



March - June 2015

This and past newsletter issues also available online at www.socil.org

NEWS

FAIRFIELD COUNTY:

418 South Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Phone: 740.689.1494
Toll Free: 1.888.957.6245

Hours: Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

HOCKING COUNTY:

1369 East Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

Phone: 740.380.1475

Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm



www.socil.org [Facebook](#)

SOCIL Mission Statement

Our mission is to offer opportunities to consumers with disabilities that will maximize their choice to live in accessible communities.

We are dedicated to eliminating all barriers to access in the community, including housing, employment, transportation and recreation.

Save Funds for Health Needs ABLE Act (Achieving a Better Life Experience)

The ABLE Act was designed to allow individuals and families to save funds in an ABLE Account to better support our health and well-being, our employment, our independent living, and our self sufficiency over time. The ABLE Act amends Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code to make these accounts possible.

The ABLE Act, as passed, only applies to people who acquire a disability before age 26. People who acquire a disability after that age will not be helped by the bill. Research shows that living with a long-term disability means having routine, higher, out of pocket costs. The ABLE Act allows families that include someone with a disability under the age of 26 to be able to save and pay for these needs. Go to The National Disability Institute (www.realeconomicimpact.org) for more information.

Proposed changes affecting independent providers of home care

Many people with disabilities receive home and community-based services (for example, a personal care aide, a home health aide, or a nurse) through Medicaid which allow them to receive the support they need in the community and to avoid unnecessary institutionalization.

Under the current system, a person may choose an **agency provider**, a company that has employees who are sent to the person's home to provide services or an **independent provider**, an individual who provides services directly.

Because of changes to the Federal Labor Laws, the governor's 2016-2017 state budget proposes major reforms to the system. Under the proposal, beginning July 2016, Ohio Medicaid would not accept any new independent providers and those whose certification is expiring would not have them renewed.

There is an important exception, a person would still be able to choose an independent provider if they are enrolled in a "self-directed" (also known as "participant-direct" or "consumer directed") waiver program. This means the person directly manages his or her budget and the service he or she receives, including hiring, supervising and directing who provides services and negotiating payment rates to these individuals. Right now, only the SELF waiver, the PASSPORT waiver and MyCareOhio have self-directed options, but state officials are asking the federal government to have this option available for all waiver programs.

For more information visit www.disabilityrightsohio.org

FACEBOOK

SOCIL's Facebook page...the next Interchange begins March 23rd and will focus on **Preparing for College**.

Topics to be discussed include:

- Study Skills
- "SMART" Technology
- Career Exploration
- Paying for College
- Getting Support in College

Go to www.facebook/socilohio/notes to see the entries. Be sure to visit the other sections of the page and let us know you were there.

More interaction makes the page even better!

APP CORNER

Welcome to App Corner!

This section will feature highly recommended apps for under three dollars. This edition features two educational apps. Look for these in your devices app store.



Khan Academy is great for teaching high school students key concepts of math and science. Lessons provide a multi-sensory experience. The narrator talks the user through while writing the lesson. The student can see how equations come to life and how to solve more complicated processes. Stopping and starting the video is great for reteaching. The app is easy to use, easy to search, and easy to learn from.

Price: Free **Device:** ipad



Camp Discovery creates fun learning opportunities for children with autism. The teaching procedures used were designed by experts in the field of autism and are grounded on evidence-based behavioral principle.

Price: Free **Device:** ipad

ACCESSIBILITY

Do you need a ramp for your vehicle, home, or business? Check out this very informative website to help answer your questions, www.ramps.org.

DISABILITY RIGHTS



is a non-profit organization with a mission to advocate for the human, civil

and legal rights of people with disabilities in Ohio. This includes assisting individuals with problems such as abuse, neglect, discrimination, access to assistive technology, special education, housing, employment, community integration, voting and rights protection, issues with juvenile and criminal justice systems. Go to www.disabilityrightsohio.org or call 1-800-282-9181 for more information.

NEW TRANSIT ROUTES

Lancaster-Fairfield Public Transit

has added the ***East End Loop*** on East Main Street and Sheridan Drive. This loop will feed into the existing ***Memorial Express Route*** connecting the residential, retail and medical areas on the east side of town with the retail and medical facilities on Memorial Drive. The two routes will run similar times with a transfer point at Job and Family Services (JFS), located at 239 East Main Street. The ***East End Loop*** will run a continuous hourly loop Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm. Each hour, the route will connect at JFS with the ***Memorial Express Route*** that runs Monday - Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm.

To utilize the ***East End Loop*** or the ***Memorial Express Route*** just look for the posted bus-stop signs (indicated on the route map and by signage at most stop locations) and make certain you are at the stop at least 2 minutes prior to posted stop times.



Deviated pick-ups are available for any ADA eligible individual. Should you require a pick-up from a specific

location within a 3/4-mile radius of the listed stops, you must call, 740-681-5086, at least 24 hours in advance to notify the scheduler.

For detailed route descriptions and schedules, visit www.ci.lancaster.oh.us/dept/transit or call 740-681-5086.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Memory Matters Understanding Dementia

Tuesday, May 12 - 6:30-8:00pm

Presented by: Elizabeth Walz, MD, Neurologist

Location: Fairfield Medical Center

2nd Floor Assembly Rooms

Free community program for everyone interested in learning more about dementia.

This includes family members with aging parents and spouses as well as family physicians, nurses and home health aides.



Topics to be discussed:

Normal aging vs. dementia

Behavior aspects of dementia

Caregiver stress

Community Resources

Limited seating. Registration requested. Please call Lisa at SOCIL 740.789.1494 (ext 10).

Therapeutic Horseback Riding for Children

A four session equestrian program is being offered for children with disability that are 7 years or older. Classes are Saturdays on March 28, April 4, 11 and 18 from 10-11:30 am. Horse ranch is located between Lancaster and Amanda.



Many children may feel intimidated by the horse's size and features and may take some time to develop trust when around the horse. Hence lessons on horse care, grooming, saddling and basic equestrian are included. The horse gives the child an opportunity to connect with another living being in a non-judgmental manner. The playful nature of the horse seems to draw the child out.

Though results may vary the animal assisted therapy builds a sense of self-worth, trust, communication and social skills. In addition it improves muscle tone, balance, concentration, and impulse control.



Riders wear helmets and other protective gear. Staff is close at hand as new skills are learned in the secure environment.

Register by March 24th by calling Lisa at SOCIL at 740-689-1494 (ext 10). Space is limited. Payment of \$60 will reserve child's space however fee will be returned if child attends all four sessions.

Kids in College

Ohio University-Lancaster

June 15-19, June 22-26, July 6-10



SOCIL will again be assisting students

with disabilities to attend Kids in College.

If you or someone you know will be in the 4th-8th grades and are interested in expanding your educational horizons, watch for the scholarship application to be posted on our website www.socil.org on the "News" page. **Deadline to apply will be Friday, May 15th.**

Ohio Day at the Range and Outdoor Adventure Fair - Saturday, September 12th

Location: Camp Perry in Ottawa County, Ohio

This day long event offers people with disabilities a chance to explore state wide recreation opportunities and will provide accessible fishing skills, archery, shooting, birding, wildlife education and craft opportunities for all participants. Admission is **FREE** to all people with disabilities, their families, friends and caregivers.

The event includes a lunch: hot dogs, chips and ice cold bottled water.



For more information contact

**The Abilities Center at
1.866.734.0330**

Sensory Friendly Movies

Cinemark theaters at the River Valley Mall in Lancaster have been offering sensory-friendly showings of movies that provides a comfortable environment where the sound is lower and the lights are turned up. Children with special needs have the freedom to do what they need to do to self-regulate without disturbing others. To find out what the next movie will be check out our website at www.socil.org or Cinemark at www.cinemark.com



Lancaster Police Athletic League Amateur Boxing Program

Fitness - Competition - Self Defense (Ages 8 to Adult)
YMCA Rec Plex - 1180 E. Locust Street, Lancaster
"Everyone plays and no one gets cut from the team"
Monday-Friday: Open Gym 5-6pm Boxing Class 6-7pm
\$20 a month, scholarships and financial assistance available. Contact Jamey Mathias - 740-503-1936



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

418 South Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

SOCIL is funded by a grant from the Department of Education, however the contents of this newsletter does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

EARLY LITERACY CENTER

Early Literacy Center

Located at: Northwest Branch Library
2855 Helena Drive NW, Carroll

The **Fairfield County District Library** is committed to providing early literacy opportunities for its youngest community members.

The new **Early Literacy Center** will provide parents and caregivers the opportunity to play and learn with their children. The center will include games, manipulatives, and professional instruction to help with early literacy skills.

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10am-7pm

Friday - 10am-5pm

Saturday - 10am-2pm

Closed - Sunday & Monday



For more details visit:

<http://www.fcdlibrary.org/using-thelibrary/early-literacy-center/>



ADVOCACY GROUP



...is an advocacy group for individuals of all ages and all disAbilities. Our mission is to empower individuals to focus on their Abilities. We offer peer support and instruction to members on how to be independent, to self advocate and be active members of their community.

Come Join Us....

Thursday, March 26, 2015

My Life - My Responsibility

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Take Charge - Advocating for Your Future

Thursday, May 28, 2015

Learn to Lead

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Surf the Net Safely

****New meeting location: 140 East Main Street, Logan****

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Contact Mary Clark at 740-380-1475 with questions or to register to attend.