



Pipeline Quarterly

Spring 2014

*Self-Empowered Life Funding Waiver (SELF)
Promotes Self-Direction*



Directly above: Chris Hart (wearing hat) is flanked by service team members and other supporters of the SELF waiver. (p. 4)

Self-Directed Services are key to personal growth

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) is responsible for overseeing a statewide system of supports and services for approximately 90,000 citizens with developmental disabilities and their families. Among the thousands of people served there are many who are ready for a greater level of independence than they currently have.

Recognizing this, the Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver was developed to offer services in a more self-directed way to allow for greater independence and different choices. Introduced in July 2012, the SELF waiver was the first DODD waiver ever to be named by the individuals it was developed to serve. In September 2010, at the Ohio Self Determination Association (OSDA) conference, attendees chose the name from a brainstormed list of 169 suggestions. The result is that the name ‘Self-Empowered Life Funding’ is descriptive, easy-to-understand, and makes a great acronym!

The waiver encourages supports and services that offer new and better opportunities for living in the community, increasing independence, and maximizing resources.

A May DODD waiver services enrollment report indicates that there are a total of 262 Ohioans enrolled in services under the Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver, with three counties doing an especially good job of developing enrollment in their areas – Clermont, Guernsey, and Erie.

In this issue of *Pipeline Quarterly*, we will explore the opportunities offered in each of these counties as well as elsewhere, along with how the waiver is expanding options for people with developmental disabilities to live successfully in their communities. As Carrie Beier, Superintendent at the Erie County Board of DD stated,

“You have to take your foot off first base, or you’ll never steal second! SELF helps people to get off first base, and around the bases to Home.”

DODD is hopeful that, by providing this information and some examples, other counties will connect with these “SELF-motivated” counties and see how the waiver can work in their communities, for more people. ■

More resources: See the SELF Waiver Handbook online at www.dodd.ohio.gov, click on ‘Publications.’ Or, follow this URL: <http://dodd.ohio.gov/medicaid/Documents/SELF%20Handbook.pdf>

Director’s Message



DODD Director,
John L. Martin

“*The SELF Waiver is all about the people served in Ohio’s developmental disabilities system. It’s what they’ve told us they need and want. They even named the waiver -- took the bureaucracy out of that whole process! SELF embraces self-direction and choice.*”

-Director John Martin

Welcome to our *Pipeline Quarterly* feature publication, allowing a more in-depth look at core initiatives within Ohio’s DD system. This issue focuses on how the Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver is serving Ohioans with developmental disabilities by providing new service options and different ways to approach planning with greater independence.

This waiver is the first DODD-administered waiver that incorporates *self-direction*, which allows people with developmental disabilities to control their individual waiver budget, and to direct *where* and *how* they receive services. Several specific services also are unique to the SELF waiver, and are noted in this issue. We are hopeful that this waiver’s approach to offering services may find its way into other Medicaid-funded waivers, and offer more opportunities for success to more people served in our statewide system.

'SELF 101' - History, Services

Approval for the SELF waiver was received by DODD from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in December 2011, with enrollment starting July 1, 2012. Initial waiver capacity was originally estimated to be up to 500 individuals the first year, and included 100 Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs (CIBN waivers) who must meet certain criteria.

Eligibility

Individuals must meet approved Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) 'Level of Care' needs, and be willing and able to participate in *self-direction* -- meaning that individuals themselves can direct *where* and *how* services are provided. A pre-screening tool must be completed prior to waiver enrollment.

Flexibility in Budgeting and Predictability in Funding

Annual cost caps are \$25,000 for children and \$40,000 for adults, with some service-specific limitations built in to the waiver. Annual limits may be re-evaluated after the waiver becomes operational for the person.

Community Inclusion Services

Community Inclusion services available with the waiver support a person's full participation in the community, such as *personal assistance* in the home, and other community-based activities. They include opportunities and experiences that provide socialization and/or therapeutic recreational activities.

Budget Authority and/or Employer Authority

SELF waiver enrollees are required to engage in *participant direction*. Two components of participant direction are offered -- *Budget Authority* and *Employer Authority*. Budget Authority allows a person to allocate budget dollars to waiver services however they choose, and to manage their budget accordingly. Employer Authority allows the individual to hire, fire, direct, and otherwise manage their staff.



In 2010, participants at the Ohio Self Determination Association meeting lined up to continue the democratic process of naming the waiver. Self Advocates and support staff told their stories about why the waiver name they like best should be chosen. 'Self Empowered Life Funding' won the vote.

As Unique as the People it Serves

In developing the SELF waiver, DODD worked closely with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (DJFS) along with several stakeholder groups to identify the components needed for successful implementation, including staff training and informational materials.

Two new entities incorporated into the SELF waiver are:

Support Broker and *Financial Management Services*. Both exist to help individuals direct their own services and budget.

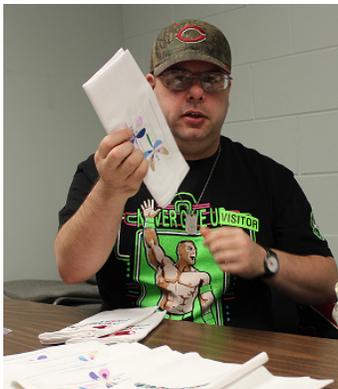
A *Support Broker* provides representation, advice, and assistance in coordination of services, and helps the person understand various responsibilities. The *Support Broker* also may help select providers and negotiate rates within a range.

Financial Management Services assist in meeting financial obligations involved in employing someone to provide services, such as taxes and insurance. They allow the person to focus on services by helping to manage budgets, and withholding necessary taxes to ensure state and federal employment requirements.

Contents

<i>SELF Waiver, Overview ...</i>	2-3
<i>Director's Message ...</i>	2
<i>Success in Clermont County ...</i>	4-5
<i>'Awesome Waiver,' Guernsey County ...</i>	6-7
<i>First Enrollees ...</i>	8-9
<i>Ambitious Goals, Erie County... </i>	10-11
<i>What They're Saying ...</i>	12

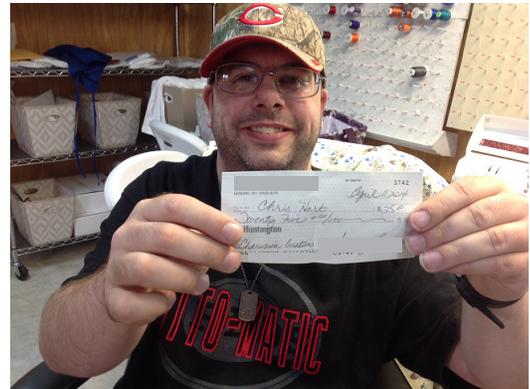
SELF Waiver Fosters Success in Clermont County



“You like my embroidery?”



“Look at the detail!”



“Thank you for your order.”

At a meeting in March at the Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) in Batavia, Ohio, Chris Hart handed out his business cards even before we sat down at the table to talk about the SELF waiver. It was clear that Chris, his Mom and Support Broker Janet Hart, and his service provider Debbie Burwinkel were ready to share their SELF stories.

So was Judie Taphorn, Kevin Taphorn’s Mom and Support Broker. Kevin was at work, so could not join the conversation this time, but Judie was very pleased to emphasize the ‘and Support Broker’ part of their identities. Debbie agreed, “The SELF waiver allows us to fill this important role in the service system, and it has been a perfect fit for us.”

A Support Broker is the agent of the person served, and helps with responsibilities involving participant direction. Duties may include helping the person negotiate rates for independent providers, and helping with coordination and communication between the person and County Board staff.

Strong on SELF...

A team of CCBDD staff and family members made it clear that the SELF waiver’s self-directed services are definitely the way to go.

Left to Right: Holly Strum, Chris Hart, Debbie Burwinkel, Judie Taphorn, Janet Hart.

Debbie says, “Chris just got hooked on it! Wait – that’s an embroidery joke!” Chris Hart flourishes one of his colorfully-embroidered tea towels. He says,

“My new embroidery machine, the Janome 12000, allows me to make these napkins with the dragonfly design and just about any other design a customer might want.”

The SELF waiver has helped pay for the equipment needed to help get Chris’ micro-enterprise, Charisma Creations, underway. Debbie Burwinkel explains that the SELF waiver has funded the embroidery machine and some supplies, providing an environment for Chris to start his own business. Chris notes, “Anyone who knows anything about sewing knows the Janome 12000!”

(cont. on p. 5)



Success in Clermont County ...

(cont. from p. 4)

Continuing around the meeting table at CCBDD, discussion turned to what is working best for enrollees on the SELF waiver; how the package of services is helping people to achieve desired outcomes; and, how County Board staff and the statewide system in general are embracing this waiver.

A few Ohio counties have taken this waiver and run with it in a big way. Clermont is one. The medium-sized county served 37 people on the SELF waiver as of late March 2014. For the population density and geographic service area, that's the most concentrated commitment of all of Ohio's County Boards of DD.

Superintendent Sharon Woodrow and her staff made the commitment when the SELF waiver was launched, to have 40 people receiving services via SELF within the first two years of enrollment. It looks like they will reach that goal by July.

The Taphorn family and the Hart family both were enthusiastic in their appreciation for the SELF waiver services themselves, as well as for the support they received from their Service and Support Administrators (SSAs) at the County Board.

SSA Holly Strum noted, "In the beginning, right after the waiver became available in July 2012, we brought in about 80 of the people on our waiting list who we thought might be good candidates for – or at least be interested in exploring – the SELF waiver. We held a meeting explaining it, and followed up right afterward with anyone who demonstrated an interest. Judie Taphorn observed,

“ She called me up the next day, I think! Holly got a hold of me and we took it from there. It was seamless! I really can't believe how well this has worked out for us. Kevin loves the services he is able to get, and we had not been on any waiver before. ”



Kevin Taphorn enjoys many skill-building opportunities at InRETURN in nearby Cincinnati.

The organization helps individuals with brain injuries improve interpersonal and other skills.

She added that Kevin is 27 years old and has worked at InRETURN, a place that specializes in working with people who have had brain injuries. He also attends The Tall Institute (Thomas Adventures in Lifelong Learning), and transportation to and from these sites are mainly what Kevin has purchased with the SELF waiver.

Judy explains, "The Tall Institute has made an immeasurable difference in Kevin's self-esteem, and has enriched his life with new relationships and experiences. The changes are dramatic!"

Chris Hart explained another reason the work opportunities offered under the SELF waiver are important to him. "Because I can't stand for a long time – my legs aren't strong – I need to have work I can do sitting down. And, I need to make money. I'm 35 – I need to make money!"

Charisma Creations operates from a small free-standing building on the same property as the Hart family home. "When I expand, I'll hire people with disabilities," he states firmly.

*Special thanks to Sharon Woodrow and Lisa Davis at the Clermont County Board of DD.
Contacts: ldavis@clermontd.org; swoodrow@clermontd.org; <http://www.clermontd.org/>*

It's an 'Awesome Waiver' in Guernsey County



They're a Team...

Jamie Allen (left) and Betsy Beatenhead team up to make the most of Cyrus' SELF funding. Betsy says, "Sometimes I just get overwhelmed. Right now I'm doing some research on brain balance, and what might help Cyrus -- both home instruction and working with professionals in the field. I rely on Jamie to help me see what services I can use, and the support is wonderful."



Cyrus relaxes at home, perhaps thinking about summer camp.

"The word's getting out that this is an awesome waiver," said Jamie Allen, as she looked back on being a new Service and Support Administrator (SSA) at the Guernsey County Board of DD in 2012. The SELF waiver had just been introduced. "It was good to be new then, and go to the training DODD had. It was very helpful! Right away we could see that, for our county, this waiver would be especially good for some of the children we had on board."

Jamie continues, "We brought the families together for a meeting one night and it was clear that we had several children eligible for children with intensive behavioral needs (CIBN) services who would benefit greatly from the funding.

"That's where we put our emphasis," notes Tanya Hitchens, the County Board's SSA Director. "Services for Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs under the SELF waiver have been a blessing for several of our families. We started with six families early-on ... three with SSA Jenny Brandt, and three for Jamie, all enrolled at the end of 2012."

Betsy Beatenhead explains that her son Cyrus is on the autism spectrum, and getting on the waiver in 2012 was a way to help him develop better communication skills. "He was nine when he started with the SELF waiver services, and now at age 11 we're seeing some results. I'm so grateful for the financial support of this waiver, and for the assistance I get from Jamie and the County Board." According to Betsy,

before enrolling on the SELF waiver, the family was using Family Support Services (FSS) dollars to help with Cyrus' needs, but that funding was not as flexible.

"With the SELF funding, we were able to buy a gym membership for Cyrus, and that has helped a lot with socialization and the need for physician-prescribed physical activity. We are also considering a day camp for him." She adds,

"Last year he went to Camp Echoing Hills through the waiver, and we were worried about him going. You know what? They had no problem with him! He loved it! It was so good for him, and a big step for us."

Betsy sums it up, "If I'm not sure what can be paid for with the waiver funds we have, I ask Jamie and we work together on it."

Also working together with the Guernsey County Board staff is the Huffman family. David Huffman is a young person with some challenging health issues, and he uses a wheelchair. His Mom, Patricia, explains that SELF waiver funds have helped by paying for staffing assistance in

(cont. on p. 7)

Awesome Waiver ... (cont. from p. 6)



More Teamwork...

Guernsey County SSA Jenny Brandt (right) works with David (above) and his family, making sure that SELF waiver paperwork and plans are up to date. Here, David's Mom, Patricia, signs off on an update.

the morning to help get David ready for the day. "We appreciate the personal assistance and so does David. He looks forward to them helping with his morning routine. We've also used the waiver for a special stroller to accommodate David more comfortably."

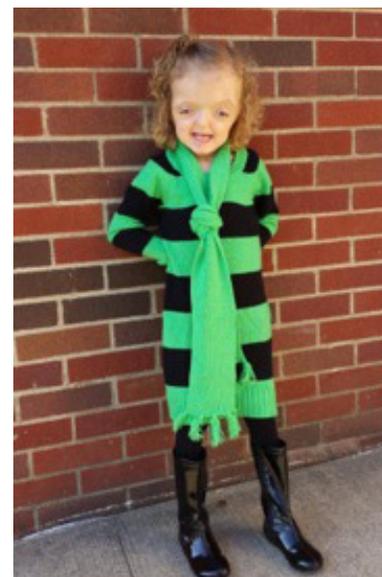
Guernsey County SSA Jenny Brandt notes that David will be getting a new wheelchair this spring, and has grown out of the old one. "Funding for these participant-directed goods and services has helped David and his family a lot -- helped him get out into the community more. That's what it's all about."

Another parent working with the Guernsey County Board is Ashley Daugherty. Her daughter, Raegan, age five, was born with cranio-facial syndrome. After many surgeries related to the syndrome and lots of "TLC," Ashley sees Raegan's gross motor skills and balance improving greatly. Helped by the CIBN funding, therapeutic services include gymnastics. Ashley remembers,

"Seeing her swinging on the rings one day was just amazing! When she was born, her fingers were webbed. We never dreamed she could grasp the rings, or adapt to being with the other children so well."

In Guernsey County, it's clear that these children will have a brighter future with the help of the Self-Empowered Life Funding waiver and its specialized services tailored to their needs.

Special thanks to Kellie Brown, KBrown@guernseycountydd.org; Tanya Hitchens, THitchens@guernseycountydd.org; Jamie Allen, JAllen@guernseycountydd.org; and, Jenny Brandt, JBrandt@guernseycountydd.org.



Style to spare.

Raegan is a budding gymnast, and loves to dance. The therapeutic services she has received have helped her to gain confidence. Her mom says,

"We can't believe how far she's come in the past couple of years!"

The First Adult Enrolled on the SELF Waiver ...

In 2012, Christine Brown enrolled and became her own Support Broker. She's still pioneering.



Christine Brown (right) with Jeanne Stuntz, friend and advocate. Christine has lived in Franklin County since May 2009, and enjoys experiencing life to the fullest, including all of the joys and challenges that come with it. Always thinking about ways to improve the lives of people with disabilities, she says,

“The SELF waiver gives me service options that I need, and saves money for the system. More self-directed services are what’s needed!”

The owner of her own business, *Brown-Cooley Associates in Self-Determination*, Christine is well known to many in Ohio’s developmental disabilities service system. She has been advocating for people with disabilities since 1994, and has a passion for positive change and more choices. Christine knew that the SELF waiver would be a great fit for her needs. In 2012 she explained, “I’m excited to be the first adult in the state on the SELF waiver! I tried to get all the paperwork in right away, and did some research into how everything should be done.”



In August 2012, Christine moved into a new apartment, and especially liked the kitchen. After a day at work, Christine’s service coordinator Megan Larkin stops by to see how she’s doing, and chat about the SELF waiver.

Christine works with County Boards and local officials to foster awareness for disability issues affecting individuals in the community. She is affiliated with several organizations and projects to promote concepts related to self-determination, including work with People First of Franklin County and the Ohio Self Determination Association.

A few weeks into ‘life with the SELF Waiver,’ Christine noted, “The *participant-directed services** part of it is just great for me. For example, I found I could use Yellow Cab to go to church, instead of waiting for a big group of people to decide to go to the same church at the same time and ride in a van or other group transportation. So, that’s just another solution the SELF waiver offers me!”

Following up in April 2014, Dave O’Neil, SSA Supervisor at the Franklin County Board of DD says that Christine continues to set high standards in using SELF waiver services. “She primarily uses it for *integrated employment* -- for example, she’s doing a survey of self-advocates through *Brown-Cooley*. She also uses the *participant-directed services* to help her feel safe in her home environment using a personal emergency response system, and for *transportation*.” He concludes, “Christine watches her money pretty well as her own Support Broker.”

And, as her own Support Broker, Christine has invited several people to her SELF budget meetings to, “Get a good picture of what’s needed to make the most of the waiver services. Then I can teach others about it.” And that’s what Christine does!

*More about specific services in the SELF Waiver Handbook, online at www.dodd.ohio.gov, click on ‘Publications.’

The First Child Enrolled on the SELF Waiver ... In 2012, Bradley Shonkwiler enrolled ... and became a child pioneer!

Bradley Shonkwiler made state news at only eight years old back in 2012, as the first child to be enrolled on the DODD Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) Waiver. His mom, Tracy, was excited about the options now available to him and the Shonkwiler family in Warren County.

In developing SELF Waiver service options, DODD and its stakeholders felt that it was important at the outset to incorporate 100 state-funded SELF Waivers designated for Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs (CIBN), and offer specific services for children who demonstrate such needs.

Tracy Shonkwiler worked closely with Kelly Detherage, Service and Support Administrator at the Warren County Board of DD, to apply for the SELF waiver. Bradley utilizes the *Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention* services available with the waiver. These services include those that assist unpaid caregivers and/or paid support staff in carrying out individual treatment/support plans that are needed to reduce a child's intensive behaviors, and implementing the supports necessary to improve the child's independence and interaction with the community.

To access these services, Bradley participated in a Functional Behavior Assessment, which was completed under the Autism Scholarship. For Bradley, these services include an aide/provider coming to his home three to four days per week to work with him to reduce unwanted behaviors. They work with him at his home, as well as out in the community. Bradley is using the *Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention* services to help him participate in socializing, make friends, and communicate with others in activities in the home and out in the community."

Detherage notes, "When reviewing the SELF Waiver with Bradley's mom, she was excited that her son would be able to obtain these services under SELF, as the Level One and Individual Options waivers do not offer these services. Tracy knew that Bradley would benefit greatly from having Clinical Therapeutic Intervention, and was very enthusiastic about the flexible options in this waiver."

The SELF Waiver also has helped the Shonkwiler family purchase a Rifton adaptive tricycle to provide therapeutic exercise, funded under *Participant-Directed Goods and Services*. The adaptive tricycle offers the fun of riding a tricycle for children who do not have well-developed motor skills, while helping to strengthen their legs and sense of balance as they learn.

Through the CIBN waiver, Bradley and his family have assistance with day-to-day needs that the waiver specifically was designed to help support. The long-range goal is that children with intensive behaviors can become more fully-participating adults in their communities.

Excerpted from the Autumn 2012 issue of Pipeline Quarterly.

*Warren County SSA
Kelly Detherage explains,*

“ As a team, we were able to review the Functional Behavioral Assessment and determine that Bradley would benefit from Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention Services. His mom was hopeful that Bradley could utilize these services in his daily life to help reduce self-injurious behaviors. ”



*Ah, the sheer joy of
being on a swing!*

In 2012, Bradley Shonkwiler showed his enthusiasm for swinging – and just about any outdoor activity. His mom says, “Bradley really likes all the sensations of being outside on the swings, and enjoys active play in general.”

SELF Waivers Set Ambitious Goals in Erie County

“It’s about *supporting* people, not *doing for* them,” says Carrie Beier, Superintendent of the Erie County Board of DD. She is excited about how the Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver has helped ten people receiving services to raise their expectations for themselves. She continues, “I’ve certainly seen it with Heather McFarland! Once she took her foot off first base she was ready to steal second, you know what I mean? You can’t get to ‘home’ without stepping off first base.”



*On the front porch of their apartment ...
Jeb (left) and Heather, with SSA Larrick Zirkle.*

“That’s what I think this waiver’s intent is with self-directed services. We’re already planning for ten more SELF waivers in our annual planning -- for a small service area that’s a fairly ambitious goal.”

Speaking of ambitious, Heather McFarland definitely exemplifies the opportunities and thoughtful risks that can be taken to live more independently in the community with the SELF waiver. Since arriving in Erie County and enrolling on the waiver, Heather has married Jeb ... successfully petitioned to become her own guardian ... interviewed for jobs outside the traditional day services ... and ramped-up her participation in self-advocacy groups.

County Board SSA Larrick Zirkle explains that the SELF waiver has helped Heather to plan better. “She has worked hard to plan for her needs with an individual budget, and she’s really taken responsibility for her choices. Heather’s chosen to use *Community Inclusion* services to help her be more independent.”

Joining in the conversation, Heather adds, “I’m going to start a new job at Sawmill Creek as a houseperson -- cleaning, laundry, general work like that. I interviewed on March 22, and it’s seasonal.”

“I’m excited that my SELF waiver will pay for transportation to work!”

Heather also has used some of her individual budget to attend a local fitness center and has lost 12 lbs., which Jeb says, “Everyone notices, Heather! You look great!” She blushes and says she’s going to keep working on her health goals. Jeb also points out that their apartment is within walking distance to the Sandusky Mall where he works, adding,

“We fit right in here.”

Erie County SSA Director Sharon Travis says she cannot overstate Heather’s personal growth since enrolling on the SELF waiver. She and Larrick agree, “She’s made some mistakes along the way -- like we all do. We help her work toward her goals and learn from her mistakes.” Larrick says,

“And I’ll tell you -- She’s just owned it!”

(cont. on p. 11)



On their refrigerator ...

A photo of Jeb and Heather the day they tied the knot, some healthy food reminders, family, and friends.

SELF Waivers, Erie County

(cont. from p. 10)

CIBN Waiver Services

Erie County SSA Kari Bernard works with the local County Department of Job & Family Services (CDJFS) office to serve Christine Meade, age 17, through a SELF waiver for Children with Intensive Behavioral Needs (CIBN). Christine's guardian Tina Krueger explains that Christine is living with a foster family now that has proven to be an excellent placement. She observes,

“Christine is beginning to feel a part of a family. With this waiver working for her, and this family, I see so many more opportunities for her. Oh my gosh, she's been through a lot in her 17 years!”

Kari adds that the SELF funding for technology to help Christine communicate has been very helpful. “We've purchased an iPad for her and it helps with communicating and time management. We are always looking for apps to help her. We may build an app for verbal cues -- we're looking into a lot of things that the SELF funding can help her with.”

Tina and Kari agree that the SELF waiver offers the freedom to tailor services to the person -- “It's an absolutely huge bonus! Especially for a young person in agency custody.”



Christine is feeling a part of a family now. With a new foster family environment and a little help from SELF waiver services, she has a brighter future and more opportunities for success.

Tina sums it up this way ...

“One of the things that I think is really important is that a child won't be dropped from the waiver just because his or her intensive behavioral needs improve. You shouldn't be punished for improving! If a child with intensive behavioral needs becomes less needy, and grows up to be a young adult without intensive behavioral needs, well that's a win-win for everyone. Less money needed from the system over a lifespan, and more integrated community-based services.

Those SELF dollars then can be used for the person's employment-related skill development ... improving communications skills via technology ... improving independence with remote monitoring... it's just a win-win.”

Looking at the big picture for Erie County, Superintendent Beier shared some thoughts about the SELF waiver:

“We will continue to enroll people on SELF waivers because, out of the four waivers that County Boards administer, SELF is the most flexible in meeting the support needs of individuals and integrating them into the community. And, a person can purchase goods and services that other waivers don't offer.”

In Erie County, Heather will tell you, and Christine will show you the benefits of the Self Empowered Life Funding waiver. Self-directed services and help for specific needs allow them to gain the confidence needed to live their lives more independently, and with more choices.

An Erie County Perspective

“SELF waivers go hand-in-hand with our budget process. Our system is different. We do individual budgets, and starting at age 14 we look at what it is going to take to help support that person. The SELF waiver just fits into how our county works with people.”

-Carrie Beier, Superintendent

Special thanks to Carrie Beier, Sharon Travis, and the SSA staff at the Erie County Board of DD for information contained in this article. Contact: CBeier@eriecbdd.org; STravis@eriecbdd.org; http://eriecbdd.org/

What They're Saying ...

A potpourri of comments on the Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver.

“The Arc strongly supports reaching outside of the traditional developmental disabilities community to provide some services, and add to an individual’s day-to-day experiences. Both the DODD administration and The Arc are encouraged about the opportunities families can have with the SELF waiver. Support for the family whenever possible is a big part of how this waiver was designed.”

- Gary Tonks, The Arc of Ohio

“The SELF waiver is more flexible with dollars. It helps to not be stressing all the time about money! For example, I know I can take a taxi once in a while to church, instead of having to wait to get a whole vanful of people who want to go to the same church at the same time.” - Christine Brown, Self-Advocate

“Kevin was the first person in Clermont County to be enrolled in the SELF waiver. We just don’t know what we would do without it. We’ve never had waiver services – had been on a waiting list for a long time – and this has been a perfect fit for us.”

–Judie Taphorn, Parent and Support Broker

“I took the SELF waiver Support Broker training online, and downloaded the SELF Handbook from the DODD website. It was really very helpful, and I refer to the handbook all the time.

I’ve learned a lot over the last year or two.”

Debbie Hart, Parent and Support Broker



*Sometimes there’s no need to say anything!
This hug between Raegan Daugherty and her younger sister says it all.*

The Mission of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

is continuous improvement of the quality of life for Ohio’s citizens with developmental disabilities and their families.

Publication Notes

Published four times annually by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) Division of Legislative Affairs & Communications, *Pipeline Quarterly* focuses on people and topics of interest to the statewide developmental disabilities community, and supports the Administration’s core concepts and philosophy. We thank all who have allowed us to work with them to prepare this issue, and who have contributed to its development.

Reader ideas, comments, and feedback are always welcomed. Please submit ideas and feedback to editor Sherry Steinman, sherry.steinman@dodd.ohio.gov, or call (614) 644-0262. *Pipeline Quarterly* and the twice-monthly *Pipeline* are online at www.dodd.ohio.gov.



Catch up with Marsha Mace and her cat, Yum-Yum, in the next *Pipeline Quarterly*.

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