

WEEKLY FOCUS

Ohio | Opportunities for Ohioans
with Disabilities

Kevin L. Miller, Executive Director

May 30, 2014

The mission of the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency is to ensure individuals with disabilities achieve quality employment, independence and disability determination outcomes through integrated services, partnerships and innovation.

Business Engagement Remains a Priority

Engaging and connecting with businesses is a critical part of helping individuals with disabilities achieve quality employment and independence. OOD is committed to improving our efforts to connect Ohio businesses with our mission and finding creative ways to partner with the business community to achieve better results for those we serve.

It has been great to see the business relations team come together and begin to build partnerships and make connections all across Ohio. Because of their work, we have seen the Ohio Business Leadership Network (OHBLN) grow and we have more effectively communicated our message to businesses large and small.



Recently, working with the OHBLN and the Central Ohio Workplace Initiative (COWI), our Business Sourcing Analysts (BSA)

and OOD counselors were able to participate in tours of T.J. Maxx facilities and learn more about how they have integrated individuals with disabilities into their workforce.

The BSAs and counselors also participated in a discussion hosted by Meijer for employment counselors. Meijer is interested in better connecting with individuals with disabilities and service providers in order to meet their growing workforce needs.

These opportunities allow us to build relationships, increase awareness about our mission and services, and better understand the businesses and industries who are hiring; all with the aim of increasing opportunities for individuals with disabilities seeking employment, independence and a higher quality of life.

Exploring the Question: "Is Supervising for Me?"

On Thursday, the Division of Human Resources brought in Dawnielle Pierce, a facilitator from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), to explore "Is Supervising for Me?" with Division of Disability Determination staff. This interactive session is designed to help employees understand the skills necessary to be a great supervisor and to discover if supervising is a good career fit.

OOD is committed to helping our staff succeed in their careers and to building a strong team for future success. Sessions such as this are one way to prepare staff for opportunities and to make sure we are prepared for growth and the change that comes with it.

This session will be offered again in June for those who were unable to participate this week.



'Is Supervising for Me?' training was attended by many interested DDD employees.

Operation Feed Update



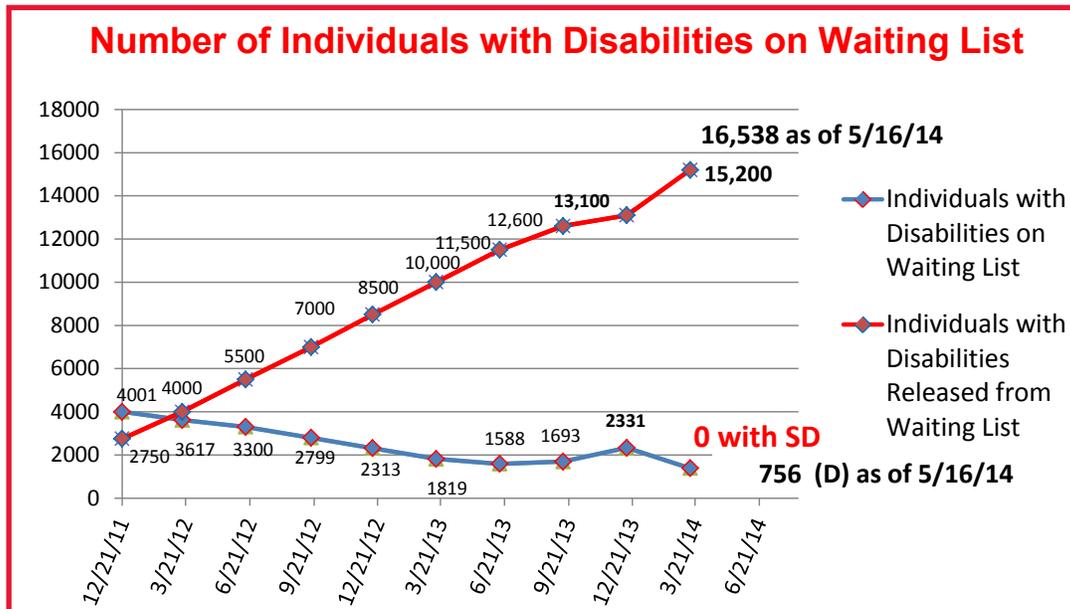
This week's events at the 400 Building included a corn hole tournament that raised \$88, and a bake sale and desert sale that raised \$65. That is a total of 612 meals! Thank you to all who donated and for your continued support of Operation Feed!

Please consider helping by:

- 1) Participating in OOD activities to raise critically needed funds.

- 2) Donating online at: <https://www.midohiofoodbank.org/donate-opfeed>.
- 3) Bringing in these most needed foods: peanut butter, soup (with vegetables), canned fruit, chili with beans, tuna, canned meat, and canned vegetables.

If you have any questions about how to pledge or would like to help out with any event, please contact Ray Rhone, DDD Professional Relations Officer, at 614-438-1904 or email at Raymond.Rhone@ssa.gov.



For more information or questions on stories in this publication, please call the Office of Communications at 614.438.1476.

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