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### Our Mission

To ensure individuals with developmental disabilities have access to quality supports providing them opportunities to live, learn, work, and play in their community.

### Our Vision

A community that respects and recognizes the importance and potential of all people.

### Address

124 Putnam Pkwy, Suite D  
Ottawa, OH 45875  
**Hours:** M-F 8am-4pm  
**Phone:** 419-523-0122

### Website

[www.putnamcountyydd.com](http://www.putnamcountyydd.com)

### Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/  
PutnamCoDD](https://www.facebook.com/PutnamCoDD)

*Inspire Change*



## MARCH IS NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONTH

Thank you to the Putnam County Commissioners for meeting with individuals on March 2, to honor the Proclamation for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. People First of Putnam County and the Putnam County Board of Developmental Disabilities have chosen **"BElieve in YOUrself"** as the



theme for 2023 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! They encourage all citizens to **"BElieve in YOUrself"** because your voice is important, your dreams matter. Always remember to **"BElieve in YOUrself"** because there is only one you and you are worth it. To **"BElieve in YOUrself"** in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

## MICHAEL MARSHALL SPEAKS ABOUT FINDING YOUR VOICE AND ADVOCATING FOR YOURSELF

On March 16, to celebrate DD Awareness month, the Putnam County Board of DD and People First brought in Michael Marshal, a self-advocate speaker, who gave a presentation about finding your voice. He shared what steps he took to advocate for himself and is now living his best life by being a motivational speaker and master swimmer and living an independent life with support. Michael stated he is a man of service, is very spiritual, is a Special Olympics State Swim meet volunteer, and is a member of Knights of Columbus serving his parish and his community at large. He stressed that in order to achieve your hopes and dreams, one needs to be bold and brave!



### PEOPLE FIRST VOLUNTEER AT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EVENT

On March 10, People First volunteered at the annual Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser at the VFW by giving back to their community by serving food to the guest and busing tables. The members that went shared they had a great time!



### PEOPLE FIRST BOOK DONATION TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Members of People First self-advocacy group donated books to all elementary schools in Putnam County. This was in celebration to DD Awareness Month. Donating these books has been a five-year tradition of People First as a way to help educate young children about different disabilities. This is one of People First's favorite giving back projects.



Members in the picture are left to right: Seth Johnson, Treasurer; Lisa Burkhart, former President; and Ashley Reindel, Vice President.

### PEOPLE FIRST UPDATES

Hello fellow advocates! Upcoming People First meeting details are listed below. Please check with a People First advisor for updates.

**Dates:** April 20, 2023; June 15, 2023

**Time:** 5:00-7:00pm

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

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

**Visit their page for distribution updates:** [KNAP Sack Facebook Page](#)

### QUESTIONS? WE CAN HELP!

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



### PEOPLE FIRST SHARE ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH A DISPLAY

In celebration of DD Awareness, People First put a display at the ESC sharing some achievements that people with disabilities overcame. The theme for DD Awareness is "BELIEVE IN YOURSELF". The display shows pictures of people believing in themselves and accomplishing things they worked hard for or overcame.



### A WEALTH OF INFORMATION AT THE ESC'S RESOURCE FAIR

The Putnam County ESC hosted a Resource Fair on March 2, 2023. We were grateful to be part of the more than 33 exhibitors to share information about our agency and services we provide. There was great information about opportunities right in our community to learn about resources that could meet your family's needs! Thank you Putnam County ESC for hosting this free event!



### FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Putnam County Board of Developmental Disabilities is excited to announce the launch of our Facebook page! Follow our page for updates on services, events, photos, and more!

You can find us here:

<https://www.facebook.com/PutnamCoDD>

You can also search for our Facebook page using "PCBDD" or "Putnam County Board of Developmental Disabilities".



### CHECK OUT THE EVENT CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS AND UPDATES WITH THE FOLLOWING LINK: [HTTPS://PUTNAMCOUNTYDD.COM/CALENDAR/](https://putnamcountydd.com/calendar/)



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

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

- Superintendent .....419-523-0123
- Business Office.....419-523-0122
- Early Intervention.....419-523-0124
- Intake .....419-523-0122
- Service & Support Administration.....419-523-0115
- 24/7 On-Call Phone .....419-889-2980



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