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**Jackson County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities**

**5 Year Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027**

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*Mission*

*The mission of the Jackson County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to facilitate opportunities for community integration for eligible individuals and families through informed choice and self-advocacy.*

*Vision*

*Empower people to reach their full potential and promote community inclusion and encourage acceptance in the community.*

### **Self-Advocacy**

**Goal:** Promote self-advocacy opportunities through training and decision-making opportunities.

**Action:**

The County Board will communicate with providers to ensure there are virtual and in-person opportunities for self-advocacy. The staff will maintain a calendar with virtual and in-person self-advocacy opportunities statewide. The County Board will collaborate with Vinton County for combined self-advocacy opportunities. Self-advocacy and self-determination will be addressed during service planning. The County Board will educate individuals/families/providers on supportive technology and ways it can increase/improve skills and independence and supplement in person HPC services.

### **Integration**

**Goal:** Expand opportunities for integrated community activities.

**Action:**

We will actively address community integration and community connections in service planning. In addition, our staff will continuously identify activities, volunteer opportunities, and employment opportunities with individuals, families and providers. The Board will explore potential uses for supportive technology to increase access to people and places in the community.

### **Community Employment**

**Goal:** Enhance work experiences and employment for individuals.

**Action:**

The County Board will identify services, supports and outcomes to help individuals move forward on the Path to Employment. Information will be provided about employment and employment services to families and individuals. The County will work with OOD to provide referrals for individuals who express wanting a community job. We will also assess potential use of technology solutions to support individuals in community jobs. The County will work with teachers at Hope Haven School as well as home school districts to expand employment opportunities and work experience for school age students.

### **Providers Relations**

There is an array of providers of services in Jackson County to meet the needs of individuals receiving services.

**Goal:** Continue communication with providers to maintain quality of services to meet the needs of individuals served.

**Action:**

The County Board will maintain a provider email group for correspondence about important information. The Board will also offer training on various topics; including trauma informed care, MUI training, ISP training, behavior supports, person centered practices, Good Life, to providers. There are currently 9 HPC Agency providers, 27 HPC Independent Providers, 6 Adult Day Providers and 1 Remote Monitoring Provider. The Board will continue education on remote monitoring/technology solutions to help alleviate staffing shortages.

### **Community Relations and Outreach**

**Goal:** Educate and Inform community members and community partners about services provided by the County Board.

**Action:** The County Board will utilize a wide range of tools such as social media, print media, community events and community organizations to relay information and educate community partners about services provided by the County Board as well as upcoming events and new initiatives.

### **Transportation**

The County Board provides transportation for students at Hope Haven School as well as connects individuals with community resources for transportation.

**Goal:** Increase opportunities for individuals through an array of transportation options.

**Action:**

The County Board will refer and link individuals to transportation services including NMT and HPC and transportation through JVCA, JFS and Senior Citizens as well. Individual's needs for transportation will also be assessed during planning meetings. The County will continue to seek out other transportation options for individuals, such as Mobility Manager with Community Action, and with DODD.

### **Early Intervention Services**

The Ohio Departments of Health (ODH) and Developmental Disabilities share a coordinated plan for ensuring comprehensive, coordinated and statewide delivery of Early Interventions Services, through Part C of the Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Act (IDEA). These essential services continue as Ohio's Help Me Grow program, with a commitment to providing building blocks to success for Ohio's families. "**Early Intervention**" means services and supports

provided as early as possible to enhance the family's ability to meet the developmental needs of their child. Early intervention services and supports are designed to identify the presence of a disability, delay, or risk-factors which may lead to a delay, and provide interventions responsive to the preferences of the family that maximize the child's optimal growth and development.

**Goal:** Assisting families with early intervention services through a team approach.

**Action:**

The County Board's Developmental Specialist will make frequent home visits while modeling strategies to obtain goals set by the team in all developmental domains. The Developmental Specialist will complete the home visits in the parent's least restrictive environment, which can be their home or a community setting. The Developmental Specialist will communicate with the SSA department regarding children aging out of Early Intervention, for families who wish to continue exploring services available through the County Board.

### **Education**

**Goal:** Increase student achievement for students to become successful members of family, school, working environments and community.

**Action:**

The Hope Haven Principal, school staff and SSA Department will keep in communication to address needs of students beyond school services. Daily living skills are targeted in the classroom to help all students achieve a higher level of independence. The Preschool staff will maintain requirements for the 5 Star Step Up to Quality rating. The Principal and school staff will work with the State Support Team to ensure that they are up to date on all new educational standards as well as best practices.