs offer lending services for free. Through a grant with the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI), the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council has published a list of lending libraries across the State of Ohio.

[Click here to visit the council's website for Technology Lending Programs Guide](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE LINKS

For more information about Technology First, please [click here](#) to go to Ohio DODD's website with details. You can also reach out to your Service Coordinator or Service and Support Administrator for guidance.



PEOPLE FIRST NEWS AND UPDATES

PEOPLE FIRST UPDATES

Hello fellow advocates! Our next big People First meeting will be our Annual Summer Picnic!

Also attending is guest speaker, Carrie Hayes, with Technology First Ohio

Date & Time: August 25, 2022; 5-7:00pm.

Location: **Memorial Park in Ottawa**, weather permitting, or the Putnam County ESC as backup. (Please contact a People First Advisor or visit the event calendar link below to confirm the location of the picnic.)

*If you attend, please bring a side dish/dessert and your own drink.

PCBDD Event Calendar Link:

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

KNAP SACK UPDATES

KNAP Sack food distribution is on the third Wednesday of each month.

Location: Putnam County ESC
124 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa, OH

Time: 2:00-4:00 pm (or until food is gone)

Visit the link below for distribution updates:

[KNAP Sack Facebook Page](#)



QUESTIONS? WE CAN HELP!

Christine Leatham: Advisor

Cell: 419-890-2455 | Office: 419-523-0118

cleatham@putnamdd.org

Morgan McPheron: Advisor

Cell: 419-890-2119 | Office: 419-969-1014

mmcpheron@putnamdd.org

[Click Here for more People First content!](#)

PEOPLE FIRST NEWS

Supporting KNAP Sack at the Jefferson Award Ceremony

Advocates from the Putnam County Board of Developmental Disabilities People First chapter attended the Jefferson Award Ceremony to support KNAP Sack receiving the prestigious award in April. The program recognizes the region's "unsung heroes," noting individuals who gave their time and talents to improve their communities as volunteers.



Spring Masquerade Dance at Leipsic Community Center



People First held their Spring Masquerade Dance at the Leipsic Community Center in May. There was a gift raffle, photo booth, and time to dance, socialize, and have fun!



DATES & DETAILS

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/)

[July: UV Safety Awareness Month](#)

[August: National Immunization Awareness Month](#)

August 9: Board Meeting

August 25: People First Summer Picnic

[September: Prostate Cancer Awareness Month](#)

September 13: Board Meeting

**Please note that these dates are tentative and subject to change.*



OTHER NEWS



Join us in welcoming new team member **Melissa Hauter, SSA!**

Please welcome Melissa Hauter, SSA, as a new member of the Service & Support Administration team! Melissa is excited to provide excellent service to the individuals we serve in our local community in Putnam County.

Welcome to the team, Melissa! We're excited to have you with us!

Summer Break is in full swing! See these helpful Summer Safety Tips from National Safety Council, with more details available by clicking here: [Summer Safety Tips](#)

- ⚙ **Beat the Heat:** Take enough breaks and remember to hydrate
- ⚙ **Bug Safety:** Learn how to protect you and your family at work and play from mosquitoes
- ⚙ **Playgrounds:** Play safely while using playgrounds and their equipment
- ⚙ **Fireworks:** Follow safety guidelines around fireworks to prevent injuries
- ⚙ **Water Safety:** Know how to swim and follow pool safety guides
- ⚙ **Bicycling:** Wear proper protective gear and precautions when bike riding
- ⚙ **Skateboarding:** Learn how to land safely if you fall to prevent serious injuries
- ⚙ **Boating:** Follow safety protocols while out on a boat at all times
- ⚙ **Pedestrian Safety:** Avoid distracted walking and be safe while crossing streets



CONNECT WITH US! [WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYDD.COM](http://www.putnamcountydd.com)

Superintendent.....419-523-0123
 Business Office419-523-0122
 Early Intervention419-523-0124
 Youth & Transition419-523-0116
 Service & Support Administration419-523-0115
 24/7 On-Call Phone419-889-2980



Address: 124 Putnam Parkway, Suite D, Ottawa, OH 45875
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm