

Greetings, Riverside FANS!

And we finally have some sun! Who else is enjoying this beautiful weather and taking advantage of some rain-free days? Our Special Olympics soccer team certainly did during their last couple practices and their end-of-the-season outdoor pizza party. Yes, it was a damp season indeed, and we appreciate all our volunteers and fans for sticking with us through it all. Despite the storms, we still had fun!

Our volleyball FANS also made this season one to remember, and we couldn't have done it without them, especially coach Julia Brandewie and helper, Danielle Koogler. The support we received from the Miami County community brightened our days as well, including donations from the 2019 Teen Leadership Troy class, UVCC and the Franklin Masonic Lodge #14 F. & A.M. But of course, we can't forget the Troy Strawberry Festival and our friends at Hickory River! Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's booth, as well as all of you who stopped by to enjoy some award-winning BBQ and support Friends for Riverside.

The heart our Miami County community has for one another makes this a great place to live, and we're grateful to call it our home. Please join us in thanking the following FANS their latest support:

- **Teen Leadership Troy (TLT)** for visiting us again this year and having some fun with us, Cooper, Katie and Larkyn! We'd also like to thank the students for awarding us with a \$400 grant through the Troy Foundation's Project GIFT Grant. This donation will help our Special Olympics program purchase much-needed new jerseys for our athletes. (Pictured below, two photos on left)
- **Franklin Masonic Lodge #14 F. & A.M.** for supporting our Community Connections Department and its annual trip to Camp Chautauqua. With your donation, our campers will once again be able to participate in one of their favorite activities of the year. (Pictured below, second from right)
- **The local businesses** who joined the Franklin Masonic Lodge and helped raise funds for the Camp Chautauqua donation through their collection boxes.
- **Hickory River** for partnering with us again this year for the Troy Strawberry Festival. Because of your hard work and the support of our community, Friends for Riverside raised \$3,778! (Pictured below, far right)
- **Upper Valley Career Center Business Professionals of America (BPA)** for holding a "Casual Jeans Day" and raising \$450 for our Special Olympics program.

- **Danielle Koogler, Brian and Lauren Peters, Ryann Spoltman, Colton Teepe and Chelsea Warner** for volunteering with our Special Olympics volleyball and soccer teams this season. We enjoyed spending the season with you and hope to see you again next year!
- **Bobby Lockard** for inviting us back to your pond for another fun night of fishing.
- **Marie Conner** for spending your day off helping Amy Shank with our Life Skills: Job Readiness course. Amy said you were a blessing, and she'd love to have you help anytime!
- **Mark Higgins** and **Complete Fitness** for organizing our Special Olympics powerlifting program and empowering our athletes to continue to push themselves every week.
- **Troy Christian Church** for being newsletter-folding machines! You managed to help us get the July/August Community Connections Newsletter out in record time.
- **Dave Baker, Harry Bashore, David Battista, Mike Gitzinger, Ed Hatem, Jack Hoekstra, Dr. Donald Luna, Mike Nagley, Bob Schoknecht, Linda Slattery-Lohmoeller and Doug Snipes** for volunteering to play alongside our Magic golfers this season. We wish you all the best of luck this season!
- **David Maxson, Carla Brogden and Mindy Baker** for helping our Bell Choir finish the season strong with their performance at SpringMeade in Tipp City. We enjoyed having you all, and we hope you have a great break.
- **St. Christopher Parish** for stopping by again this summer and helping our Facilities Department with the courtyard garden and softball field.
- **The Miami County YMCA – Robinson Branch** for partnering with us this summer to offer another successful round of Kids Swim Lessons.



You can see more pictures of our FANS by visiting our [Facebook](#) page. Our FANS program has received several new opportunities for you to support those we serve. If you can fulfill any of these requests, please give us a call. Not able to help but know someone who can? Send them this newsletter!

If you or someone you know can help, please contact Brittany Ulman at (937) 440-3049 or brittany.ulman@riversidedd.org. Here are the details:

- **Softball Officials** – Practices start soon, and games will be soon to follow. We always appreciate volunteers of all ages to serve as officials for our games.
- **Pediatric Orthotics** – One of the families served by our Early Intervention Department recently purchased a set of orthotics for their daughter, but their insurance will not cover the expenses. If you'd like to help this family, please call Brittany at 440-3049 for more information.
- **Woodworking Lessons** – A gentleman we serve is interested in woodworking. Whether you're a professional or do it in your spare time, he'd love to learn from you.
- **Lawn Mower** – It's summertime, and you know what that means! Mowing season! One of our folks is looking for a simple push lawn mower to help him keep up with his landscaping.
- **Window A/C** – Summer also means heat. One of the folks we serve is looking for a window A/C unit to help her stay safe during this warm season.
- **Swimming Pool** – Nothing beats cooling off in the pool. A young man we serve wants to just that, but due to his specific needs, his family is searching for something a bit sturdier than the standard pool. If you'd like to learn more about this request, please call Brittany at 440-3049.
- **Fitness Support** – A young man we serve wants to exercise more often, but he'd like to partner with someone who can help him do so effectively and safely. If that sounds like your cup of tea, give us a call!
- **Buddy** – Do you enjoy visiting museums, bowling with friends or going to the movies. An older gentleman we serve wants to be more active and would love to have a new friend join him.
- **Tutor for Written Permit Test** – Getting your license is one of the first steps to more independence. A young lady we serve is pursuing that dream, but she needs some help with the Temporary Permit written test.
- **Guitar or Piano Lessons** – We have two budding musicians, one with guitar and the other with piano, who are looking for someone to help them hone their skills.
- **Appliances** – Finding reliable appliances can sometimes be a challenge. If you have a washer, dishwasher, stove or refrigerator you'd like to donate, please call Brittany at 440-3049 for details.
- **Photography Lessons** – Is photography your passion? Would you like to share that passion? If so, we have just the young lady who'd like to meet you!
- **Furniture & Household Items** – Do you want to help someone make their house a home? Please call Brittany at 440-3049 if you have one of the following items to donate: couch, footstool, loveseat, kitchen table and chairs, ottoman or recliner.

Discover a new way to support those we serve? See something you'd like to donate? Want to create your own FANS experience? If so, please contact Brittany Ulman at (937) 440-3049 or brittany.ulman@riversidedd.org for more information about your next step.

If you know someone who'd like to be a Riverside FAN, please send them this newsletter. You can also direct them to the [Volunteer](#) page on our website where they can learn more about FANS, sign up for the email list and download a FANS application.

Hopefully the sun and warm temperatures are here to stay, especially since golf season is underway and softball season is just around the corner. Between those seasons, our Young Athletes Play & Sports Group and our Friendship Meet & Greet Ice Cream Social, we plan on making the most of the summer weather while it lasts, and we hope you can do the same!

We know we'd like to see you join us whenever you can. Friends always make fun times even more memorable, so don't hesitate to come on over and spend time with us. We have several FANS opportunities available, which adventure will you choose?

Sincerely,

Brittany Ulman