

January 1, 2021

Thank you for taking this opportunity to review the Strategic Plan for the Hocking County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Along with a new logo, we have taken a new approach to our plan. The pandemic of 2020 certainly offered us a new perspective. While it remains our vision that people in our community are thriving and living their best life, we have learned many lessons in this past year. These lessons have taught us what truly matters and reshaped how we provide services to Hocking County. With that, it is our hope that this Strategic Plan is effective in being accessible to all, as well as, a benchmark for seeing future progress.

This plan takes the next three years and frames how we want to work toward the goals of:

- *Empowering People – by guiding and equipping people with the tools they need to thrive in our community*
- *Integrating into our Community – by being present and in tune with the needs of our neighbors countywide*
- *Changing the Narrative – by educating the community about the efforts we are making to introduce new thinking and exciting ideas for our constituents*

We regard these goals in every facet of the work we do. Our mission is to Promote Possibilities and Potential. You will read in the proceeding pages that we are committed to the following priorities and how we will make that happen:

- **Promoting self-advocacy through person-centered planning and making connections that are meaningful to people.**
- **Ensuring that people are served in the least restrictive environment by carefully following along with families and individuals and considering all possibilities.**
- **Increasing the number of people working in the community by partnering with others in the area and finding creative solutions to employment.**
- **Taking measures to recruit providers of services through our support of expanding educational opportunities and by meeting with new staff within 60 days of provider selection, providing training to ensure smooth life transitions.**
- **Continuing to keep our waitlist for waiver services minimized through focused intervention at every age.**
- **Investing in Early Intervention and Home Visitation programming by actively promoting positive childhoods for our youngest community members.**

While this plan is set for three years, we will review it at least annually, seeking public comment and update according to the needs of our community. Please share any feedback or ideas that may be of benefit to our community by contacting the Board office.

We look forward to seeing how the next few years unfold. We are up for the task. We will continue to learn. We will continue to help in building a stronger, inclusive community. We hope you will continue to join us in these endeavors to Promote Possibilities and Potential in the Lives of Hocking County!

Sincerely,

Jill Squires
Superintendent

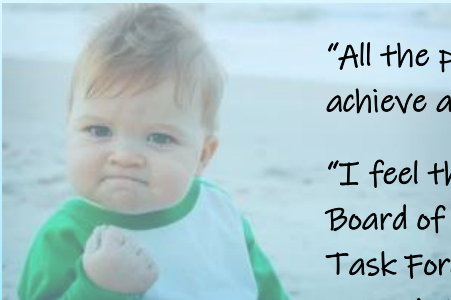
THE APPROACH

In creating the 2021-23 Strategic Plan, we asked the community to give us their thoughts. We reached out to providers, families and individuals we serve, community partners and the general public. This gave us a clearer picture of the direction we needed to take in the future. Here are some of the things we learned:

- Most respondents were well aware of all of the services we offer to the county
- Over 90% of those who responded were aware that local tax dollars were funneled back into the community through the many services we offer. Over 85% indicated that they felt this was a good use of local dollars.



When asked what we do well, some positive responses included,



"All the people connected with this organization are helping their clients try to achieve a more productive and happier lifestyle."

"I feel that the Board of DD has been a great public health partner. The HC Board of DD is very much involved with all community health activities, i.e., Opiate Task Force, Health Department disease preparedness and response, FCFC, etc. We appreciate how well the Board of DD communicates with its partners."

We also learned where we can make improvements. Many responses suggested

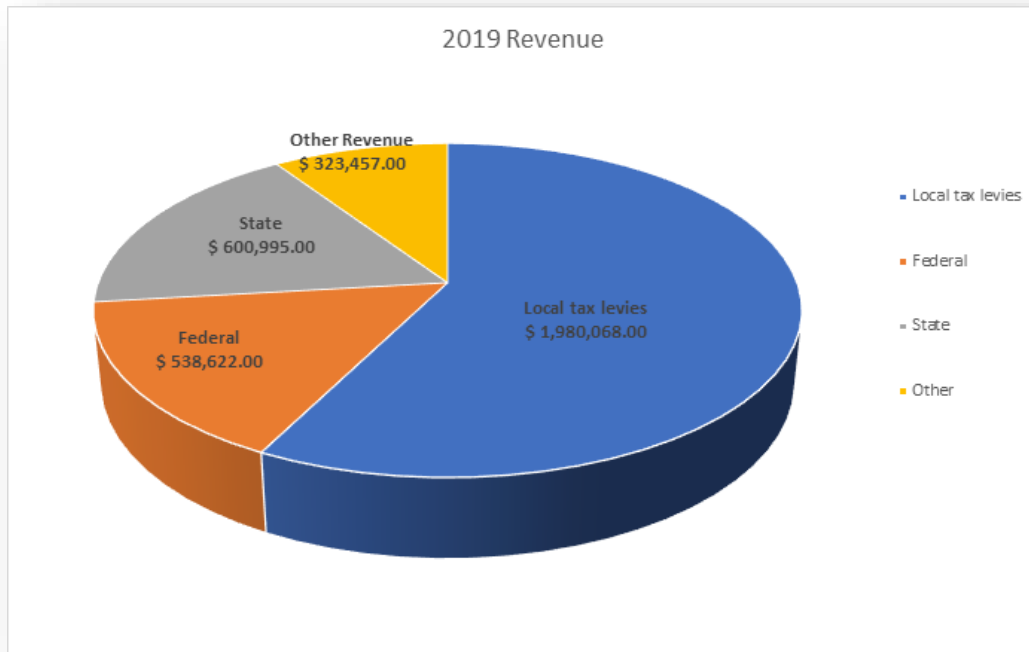
- ✓ Offering more for children who are starting into preschool;
- ✓ Spending more time helping people gain employment in the community;
- ✓ Working toward even stronger community partnerships through education and communication;
- ✓ Offering more transparency into our operations through regular communications.

You will notice to the proceeding pages that we have made sure to address these areas for improvement and work toward meeting the needs of our community to the best of our ability.



FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Hocking County Board of DD receives funding from local property taxes, state and federal funding. The largest source of revenue, approximately 57%, is supported by the voters of Hocking County. Remaining revenue flows from the state and federal governments and is utilized according to rules and regulations. This funding is used to support all programs and services provided to people within our community who benefit from Medicaid waivers, Early Intervention, Help Me Grow Home Visitation and Family Support Programs.



Our commitment is to be fiscally responsible and transparent in our expenditures. We strive for good stewardship of the funding in order to sustain the quality of services to the community. We are investing in the future of our county, to help people live their best life.

