

1. Self-Advocacy

- SSA Dept. continued to maintain a shared calendar with advocacy opportunities across the state. Individuals are attending advocacy meeting through SOCOG, Vinton County Advocacy Group, and through local providers. Individuals have the opportunity to attend virtual advocacy meetings through other organizations, ex. "We Thrive Together". Individuals also played a vital part in the Southern Ohio Advocacy Group efforts to expand and distribute blue envelopes for the Blue Envelope Project.

2. Integration

- SSAs continue to assess individual's desire for community integration during service planning, supports are put into place to ensure individuals are able to access the community as much as they choose. Opportunities are available through home and day providers. Examples are individuals employed in competitive employment; in 2025 we still had 7 individual who were employed competitively. Many individuals attend church with staff or family. Individuals assisted with the Autism Socialization Group by passing out candy at a sensory-friendly trick-or-treat event, baking cookies for Cookies with Santa, and putting on a fun art activity. Individuals also helped organize and distribute the donation of 45 Thanksgiving dinners for families in the community and assisted the Jackson Lion's Club with their Easter project for local nursing homes. Individuals also painted windows at local businesses to promote and celebrate DD Awareness Month.

3. Community employment

- In 2025, we had 7 individuals that were employed in the community. The SSA department refers individuals to OOD to help individuals obtain competitive employment. Typically, there are 1-3 open OOD cases at any given time. In 2025, there were 30 individuals receiving waiver employment services such as vocational habilitation or group employment support which are meant to help individuals learn skills to progress on the path to employment.

4. Provider Relations

- In 2025, we had 12 HPC Agency Providers, 31 Independent Providers, 6 Adult Day, 1 Remote Monitoring provider. Our provider pool is updated continuously as providers express interest in serving individuals in Jackson County. Training is offered to providers to help maintain quality of services for our individuals in areas such as MUI, behavior supports, and crisis intervention.

5. Community Relations and Outreach

- In 2025, the JCBDD found various ways to convey the purpose of the board to the public. The board participated in community events such as Wellston Trunk or Treat and our annual DD Awareness Month event where community partners attended. JCBDD also teamed up with community partners for a sensory-friendly trick-or-treat event and distributed blue envelopes for the Blue Envelope Project. SSA Dept. utilizes social media to inform the public about how individuals are part of the community.

6. Transportation

- In 2025, we continued to problem solve when transportation needs arose and explored creative solutions for transportation needs. SSA director has attended Mobility Management Transportation Coordination Advisory

Council meetings to address the transportation needs of the community. SSA Dept. continues to develop individualized solutions to transportation needs as they arise to help individuals reach their goals.

7. Early Intervention

In 2025, JCBDD partnered the Scioto County Board of DD to expand and the growing needs of children ages birth to three for EI services. This partnership has led to having more services to offer Jackson County children birth to three such as PT, OT, Speech, vision and nutritional services. In 2025, Jackson County had 76 referrals for Early Intervention services.

8. Education

-In 2025, The SOAR class has successfully placed five students in internships that will help them build the life skills needed for the future achievements. Twenty-three students required to take the Alternative assessments have completed. The Hope Haven Preschool has maintained their five star/ gold star status. Eight teachers have completed the Science of Reading Curriculum. Three students completed required seals to graduate in addition to that all have completed 60 hours of community service.