

FANS Network

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



February 2016

Welcome to your first official newsletter, FANS!

We are kickin' off a new community movement entitled the FANS Network and we want YOU! The **FRIENDS, ALLIES, AND NEIGHBORS** Network consists of individuals with and without disabilities that work together to meet needs & fill gaps within our community.

Community is better when people help and support one another.

Department Updates

Along with two new staff, the Community Supports department also experienced a name upgrade to:

Community Engagement

Community Engagement can be defined in various ways. We chose to describe it as: **The process of working collaboratively and building relationships among community members, who will work side-by-side in support of one another, with the outcome of making the community a better place to live.**



<p>Community Connections</p> <p>Community Connections is a bi-monthly newsletter used to introduce small groups of individuals, 18 years and older, to activities, leisure opportunities and organizations within the area the surrounding counties.</p> <p>A Community Connections calendar of events and planning guide are released monthly to those individuals involved in the program.</p> <p>Activities vary include dining, touring museums, art classes and various other activities. These opportunities, which last one or two days and in neighboring counties, will give participants the chance to explore their interests and hobbies while getting to know the community they live in.</p> <p>Enroll today! Call 419-502-4130</p>	<p>FANS Network</p> <p>The Friends, Allies, and Neighbors (FANS) Network is a community volunteer movement consisting of individuals, of any age, with and without disabilities.</p> <p>Our mission is to help ensure that individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to live the most integrated lives possible by their own choice and control. Community is better when everyone helps and supports one another, when you empower people, the possibilities are limitless.</p> <p>FANS helps meet needs & fill gaps in our community. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying (or creating) • Developing Community • Understanding self & • Connecting with the • Building skills and • Developing self • Connecting with • Connecting with <p>Remember the needs, being FANS is such a rewarding experience for all those involved. It is a great way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build new skills, and to help others • To get to know one another and build your sense of community • To help others with their needs and to be helped by them • To build a stronger and better community • To help others with their needs and to be helped by them • To help others with their needs and to be helped by them 	<p>Me & My Community</p> <p>Me & My Community is a program for individuals with disabilities, 12 years and older, to their own strengths and talents. Any individual, regardless of age, may take advantage of this benefit.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal advisor planning • Learning (or re-learning) a new skill or hobby • Volunteer opportunities <p>If you need assistance identifying, learning, understanding or implementing opportunities within Erie County, please call the Community Engagement Specialist at 419-502-4130.</p> <p>Get Involved!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to become a FANS • Complete a commitment, 30 hours (volunteer) and 30 hours (paid) • Share your contact information. • FANS will receive a priority call when you are needed for a project or event. • If you are interested, please call Heidi at 419-502-4130. <p>To learn more about FANS, please call Heidi at 419-502-4130.</p>
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*You can pick-up a copy of this brochure at ECBD.

Community Connections

Community Connections is back and starts March 21st with a trip to Dave & Busters!

Remember: Individuals must be 18 or over to participate, must have submitted their enrollment paperwork and must RSVP for their desired events. If interested in more information or to enroll, contact Heidi at 419-502-4130.



FANS Opportunities

Volunteer with Catholic Charities

The Erie County Crisis Navigator is looking for a clerical/office assistant. Hours are very flexible—any time you can dedicate on M, W or F between 11am to 5pm. The Sandusky office is located within Holy Angels Church.



Catholic Charities currently runs a free budgeting class that has helped and continues to help so many individuals and families within our community. Each class participant receives a 30+ page packet of worksheets and resources.

Volunteer responsibilities: Greet community clients, photocopy all documents, organize and sort documents, put together packets in specific order.

Volunteer with the Ohio Veterans Home

The OVH is looking for help in their gift shop. Shifts are only 2.5 hours and are available from 9:00am to 11:30am or 12:30pm to 3:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Volunteer responsibilities: Friendly interaction with all gift shop guests, sell small items: candy, soda, ice cream, snacks, check any customers out with a touch system cash register



Donate Board Games



WE NEED NEW OR GENTLY USED BOARD GAMES

Chet & Matt's has graciously offered their back room to our Community Connections group and Game Night will be on the calendar twice a month.

Please consider cleaning out your closet or purchasing a new game for our department.

Donate Furniture Items

We have a family in need of some furniture items for a new living situation. Items needed include: Living room couch, chair, etc. and (2) Double or Queen size beds.



The family currently has a working dryer with a 220 hook-up, but is not compatible with their new home.

We are looking for either a dryer with a 110 hook-up or someone electric-savvy who could assist with the updating the electric in the home.

Calling all Fashionistas!

Saturday, March 5

Prom/Spring Fashion Show @ the Sandusky Mall

The mall marketing department has reached out to us and are searching for new, talented models!

Do you like to dress up?

Do you want to meet new people

and have fun walking down the runway?

THIS OPPORTUNITY IS FOR YOU!

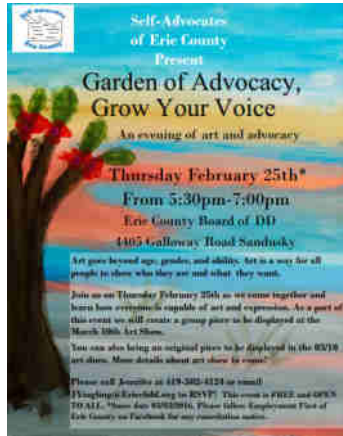


The ECBDD would love to add a game to attract attention to our information table when we are at events.

We are looking for someone to donate or build a PLINKO board or a spinning wheel. **CAN YOU HELP?**

Special Events

**FEBRUARY 25, 2016:
Garden of Advocacy,
Grow Your Voice
ECBDD
5:30pm to 7:00 pm**



An evening of art and advocacy presented by the Self-Advocates of Erie County.

Join our Advocates for an evening celebrating the ability of each individual to be capable of art and expression.

See personal creative pieces and participate in a group art project. Pieces will be submitted to the Sandusky Artisans Gallery upcoming show in March.



**MARCH 1, 2016:
Windmills Training
ECBDD
9:00am to 4:00pm**

Interested in learning more about interviewing, hiring and working along side individuals with disabilities?

ECBDD has the pleasure of hosting Stephanie Branco, Business Sourcing Analyst, from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities. Ms. Branco will be providing a full, interactive and unique Windmills Training. Local agencies and organizations can register up to 4 employees for free!

**MARCH 10, 2016:
Opening Night:
DD Awareness Month
Art Show
Sandusky Artisans Gallery
6:00pm to 8:00pm**



Come celebrate DD Awareness Month in your community! View pieces of art submitted by our Advocates, ECBDD employees and community members! Art collection will be available for viewing the entire month of March.

Feeling inspired?

Get involved & submit your very own creation by Friday, March 4th. Art can be dropped off at ECBDD.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN A VIRTUAL FORMAT & WILL ONLY BE MAILED TO YOU IN PAPER FORMAT UNTIL DECEMBER 2016.

**Want to sign-up for the virtual newsletter?
Have a question about something you read?**

**Please reach out to the
Community Engagement Specialist at
jpisano@eriecbbd.org or 419-502-4129**

Community Happenings

February/March 2016

*These are public events: *Not ECBDD supervised*



February

Tiny Tot Tuesdays • Tuesdays, Feb. 16, 23 | 3:30pm-4:30pm | Erie County Board of DD

Get Fit Club: PiYo • Tuesdays, Feb. 16, 23 | 6:00pm-7:00pm | Erie MetroParks

Drop-in and Play • Wednesdays, Feb. 17, 24 (6:00pm-7:30pm) & Fridays, Feb. 19, 26 (9:30am-11:00am) | Erie County Board of DD | *Presented by Parents as Teachers*

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Feb. 17 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | DuPont Marsh/Huron River Greenway North | Erie MetroParks

SHS Musical "Anything Goes" • Thursday, Feb. 18 & Friday, Feb. 19 (7:30pm) | Saturday, Feb. 20 (2:00pm) | Sandusky High School

Auto Show • Friday, Feb. 19-Sunday, Feb. 28 | Mall operating hours | Sandusky Mall | *Presented by Sandusky Auto Dealers Association*

Great Lakes Home & Flower Show • Friday, Feb. 19-Saturday, Feb. 20 (10:00am-8:00pm) | Sunday, Feb. 21 (10:00am-5:00pm) | Kalahari Resort & Convention Center

PHS Honors Choir Concert • Saturday, Feb. 20 | 7:00pm-8:00pm | Perkins High School

Full Moon Night Hike • Sunday, Feb. 21 | 7:00pm-9:00pm | DuPont Marsh, Huron | Erie MetroParks

Tuesday is for Toddlers! • Tuesday, Feb. 23 | 11:00am-Noon | Center Court | Sandusky Mall

Blues in the Night Concert • Tuesday, Feb. 23 | 7:00pm | Sandusky High School Auditorium

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Feb. 24 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | Osborn MetroPark | Erie MetroParks

Garden of Advocacy • Thursday, Feb. 25 | 5:30pm-7:00pm | Erie County Board of DD | *Presented by the Self-Advocates of Erie County*

Animal Feeding Time • Thursday, Feb. 25 | 10:30am-11:30am | Frost Center | Erie MetroParks

Burning Snowman Fest 2016 • Saturday, Feb. 27 | Lagoon Saloon, Port Clinton | *Event benefits the United Way of Ottawa County*

Journey to Freedom: Underground Railroad Event Day • Saturday, Feb. 27 | 1:00pm | Maritime Museum

PHS Winter Band Concert • Sunday, Feb. 28 | 3:00pm-4:00pm | Perkins High School

MHS Winter Band & Choir Concert • Monday, Feb. 29 | 7:00pm-8:00pm | Margareta High School

March

Tiny Tot Tuesdays • Tuesdays, Mar. 1, 8, 22, 29 | 3:30pm-4:30pm | Erie County Board of DD

Get Fit Club: Zumba • Tuesdays, Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 6:00pm-7:00pm | Erie MetroParks

Drop-in and Play • Wednesdays, Mar. 2, 9, 23, 30 (6:00pm-7:30pm) & Fridays, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25 (9:30am-11:00am) | Erie County Board of DD | *Presented by Parents as Teachers*

Dr. Suess Extravaganza! • Wednesday, Mar. 2 | 6:30pm | Sandusky Library

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Mar. 2 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | The Coupling MetroPark, Milan | Erie MetroParks

2016 Exhibit Opening Gala • Friday, Mar. 4 | 5:00pm-7:00pm | Merry-Go-Round Museum

Second Annual Spring Fling Garden Show • Saturday, Mar. 5 | 2:00pm-4:00pm | Huron Public Library

Prom/Spring Fashion Show • Saturday, Mar. 5 | 2:00pm | Sandusky Mall

Family Movie: The Peanuts Movie • Saturday, Mar. 5 | 2:30pm | Sandusky Library

Tuesday is for Toddlers! • Tuesdays, Mar. 8 & 22 | 11:00am-Noon Center Court | Sandusky Mall

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Mar. 9 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | Castalia Quarry MetroPark | Erie MetroParks

Disney's Peter Pan Jr. • Friday, Mar. 11 & Saturday, Mar. 12 (7:30pm) | Sunday, Mar. 13, Saturday, Mar. 19 & Sunday, Mar. 20 (2:30pm) | The Hirt Theater, Bellevue | *Presented by Bellevue Society for the Arts*

MHS Dinner Theatre • Friday, Mar. 11 & Saturday, Mar. 12 | Time: To Be Announced | Margareta High School

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Mar. 16 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | Edison Woods MetroPark, Berlin Heights | Erie MetroParks

PHS Aquatones Show "Finding Neverland" • Wednesday, Mar. 16-Saturday, Mar. 19 | Time: To Be Announced | Perkins High School

VHS Musical "The Little Mermaid" • Thursday, Mar. 17-Saturday, Mar. 19 | 7:00pm | Vermilion High School

Sandusky Recreation Easter Egg Hunt • Sunday, Mar. 20 | 10:00am-11:00am | Washington Park | City of Sandusky Recreation

Sandusky Rotary Pizza Challenge • Tuesday, Mar. 22 | 4:00pm-7:00pm | Sandusky High School | *Event benefits the Rotary Clothes Kids Program*

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Mar. 23 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | James McBride Arboretum, Huron | Erie MetroParks

Full Moon Night Hike • Wednesday, Mar. 23 | 7:00pm-9:00pm | Castalia Quarry MetroPark | Erie MetroParks

Lunch with the Easter Bunny • Saturday, Mar. 26 | 11:00am-1:00pm | Bellevue Community Center Gymnasium

Township Spring Open House with Easter Egg Hunt • Saturday, Mar. 26 | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Berlin Township Fire Station

Vacationland Federal Credit Union Easter Egg Hunt • Saturday, Mar. 26 | 2:00pm-4:00pm | Osborn MetroPark

MetroPark Hikers • Wednesday, Mar. 30 | 10:30am & 5:00pm | Hoffman Forest MetroPark, Berlin Heights | Erie MetroParks

2016 Annual Spring Career Fair • Weds, Mar. 30 | 1:00pm-4:00pm | Kalahari Convention Center | *Presented by OhioMeansJobs Erie County*

Signing Times • Thursday, Mar. 31 | 10:30am | Sandusky Library | *Presented by Help Me Grow Erie County*

SANDUSKY LIBRARY

Pages and Pups • Wednesdays, Feb. 24, Mar. 9 & Mar. 23 @ 4:00pm-5:00pm

Play. Learn. Grow. Drop-in. • Thursdays @ 10:30am through March 10

HURON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Lapsit • Tuesdays @ 10:15am, Wednesdays @ 11am

Toddler Time • Tuesdays @ 11am, Wednesdays @ 10:15am

Storytime • Wednesdays @ 1:30pm

Evening Family Storytime • Tuesday evenings @ 6:30pm

MILAN-BERLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Weekly Story Time

Berlin • Thursdays @ 10:30am

Milan • Tuesdays & Fridays @ 10:30am