

Advocates in Action

*Medina County Board of DD's
self advocacy newsletter*

November 2021 | Volume 11

Upcoming Meetings:

**November 16 – 5:30-7:00pm
Medina Show Biz Co.
114 N. Broadway St. in Medina**

**December 14 – 5:00pm Holiday
Dinner Celebration (location to be
determined by advocates)**

A Waggin' Good Time

At a recent advocacy meeting we were visited by Nikki Casper, from the Medina Animal Shelter, and her furry friends! Self Advocates were able to get up close and personal with Chunk and Peppa while they learned about how the shelter is run, Nikki's job duties, and the responsibilities that go with becoming a pet owner.



FROM THE STATE

Medicaid Appeals

Did You Know?: If you disagree with a decision made about your services, you can appeal the decision.

The first step in the Medicaid appeals process is asking for a state hearing. At a state hearing, a hearing officer listens to you or your spokesperson talk about why a decision made about your services might be wrong. They also listen to the agency talk about why a decision was correct.

After the hearing, the hearing officer will send their decision to you in the mail. They could agree with you in full or in part, or the hearing officer could find that the agency's action is correct.

If you disagree with the outcome of a state hearing, you can request an administrative appeal. If you disagree with the outcome of the administrative appeal, you can request a judicial review.

For additional information, please visit: <https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/your-family/advocacy/medicaid-appeals> or speak with your Service and Support Administrator.

Individual Support. Community Achievement.



EMPLOYMENT FEATURE

Meet Mandeline!

I have been employed at NCC Solutions in North Royalton for about a year and a half now. I was hired just before the Covid-19 shutdown so my actual hire date got pushed back several months. NCC Solutions is an ICF Congregate Facility and I am their Human Resource Secretary. My duties include scheduling appointments, scanning, printing, data entry, social media posts, and much, much more.

I have tried my hand at other jobs but this one seems to fit me nicely. The best part is I get to work at my own pace. Those that know me best know that speed is not my thing! My work here is not deadline driven, so for me, it's ideal to focus on the quality of my work, which I feel is pretty superior!

NCC has been amazing, from the support I receive from my coworkers to the hoops they jump through to promote my independence. They raised my desk so my wheelchair can clear, and they let me pick my work days each week to accommodate transportation, which is huge for me since my parents drive me. During inclement weather I can change my schedule up a bit for their safety as well as mine. Lastly, they purchased software for the printer as an added support to my independence. I believe an employer/manager makes or breaks a job for employees with disabilities no matter how good you are at a job. Being good at what you do won't make a job work if you don't have a supportive environment. I found that environment here with NCC Solutions.

While I'm giving credit, I also have to give a shout out to MCBDD's employment staff Bob Young and Angie Keys. I can't say enough about their support and friendship! When I received my first raise after only ten weeks, they were my first two phone calls to share the news. They are truly in my corner!

I love going to work. For me it's not necessarily the paycheck as much as it is the need to get out of the house and be amongst other adults. As the old saying goes, "Money doesn't buy happiness." I feel this is the happiest I've been in years. I love the work culture and everything about the job, and most importantly I love where I am in my life right now! My future goal is to stay with NCC, increase my days and learn new skills that will lead to job advancement.

When I'm not working, you can usually find me at home reading, knitting, learning Spanish on my own, diamond painting and enjoying the outdoors. After all, there is more to life than watching TV!



WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Bill recently adopted a dog from the Medina County S.P.C.A. She's a 7 year old Weimaraner, and Bill named her Carly. Carly is very sweet, protective, and a great fit for the family.

When not traveling to Michigan with his family, Adam has been enjoying his monthly sleepovers at his brother's house. It's always a jam-packed weekend of movie binging, dancing, and Pizza!



Adina has enjoyed babysitting her nieces and nephews. Here is photo of a recent trip they took to Lake Erie!



Carrie and Pat enjoyed playing ball with Miracle League.

Paula enjoyed a trip to West Virginia for her annual family reunion.



Alicia has been thoroughly enjoying her new day program, A.C. Passage. She loves all the fun activities offered and making new friends!



Peter has been enjoying the beautiful weather while he spruces up the grounds of the Medina County Board of DD through his job with Windfall Industries.

Apple Picking with the Integrated Community Solutions social group was a hit for Erin and Daniel!



QUOTE OF THE QUARTER:

chosen by self advocate Jeremy

"Small steps in the right direction can turn out to be the biggest step of your life."

- Naeem Callaway

CREATIVE CORNER

A Star is Among Us!

A big congratulations goes out to Collin H. for auditioning and being casted as Percy in the recent showing of "The Beverly Hillbillies" through the Medina County Showbiz Company.



"It was so exciting to get back on stage for the first time since Covid-19. I really missed the theater and working with my director, Zen. This was the fifth play I had done with him, the others being Vintage Hitchcock, Our Town, Dr. Doolittle and Flower Power. I love working with all the actors, they are incredible! Everyone at Medina Showbiz, whether new or long-time members, are really nice and make you feel awesome, almost as if you were family. It's a great community to be a part of. It's hard work but it's very fun, rewarding and gives you the opportunity to meet some really cool people". - Collin



Download an E-Newsletter!

Did you know that you can download a digital copy of the Advocates in Action newsletter? Visit www.mcbdd.org and click on "Self Advocacy" under the "Resources" tab.

The mission of the Medina County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to promote and empower individuals with developmental disabilities to live, learn, work, and socialize as citizens in the community.