



NEWS FROM THE SENECA COUNTY OPPORTUNITY CENTER

A publication of the Seneca County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Our Mission: To improve the lives of persons with disabilities



ACT Council sponsored Ice Cream Treats and Tunes at Opportunity Park for family and friends.

SCOC Calendar

- September 2nd Labor Day (program closed)
- September 12th ACT Online Art Auction (until 22nd)
- September 13th Aktion Club Sub Fundraiser orders due
- September 27th Aktion Club Sub Day
- October 14th Columbus Day (program closed)

Board Members

- Erin Simmons, President
- Arrin Allen, Vice President
- Jim Oliver, Secretary
- Frank Lengel
- Joe Moore
- Kim Radison
- Michelle Smith

Contact Us

Opportunity Center
780 E.Co. Rd. 20, Tiffin, OH
419-447-7521

Early Intervention
419-447-7674

Early Childhood Center of Fostoria
419-436-0797

Service and Support Administration
567-938-2381

Find us on Facebook and
instagram!



Letter from Lew by Lew Hurst, Superintendent

As we approach the new school year many exciting changes will be seen in our buildings. I welcome the new staff that have joined our organization and want to say thank you to the existing staff who make us a great organization. I'm very proud of the quality work that we do to fulfill our mission of *Improving the lives of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities* in Seneca County. It's also important to see the individual growth of those we serve. It's been a busy and exciting year so far.

I am very proud of our Special Olympics Athletes that participated in the Summer Games in Columbus. We have an amazing team of coaches and a great organizer, Kristina Egbert, who plans and helps coordinate all of the Special Olympics activities. She encourages new athletes to participate and have fun with friends by participating in sports.

As we continue the building renovations of the new Service and Support Administration offices and Adult Programs, we ask that we all have patience as we move through the various projects. The new buildings will provide additional space for expanding services.

Special Olympic Ohio Summer Games



The Seneca Arrows traveled to Columbus for the Special Olympic Ohio Summer Games on June 28th-30th.

There were a total of 20 athletes that competed in bocce ball, track and field, volleyball and bowling. Everyone had a great time and showed their skills after practicing all season. Here are the 2024 Seneca Arrows results from that weekend:

Track and Field:

4x100m Relay Team - Gold; Josh Meyers, Arrin Allen, Kaleb Jakcsy and Thomas Hammer.

100m Dash - Thomas Hammer (gold), Matt Spencer (silver), Arrin Allen (bronze), Josh Meyers placed fourth and Kaleb Jakcsy placed fifth.

Standing Long Jump - Thomas Hammer (gold).

Running Long Jump - Kaleb Jakcsy (bronze).

Mini Javelin Throw - Arrin Allen (bronze), Matt Spencer (bronze), and Josh Meyers who placed sixth.

Volleyball:

Bronze; Israel Lopez, Ryan Herr, Seth Miller, Jonathan Jeffery, Timothy Culver, Emma Simpkins, Kamarah Smith and Nick Smith.

Bocce Ball:

John DeVanna (bronze), Michelle Gase (bronze) and Jamie Starkey placed fourth.

Bowling:

Ralph Gallo (silver), Sean Allison (bronze), Steve Hiser (bronze), and Ashley Steed placed sixth.

Coaches:

Bowling – Joe Coleman

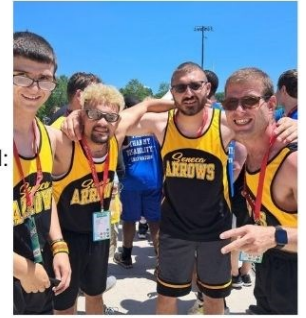
Track – Danette Brown-Dunn & Brian Kramer

Volleyball – Lisa Bogart & Lexie Fretz

Bocce – Natalie Ranker

Thank you to SCOC's Activities Coordinator Kristina Egbert for all of her hard work .

Huge thank you parents of the athletes, staff, coaches, and supporters!



Summer School

The School of Opportunity's second summer session was at the beginning of July. Students took advantage of the weather and the Opportunity Park all-abilities playground. They had a blast making crafts and even made edible cloud dough.



SCOC and Early Intervention Fair Booth

The Seneca County Opportunity Center and Early Intervention had a great time at the fair booth spreading the word about services. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to take pictures using our fair board and learn about our upcoming events. We appreciate those who volunteered to work the booth!



Aktion Club Convention

Aktion Club members traveled to the annual Aktion Club Leadership and Education Day in Delaware on July 20th. They spent the day learning, networking with other Aktion Clubs around Ohio and using their advocacy skills.

Thank you to those that attended!



DSP of the Month of July: Tricia Hohman

Every month, ACT Council and SCOC Board Members plan to recognize a DSP. Direct Support Providers support people with disabilities and help them live, learn and work in their community. If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming a DSP contact Karen Frank, Provider Liaison at 567-938-2381 ext 1010 or email kfrank@senecadd.org.

Tricia Hohman works for REM Ohio and is known to go above and beyond. An example would be when she brought one of the girls she supports a Christmas gift on her own time.

“Tricia has a positive attitude, and each time I visit the home I can tell how much the gals like her and are comfortable around her. The mood of the home seems cheerful and very homey, and Tricia seems like a natural when it comes to helping the gals live their best lives.”



Early Intervention COG Review

The Seneca County Early Intervention program received an exceptional review from the Clearwater Council of Governments (COG). Every six months the COG does a review on the program. Congratulations to Early Intervention on their positive review.



Upcoming Training

The Seneca County Board of DD and Wood County Board of DD is putting on a Technology Training Lab for preventing elopement. The training describes balancing a person's freedom with their safety. This training finds an effective, non intrusive solution that is respectful and practical. If you're a caregiver, a professional, or just curious about technology sign up for this training by contacting Jennifer Ridner at 567-938-2379 ext. 1001. It will take place September 10th from 10am-12pm at NCOESC at 928 West Market Street in Tiffin, Ohio.

SCOC Welcomes New Employee



Jessica Rogier
Service and Support Administrator (SSA)
Favorite color: pink
Favorite restaurant: Olive Garden

ACT Council Online Art Auction

SCOC's ACT Council is having their second Online Art Auction to raise money for "Art in the Park 2025." The auction will open on September 12th and go until September 22nd. There will be items from Art in the Park 2024 and original items featured. Keep an eye on our social media for more information.



We Are Hiring!!

If you or someone you know would be interested in a job please check out our website listed below to see open positions or check out our Facebook page:

<https://www.senecadd.org/general-9>

Check out our DSP video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhjud9EzSOU>

Instagram page: [@senecacountyopportunitycenter](https://www.instagram.com/senecacountyopportunitycenter)

www.senecadd.org