# 2025 Annual Plan and 2024 Progress Report



BELMONT-HARRISON-NOBLE
COUNTY BOARDS OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES







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### MISSION

Encouraging, Supporting, and Respecting People on their Journey through Life

### VISION

People are valued for who they are and what they bring to the community

### VALUES

We value people and the choices they make for their lives.

We value the human spirit and the potential that lies within each person.

We value supports that help people live, learn, love, and have a life of their choosing.

We value relationships that develop from common bonds and interests.

We value self-determination and its dream about life that goes beyond basic needs.



# Board of Directors



### **BELMONT CBDD**

Robert Quirk, President
John Rataiczak, Vice-President
Shawn McKeen, Secretary
Joel Braido
Barbara Pomaranski
Barbara Schramm

Annette Wiater



### HARRISON CBDD

Sara Taggart, President
Chuck George, Vice-President
Mary Carter, Secretary
Julianna Dulkoski
Carolyn Kibble
David Koch
David Ossman



### **NOBLE CBDD**

Drew West, President

Catherine LaFollette, Vice-President

Angela Crock, Secretary

Tracy Jackson

Shelly Miller

Dennis Riddle

Judy Weisend

# A Note from the Superintendent



#### Dear Friends:

As we move forward into 2025, I am filled with gratitude for the dedication, passion, and collaboration that define our community. The Belmont, Harrison, and Noble County Boards of Developmental Disabilities remain committed to our mission - encouraging, supporting, and respecting people on their journey through life - and we are excited to build on the progress we have made over the past year.

In 2024, we achieved a significant milestone by appointing Shelly Miller, a person with lived experience, to the Noble County Board of Directors. We also accomplished additional milestones which included accessing over \$900,000 in grant funds, streamlining early intervention processes, strengthening community partnerships with local agencies by hosting a Transition Fair, Spring Fling and No Limits Livestock Show, expanding our support teams by hosting a Trauma Informed Care Retreat, and hosting innovative events like the TechAssist Expo. Our counties have focused on universal design where everyone can access and use our facilities. These accomplishments reflect our unwavering commitment to enhancing services, empowering individuals, and fostering an inclusive environment where everyone is valued. As the year came to a close, we underwent a thorough review by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, culminating in the highest recognition possible - a three-year accreditation.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are committed to strengthening our impact. Our goals include simplifying processes for people and families served from one path of services to another, advocating additional state funding for early intervention and community supports, expanding expertise in early intervention, enhancing accessibility in Harrison County, improving service coordination through technology, and increasing opportunities for independent providers to support people in meaningful ways. Additionally, we are enhancing our communication efforts, launching new awareness initiatives, and continuing to modernize our facilities and technology infrastructure.

These efforts would not be possible without the support of our board members, dedicated staff, families, community partners, and - most importantly - the people we serve. Your voices, feedback, and advocacy help shape the direction of our programs and ensure we are meeting the needs of those who rely on us.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and trust. Together, we will continue to create a future where all people are valued, supported, and empowered to live the lives they choose.

Warm regards,

Superintendent/CEO Gloria Llewellyn

# SUPPORTS



Supports coordinated, funded, and/or provided by the three county boards include:

**EARLY INTERVENTION** 

**PRESCHOOL** 

SCHOOL-AGE

TRANSITION (ages 14-22)

ADULT DAY SERVICES

SKILL DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS

HOMEMAKER/PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE

HOUSING

**TRANSPORTATION** 

RESPITE



### **EARLY INTERVENTION**

- Streamlined the eligibility-to-enrollment process, reducing required visits by 25% for most families
- Developed and implemented a simplified child assessment tool that aligns with the required components of the Individualized Family Service Plan
- Earned 100% compliance on transition baseline review in Belmont and Noble counties
- Earned 100% compliance on 45-day timeline baseline review in Harrison County
- All County Board support areas worked together to develop a comprehensive online community resource guide
- Worked with the Mental Health and Recovery Board to use local Early Childhood Mental
   Health providers on a consultative basis for our EI team
- Implemented newly updated rules and the statewide IFSP and corresponding forms





### HARRISON PRESCHOOL

- Committed to inclusive classrooms with a balanced 6:6 ratio of neurodiverse and typically-developing children in each class
- Added additional Frog Street curriculum for younger students
- Converted Step Up to Quality star rating to the new "Gold Award" through the Department of Children & Youth
- Worked closely with Harrison Hills School District teaching administrative staff to enhance the structure and process of IEPs and transition planning meetings
- Hosted the first open-to-the-public Christmas Program since the pandemic, drawing a standing-room-only crowd of over 100 attendees for our 32 students
- Renovated the kitchen by installing new floors, cabinets, appliances, and a pantry
- Maintained zero turnover of preschool staff







### **SERVICE & SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION (SSA)**

- Fully implemented the OhioISP and submitted to Salesforce in all counties
- Improved supports to people by hiring two SSAs, reducing the number of people each
   SSA serves
- Active member of the Belmont County MAP group
- Educated partners and other local agencies about eligibility determination and County

  Board supports
- Hosted the first TechAssist Expo, an exhibit of assistive and adaptive technology for people with disabilities
- Partnered with organizers of the first No Limits Livestock Show at the 2024 Noble County Fair



### **COMMUNITY SUPPORTS**



- Improved supports by hiring an additional Coordinator, reducing the number of families each coordinator serves
- Created a Sensory Room at the *Tomorrow's Youth Project* (TYP)
   Planned Respite Home
- Hosted a Trauma Informed Care Retreat with DODD TIC
   Administrator
- Completed the nationwide Sibshop Facilitator training
- Awarded over \$426,000 in grant funding from Strong Families
   Safe Communities (DCY), Alternative Residences Two, and Keeping
   Families Together (DODD)



### QUALITY SUPPORTS / MUI

- Expanded the Quality Supports Department by hiring an MUI Coordinator
- Supported 15 people in becoming certified independent providers, the highest number of any year to date
- Offered or coordinated continuing trainings for providers in areas of service and support, i.e. bedbug detection, response and prevention provided by Noble County OSU extension, Empathy & Sensitivity training provided by MEORC, and facilitating community opportunities, Supportive Tech, MUI, and documentation training provided by the Quality Supports team.
- Quality Supports Director provided file review and preparation for DODD Accreditation Review, resulting in a three-year certificate for each county board
- Coordinated the Momentum Refresh schedule at 24 events, fairs and festivals across Belmont, Harrison and Noble counties





### **COMMUNICATIONS / INFORMATION TECH**

- Collaborated with multiple partners to create the Belmont Road Map for Transition Vendor Fair at ECO Center
- Created website for Belmont Road Map for Transition, a multi-agency approach to transition for students with disabilities
- Assisted in the development of the first TechAssist Expo, an exhibit of assistive technology for people with disabilities in Belmont County
- Created marketing materials and participant forms for the first No Limits Livestock Show in Noble County
- Purchased Adobe Premium for the creation of awareness and educational videos and built a computer for this purpose
- Upgraded WiFi in Harrison and Noble counties using Extreme to ensure ability to monitor activity offsite.



- Switched from Comcast internet to Horizon which reduced costs and increased network durability
- Switched the Noble County Board's internet provider to Spectrum, increasing network speed and reducing costs.
- Provided education and shared insights on cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, technology products, and networking solutions after participating in the Brainstorm Educational Technology Conference and Extreme Networking events



### TRANSPORTATION & MAINTENANCE - Belmont



- Installed interactive assistive technology for 2024 TechAssist Expo
- Installed new metal fence around accessible playground
- Erected a storage building to house donated furniture
- Renovated former Belco Works' woodshop for Belmont College program
- Discontinued Adult Transportation
- Retired eight buses, trucks, and vans
- Sealed and painted all parking lots
- Installed automatic flush toilets

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Maintenance Team created a dedicated lactation room, providing a private, comfortable space at BCBDD for nursing mothers in the workplace
- Coordinated the transition of employees to the county dental plan to assist with reducing premiums
- Transitioned the Health Reimbursement Account from biannual payments to ongoing employee reimbursements



### Improving Community Access through ARPA Funding

In 2024, the three county boards successfully secured \$486,700 in funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to enhance community access for the people we support in the following ways:

- Entered into a three-year agreement with Momentum Refresh, the first fully-accessible, mobile restroom that provided services to 24 community activities and events across the three counties
- Completed second phase of the accessible playground project at the Belmont County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Created an accessible restroom at the Belmont County Board by installing a universal adult changing table, automatic door opener, lift system, hands-free sink, toilet, soap dispenser and hand dryer.
- Provided funding to support the participation of people with disabilities in inclusive conferences, meetings, training programs, and summer camps.





### Universal Design

The principles of Universal Design – accessibility, inclusiveness, and flexibility – were the core of building projects at the three county boards in 2024. They included:

- Installation of an automatic button on the entry to the Noble County Service Complex and all restrooms at the Belmont County Board
- Renovations to an existing restroom at the Belmont County Board included the addition of a universal adult changing table, automatic door opener, lift system, hands-free sink, toilet, soap dispenser and hand dryer
- ADA compliant Braille signage identifying all building offices and areas at the Belmont CBDD
- Construction of an inclusive playground with a communication board at the Belmont County Board







### 2024 BY THE NUMBERS\*

	Early Intervention	SSA	ICF	Community Supports	Skill Building	School-Age	Preschool	Employment Navigation	TOTAL
BELMONT	347	257	84	114	36	2	0	19	859
HARRISON	78	50	8	30	Ο	0	33	0	199
NOBLE	58	35	0	18	Ο	0	0	2	113

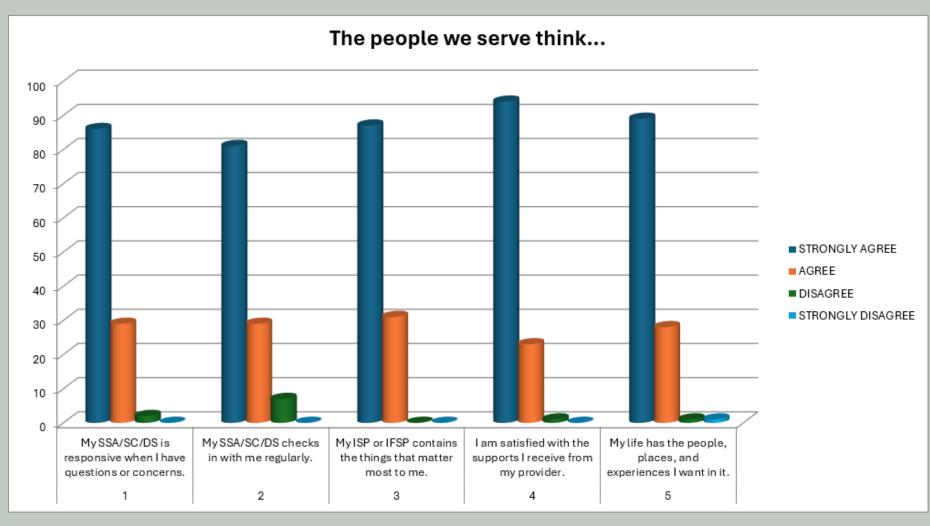
<sup>\*</sup> Numbers reflect total families and individuals touched by the County Boards in 2024. Most resulted in eligibility for services.

06 2024 SURVEY RESULTS





### 2024 Survey Results



I'm happy with all the help and support from everyone and every place that I go.

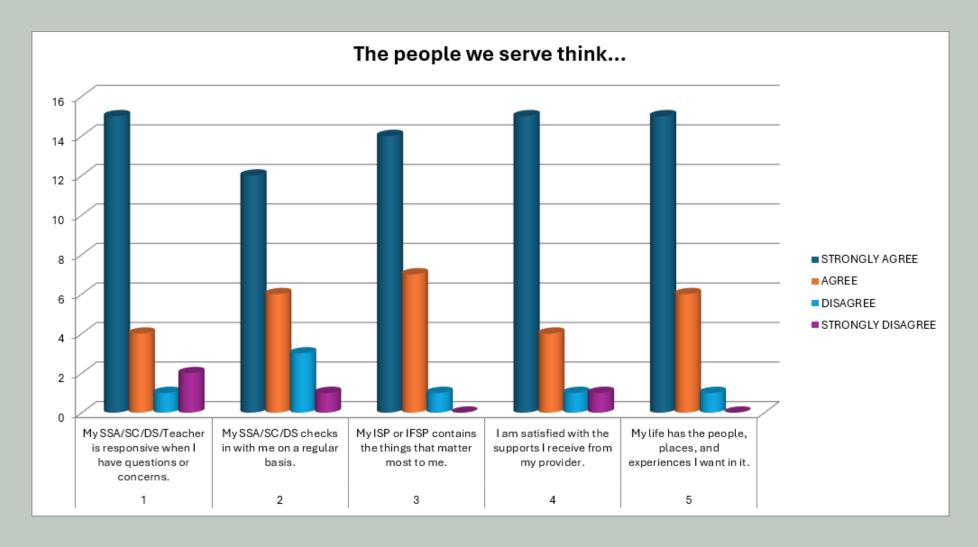
I'm thankful for the Board providing flex funding and wellness. This has helped my family in many ways.

Thank you so much for everything you guys provide.

Everyone who comes to my house is always very helpful, friendly and professional.



### 2024 Survey Results

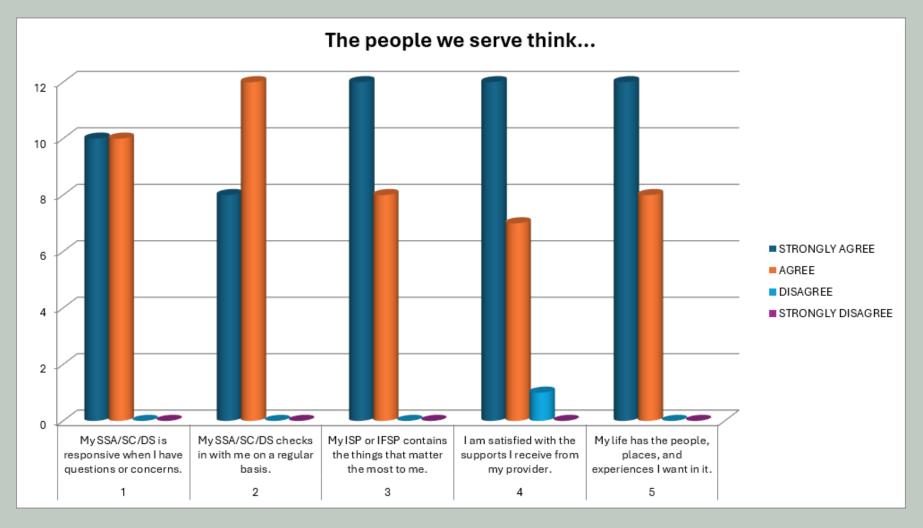


We appreciate everyone's dedication.

J is very happy, and we thank you for the support we get.

Sometimes when something is needed it takes so long to get approval if it costs more than a couple hundred dollars.





Keep up the good work.

Everything is good for me and I really like two providers!

We really love Lauren and Crystal. Thanks again to both of them.

Would be nice to be able to connect with other families with same issues and stuff.

0/ 2025 GOALS





### 2025 Goals

### Early Intervention

- Assist EI service providers in expanding their expertise to better support children with communication delays and autism via an evidence-based, naturalistic approach
- Participate in specialized training on cortical vision impairment
- Assess internal monitoring processes to assure alignment with changes made in 2024
- Work collaboratively with EI programs around the state to examine the costs of early intervention
- Participate in a workgroup to explore the impacts of Medicaid funding in Early Intervention
- Focus outreach funding to support the Noble County Health Department's participation in a new program implemented for families of newborns.
- Increase family appreciation and engagement efforts



### 2025 Goals

### Service & Support Administration

- Simplify the OhioISP process including electronic forms.
- Implement initial Tech Fair in Noble County and host 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual TechAssist Expo
   in Belmont County
- Review County Board Services with both Belmont, Harrison, and Noble MAP Groups
- Recognize barriers and increase opportunities for people to have meaningful engagement and be included in their community.





### 2025 Goals

### Community Supports

- Spend more time listening and supporting children and families
- Plan and host our first Sibshop group
- Facilitate streamlining Cluster/Creative Options process for teams and families.
- Apply for additional grant opportunities through Department of Children and Youth, DODD, and other entities
- Continue to align procedures and process with the SSA Department to allow for smoother transitions

### Harrison Preschool

- · Integrate technology into preschool lesson plans for an enhanced classroom experience
- Increase accessibility through playground upgrades
- Host family engagement activities
- Foster new community partnerships and strengthen relationships with local school districts
- Maintain Gold Step Up to Quality rating
- Continue interior building upgrades to improve function, design, and accessibility





### BHNAlliance 2025 Goals

### Quality Supports / MUI

- Increase the number of persons assisted to become certified independent providers over 2024 by at least 5 (Goal of 20)
- Increase education related to service and support within our provider network by offering trainings to all providers, beyond training requirements
- Enhance person-supported services by incentivizing providers to help individuals achieve their goals and engage in community activities

#### Human Resources

Begin transitioning Human Resources to a paperless department by
 2026

### Transportation / Maintenance

- Install new flooring in Belmont County Board lobby and hallways
- Paint Belmont bus garage fence
- Update heat in bus garage from oil burning furnace to natural gas

- Place hardscaping around new playground fence at Belmont CBDD
- Replace the last 2 (r22) HVAC units on roof at Belco Works
- Paint all exterior doors at Belco Works plant
- Facilitate the retirement of one mechanic

### Communication / Information Technology

- Develop Five-Year Depreciation/Replacement schedule for all devices
- Secure vendor to purchase obsolete electronic devices for a cost saving over recycling cost
- Upgrade Community Supports devices to Surface Pros
- Develop basic IT training for new hires
- Create and publish monthly communication from Superintendent -Gloria's Notepad
- Publish quarterly publication Allies
- Create awareness videos on variety of topics of interest to people served, providers, partners, and public

# Explanation of Supports



#### **ELIGIBILITY**

When seeking supports, the County Boards work with people and their families to complete the Children's Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument (COEDI) or the Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument (OEDI) for adults. If the COEDI or OEDI identify three substantial limitations, the person is eligible for services. An SSA (Service & Support Administrator) is then introduced to the person or family and they help develop a plan that meets their needs.

#### **SERVICE & SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION**

This County Board support begins at age 18 or when waiver services begin. SSAs are the ones who link people to what they need and want through a person-centered plan. Supports are delivered by private providers and the SSA is the one who makes sure people are satisfied with what they are receiving.

#### **EARLY INTERVENTION**

Parents of infants and toddlers from birth to the age of three with developmental delays and disabilities receive coordinated supports to help their child learn and grow through the statewide system known as Early Intervention.

#### PRESCHOOL & SCHOOL AGE

Harrison CBDD Preschool offers three integrated preschool classrooms where children of all abilities learn and grow together. School-Age supports in Belmont CBDD include *Skill Building for Transition*, Employment Navigation, and partnership grants to the Educational Service Center and the public schools. We also offer *Tomorrow's Youth Project* in all three counties that provides prevention and in-home support to youth with emotional and other challenges.

#### **SUPPORTS FOR ADULTS**

Your County Boards coordinate and fund in-home supports, skill development, employment assistance, transportation, housing, and adult day support.

24-HOUR ON-CALL - The County Board team is available around the clock, 24/7/365, for emergencies by calling 740-310-2255.

# Waiver Statistics



The three county boards are tasked with forecasting the needs of the people we support for the upcoming year.

Below are current waiver statistics and the 12-month projections.







35 WAIVERS

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2025 PROJECTIONS
10 I/O Waivers
10 Level One Waivers

197 WAIVERS
\*\*\*

2025 PROJECTIONS
20 I/O Waivers
15 Level One Waivers

29 WAIVERS

2025 PROJECTIONS 10 I/O Waivers 10 Level One Waivers

The Belmont, Harrison, and Noble County Boards currently have no waiting list for services.



# Leadership Team

### SUPERINTENDENT

Gloria Llewellyn 740-695-0407, ext. 315

DIRECTOR OF EARLY INTERVENTION DIRECTOR OF QUALITY SUPPORTS

Holly Weatherson 740-695-0407, ext. 345 Angela Dunn 740-695-0407, ext. 346

DIRECTOR OF SERVICE & SUPPORT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

Amber Cross 740-695-7433 ext. 308 Amanda Tharp 740-695-0407, ext. 356

BUSINESS MANAGER HARRISON PRESCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Lori Balvin 740-695-0407 ext. 339 Brittany Wood 740-942-2158 ext. 203

DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE (Belmont)

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Dalton VanCuren 740-695-7420 ext. 3 Pamela McCort 740-695-0407 ext. 335

3/2//2025

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### Facility

### Information

Public Access

County Board offices are operated in accordance with all applicable laws, including the Americans with Disabilities

Act. Hours are Monday through Friday,

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and other times as requested by appointment.







68421 Hammond Road St. Clairsville, OH 43950 740-695-0407 www.bcbdd.org

82480 Cadiz-Jewett Road Cadiz, OH 43907 740-942-2158 www.hcbdd.org

46049 Marietta Road Caldwell, OH 43724 740-732-7144 www.ncbdd.org

**EMERGENCY ON-CALL** 

740-310-2255



### Belmont-Harrison-Noble County Boards of Developmental Disabilities

2025 Annual Plan and 2024 Progress Report

#### **BOARD APPROVED:**

Noble - March 12, 2025

Belmont – March 13, 2025

Harrison – March 19, 2025