



**Regular Board Meeting
June 18, 2026**

**Donzella Administration Building – 1275 Lakeside Avenue E, Cleveland, OH 44114
and broadcasted live via Zoom – 5:30 pm**

1. Opening

A. Convene

The regular Board meeting was called to order by President, Steve Scheidt at 5:33pm.

B. Roll Call

Members present: Allison Frazier, Dennis Roberts, Stephen Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Members not present/Delayed: Alaina McCruel

2. Minutes

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities held May 28, 2026, a copy of which is made a part of the permanent record of this meeting, be accepted as directed by the President, without objection, and approved as published.

Motion by Dennis Roberts, second by Steve Scheidt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Not present at vote: Alaina McCruel

3. Donations

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities gratefully accepts eleven equipment donations of unspecified value to the OT/PT Lending Library.

Motion by Sara Steimle, second by Derek Topola.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Not present at vote: Alaina McCruel

4. Financial Statements

RESOLVED, that the Operating Fund Statement and the Statements of Revenue and Expenditures - Planned and Actual for the year-to-date period ending May 31, 2026, be accepted and filed for audit; the payment of

vouchers for the period May 1, 2026 to May 31, 2026 be ratified; and that all statements and voucher summaries are made a part of the permanent record of this meeting.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Allison Frazier.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Not present at vote: Alaina McCruel

Chief Business Officer, Rachel Sielski, gave a summary of the financial statements noting significant variances. We opened the month with a cash balance of \$102,174,388. Our total revenues were \$2,209,973, and our expenditures were \$6,518,375, for a cash balance ending of \$97,865,986.

5. Announcements

President, Steve Scheidt turned the meeting over to Superintendent, Dr. Amber Gibbs who gave the following announcements:

- Last fall, Cuyahoga DD began fundraising for the Kelly A. Petty Self-Advocacy Scholarship Fund by charging for parking in our Lakeside parking lot during Browns games and other events held at Huntington Bank Field. The money we raised this year sent three people we serve (Bryan, Jordan & Cameron), along with a caregiver each, to the National Self-Direction Conference in Minneapolis at the end of May. Bryan's caregiver, Chantelle Lewis, sent us this message after the conference: *"Bryan enjoyed the 2026 National Self-Direction Conference in Minneapolis, which was valuable for sharing innovative self-direction practices, fostering collaboration, and strengthening person-centered supports and individual choice. He loved the plane ride as well. Again, thank you for the opportunity for us to attend."*
- June 6 was Pride in the CLE day where Cuyahoga DD's staff members marched alongside LGBTQIA people we serve and their supporters. Cuyahoga DD also provided our Mobile Sensory Space for the event.
- Cuyahoga DD participated in Disability Access Day at the West Side Market on June 10. The West Side Market is undergoing a multi-year renovation to make the Market more accessible and to provide shoppers in our community with better shopping experiences. Cuyahoga DD is supporting this effort with plans for the installation of accessible doors and a universal changing table in the Market Hall. Many day programs brought people to experience the Market, and vendors received training on how to support shoppers with disabilities before the event. Disability Access Day was a partnership between the West Side Market, Cuyahoga DD, LEAP and the Cleveland Sight Center.
- Cuyahoga DD partnered with S.A.W., Inc. to create Green Acres Garden at our Green Road Center. Our Facilities and Operations staff built an accessible garden and on June 10 S.A.W. brought people from their day program to help plant the garden. The garden will be tended by S.A.W. and day program participants.
- Also on June 10, Cuyahoga DD attended the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's Harvest for Hunger Celebration, where organizations throughout the community celebrated the nearly \$12.5 million raised across Northeast Ohio during the campaign. Cuyahoga DD was also delighted to be awarded the Bag of Hope Award, which recognizes large organizations (typically those with 200 or more employees) that demonstrate an outstanding, unparalleled commitment to fighting hunger in Northeast Ohio through fundraising, food drives, and employee engagement! Our agency collected \$13,838 to support community members facing food insecurity.
- As the 2030 host city of the Special Olympics, Cleveland was the last stop on the Special Olympics Torch's journey to Minneapolis on June 11. A team of law enforcement officers and Special Olympics

athletes ran through downtown Cleveland landmarks before landing at Public Square for a short ceremony honoring the athletes and law enforcement partners on the road ahead to Minneapolis.

- Superintendent Gibbs will be attending the USA Special Olympics Games, starting June 20, as part of her responsibilities as a member of the 2030 Special Olympics Executive Planning Committee. She will participate in the opening ceremony, meeting with the 2026 Special Olympics event planners, and gather ideas to successfully execute the 2030 Special Olympics in Cleveland.

6. Discussion Topic

Presentation: *Cuyahoga DD Leadership Council* - presented by Tracy Greenberg, Leadership Council Member

Presentation slides are attached to these minutes.

7. Status Reports

Superintendent Gibbs had no comments regarding the following reports:

Enrollment Status Report and Trends
Major Unusual Incidents (MUI) Report
Employee Status Report

8. New Business

A. Agreement with Woods Services

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to renew an agreement with Woods Services in Langhorne, Pennsylvania for the period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, whereby Woods Services will provide residential treatment and vocational services to one individual with developmental disabilities for a sum not to exceed \$235,316; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Sara Steimle, second by Alaina McCruel.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that this individual has lived at Wood Services for thirty years. This is the only person we pay to live out-of-state because the home specializes in treating people with Prader-Willi Syndrome.

B. Sale of Unlicensed Waiver Homes to North Coast Community Homes

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to sell six unlicensed homes to North Coast Community Homes (NCCH) for a sum of \$1,830,000 minus closing costs and fees; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Sara Steimle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that North Coast Community Homes placed the most favorable bid to Cuyahoga DD's RFP with respect to the purchase price, declared intention to continue to maintain and rent these homes to people with developmental disabilities, and rent structure.

C. Property, Pollution, Crime, Liability, Auto, and Cyber Insurance

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to renew its policies for Property, Pollution, Crime, Liability, Auto, and Cyber Insurance for the period beginning July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for a sum not to exceed \$341,457 through the Ohio School Plan, Travelers Insurance and Tokyo Marine HCC, respectively, which policies are administered by Hylant Administrative Services, LLC; and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Dennis Roberts, second by Derek Topola.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that we extended our Liability and Auto coverages for six months to get all the policies on a single renewal period. The property and pollution policies provide Cuyahoga DD with coverage for all our residential group homes, furniture, technology and other contents of our administrative buildings as well as the TryTech apartments.

D. Adoption of Cybersecurity Program

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to adopt a cybersecurity program in accordance with Ohio Revised Code section 9.64 (C). The program is established to safeguard the agency's data and information technology and ensure availability, confidentiality, and integrity; and, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Dennis Roberts, second by Derek Topola.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that we already have a cybersecurity system in place, ahead of Ohio House Bill 96. Our IT department has been excellent at training Cuyahoga DD staff as well as implementing software programs that prevent malware attacks, maintain system backups, and monitoring devices to the network.

9. Comments from the Floor

Representative Tristan Rader, from Ohio House of Representatives – District 13, spoke on the Concurrent Resolution that was created with the collaboration of Board members Derek Topola and Sara Steimle and Cuyahoga DD's Leadership Council.

A copy of this Concurrent Resolution is attached to these minutes.

10. Adjournment

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities hereby adjourns.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Allison Frazier.

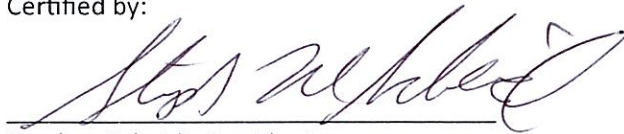
Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

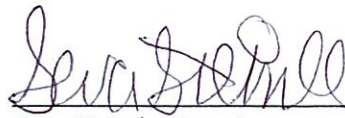
Time adjourned: 6:20 pm.

Next Meeting – August 27, 2026 at 5:30 pm, Donzella Administration Building, 1275 Lakeside Ave E, Cleveland, OH 44114 and broadcast via Zoom. Zoom link will be shared on the Cuyahoga DD website at cuyahogadd.org at least three days prior to the meeting.

Certified by:



Stephen Scheidt, President



Sara Steimle, Secretary

Ir_136_0236-2

136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026

. C. R. No.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To encourage all county boards of developmental
disabilities in Ohio to adopt an advisory board
composed of self-advocates with developmental
disabilities. 1
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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, According to the Arc of the United States and the
Institute on Community Integration, self-advocacy is a civil and
human rights movement led by people with intellectual and
developmental disabilities to exercise their rights as citizens
by communicating for and representing themselves, with supports
in doing so, as necessary; and 5
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WHEREAS, Many supporters of the self-advocate movement
endorse a "nothing about us without us" message to affirm that
people with disabilities should be included in all spaces where
decisions about people with disabilities are made, including in
the public policy decisions that affect them; and 11
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WHEREAS, In November 2023, the Cuyahoga County Board of
Developmental Disabilities created an advisory group called the
Leadership Council; and 16
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WHEREAS, The Leadership Council's mission is to modify and 19


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improve ease of access to services, facilities, and programs 20
being provided by the county; and 21

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council has adopted the motto of 22
"If it's for us, bring it before us"; and 23

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council is comprised of five to 24
seven members, all of whom have a developmental disability and 25
are served by the County Board; and 26

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council promotes self-advocacy and 27
includes elected leadership positions for people with 28
developmental disabilities, including the ability to serve as 29
the Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary of the Council; and 30

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council establishes its own bylaws 31
regarding how it governs itself and engages with the County 32
Board; and 33

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council has worked on disability 34
inclusion curriculum and provided feedback on services, 35
technologies, and advocacy events administered by the county to 36
improve their quality; and 37

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council also provides feedback to 38
external community organizations, such as the local board of 39
elections, regarding the disability perspective on the 40
organizations' services and processes; and 41

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council has worked directly with 42
Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities staff, 43
including a designated Americans with Disabilities Act 44
coordinator, to further improve accessibility to its properties 45
and programs; and 46

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council provides an important 47
perspective that the County Board may otherwise have not 48
considered; and 49

WHEREAS, The accessibility of County Board projects has 50
improved since the creation of the Leadership Council; and 51

WHEREAS, The Leadership Council has been a positive 52
addition to the community and provided people with developmental 53
disabilities an opportunity to directly engage with policies 54
that impact them; and 55

WHEREAS, Ability should not be a barrier to participation 56
in a self-advocacy board and boards should include participants 57
who use an advocate or caretaker; and 58

WHEREAS, Communities across Ohio can look to the Leadership 59
Council at the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental 60
Disabilities for guidance on how to include people with 61
developmental disabilities in leadership and promote self- 62
advocacy; now therefore be it 63

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 64
Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage all county boards of 65
developmental disabilities to adopt an advisory board composed 66
of self-advocates with developmental disabilities to provide 67
feedback on county board projects and initiatives; and be it 68
further 69

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 70
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 71
leadership of each county board of developmental disabilities 72
and the news media of Ohio. 73



C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y Board of Developmental Disabilities

Regular Board Meeting June 18, 2026

M. A. Donzella Administration Building and via Zoom

Stephen Scheidt, Board President

Allison Frazier, Board Vice President

Sara Steimle, Board Secretary

Board Members: **Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Derek Topola**

5.27-5.29.26 - Kelly A.
Petty Scholarship
Recipients Attend
National Self-
Direction Conference
in Minneapolis



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities



6.6.26 - Cuyahoga DD at Pride in the CLE



6.10.26 - Disability Access Day at the West Side Market



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities

6.10.26 - Planting at Green Acres Garden



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities

6.10.26 -
Cuyahoga DD
Recieved Bag of
Hope Award
from Greater
Cleveland Food
Bank



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities



6.11.26 - Special Olympics Torch Comes through Cleveland



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities



C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y
Board of Developmental Disabilities

Leadership Council

June 18, 2026

Supporting and empowering people with developmental disabilities
to live, learn, work and play in the community



C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y
Board of Developmental Disabilities

Your Presenter



Tracy Greenberg

Leadership Council
Member

Supporting and empowering people with developmental disabilities
to live, learn, work and play in the community

Leadership Council

Est. 2023



Leadership Council Model

- 5-7 Members
- Individuals Served by Cuyahoga DD
- Advisory Committee
- Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary Positions
- Meets Twice Monthly
- Members are Volunteers
- Establish Bylaws, Meeting Agendas, Minutes
- Share Lived Experience
- Provide Feedback often as a Focus Group



Leadership Council Mission

"The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Leadership Council is comprised of individuals each living with a developmental disability and/or receiving services from the County Board of DD in order to modify and improve as well as ease access to services, facilities and programs being provided by the County Board for such individuals. "



Leadership Council Projects

- Cuyahoga DD Website
- Board of Elections
- Leadership Council Resolution
- Parma Safety Town
- Provider Agency Certification Rule Revision
- Online Resource Guide



Leadership Council 2024 Collaborations

- **Service and Support Administration**
- **Assistive Technology and Children Services**
- **Public Information and Communications**
- **Provider Development and Support**
- **Community Development**
- **Behavioral Health**



In 2024 Vice Chair, Kelly Harmody is shown with Secretary Sara Steimle



Leadership Council 2025 Collaborations

- **Assistive Technology and Children Services***
- **MUI**
- **Human Resources**
- **Community Development***
- **Community Contracts and Residential Services**
- **Medicaid and Data Analytics**
- **Provider Development and Support***
- **Information Technologies**
- **Service and Support Administration***
- **Public Information and Communication***

*Departments from 2024 came back for more



Leadership Council 2025

Project Highlights

- **Community Development**
 - *Feedback on Community Resource Packet*
- **Public Information and Communication**
 - *Feedback on Website Development*
- **Community Contracts and Residential Services**
 - *Family Supports Program Survey*



Leadership Council Projects 2026

- **Public Information and Communications***
 - *Story Board on Eligibility and Redetermination*
- **MUI***
 - *Abuse Awareness Flyer*
- **Child Services and Therapy Services***
 - *Early Intervention Video*
- **Assistive Technology and Children Services***
 - *Toileting Readiness Educational Materials*
- **Service and Supports Administration***
 - *Transition Bootcamp Trifold*
- **Provider Development***
 - *DSP (Direct Service Provider) Education Presentation*

*Departments LC has already worked with previously



What Are They Saying About Leadership Council?

Lori Mago, Early Intervention and Therapy Services:

"EITS has benefited from the input, expertise and lived experience from Leadership Council on several projects over the past few years...Their input created more weight than anyone else's and was the deciding factor in the final product."

- LC assisted with lending library awareness flyer for underserved zip codes for language, formatting, and pictures
- LC participated in the development of the Floreo Digital Boundaries Module to promote safe online interactions



Leadership Council to Board Members



Derek Topola
Former Chair of LC



Sara Steimle
Former Secretary of LC



Leadership Council Advocacy



Leadership Council Resolution

- State House Rep. Tristan Radar, Sara Steimle and Derek Topola drafted legislation to recommend all DODD Boards incorporate a Leadership Council model.
- Rep. Radar attended a LC meeting in April 2026 asking for comprehensive feedback about the work of LC and the drafted legislation.
- The bill has gained bipartisan sponsorship and has been referred to the Children and Human Services Committee for a first hearing.



Resolution

As Introduced

136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026

H. C. R. No. 44

Representatives Rader, Odioso

Cosponsors: Representatives Piccolantonio, Somani, Miller, J., Upchurch, Bryant
Bailey, Sims, Lett, Synenberg, Brennan, Russo, Cockley

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Leadership Council

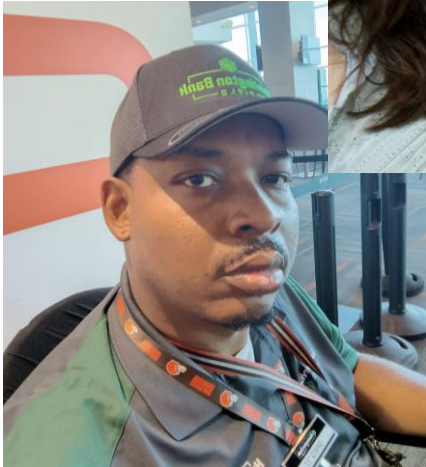
"If it's for us, bring it before us!"

Leadership Council represents the people you serve.

Kelly Harmody (Chair)



Daniel Ranallo (Vice Chair)



Greg Stuart



Sean Walker



Tracy Greenberg

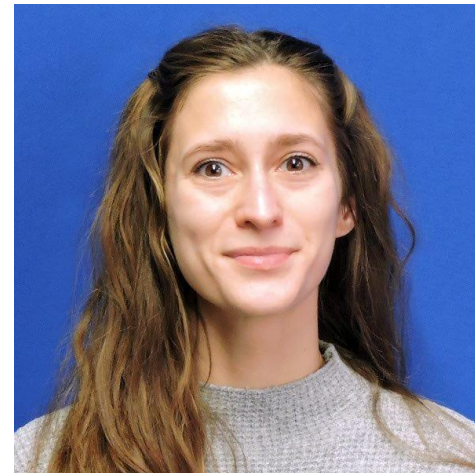


"If it's for us, bring it before us!"

Join a Leadership Council meeting by contacting ...



Jimmy Lowe,
Community Inclusion Specialist



Stephanie Nalepa,
Community Development Specialist

Leadership Council Support Team





LC Top Collaborator

Stefanie Galbreath,

Community Development Specialist

ADA Title II Coordinator

- 2024-2025 Review of Community Grant Proposals
- 2025 Passport to Fun Event Feedback
- 2025 Synergy Panel with Derek and Tracy
- 2026 Review of Family Events Calander
- 2026 Facilitated LC screening and feedback for the musical, "Freak the Mighty" at Cleveland Playhouse



Inclusion begins with YOU



To learn more about Cuyahoga DD:

Visit us at cuyahogabdd.org ▪ Like us on Facebook/[cuyahogabdd](https://www.facebook.com/cuyahogabdd) ▪ Watch us on YouTube/[cuyahogabdd](https://www.youtube.com/cuyahogabdd)



Comments from the Floor





C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y
Board of Developmental Disabilities

**You have exceeded your
5-minute limit.**

Thank you for your comment.