



Greetings, Riverside FANS!

In just a couple weeks, we'll be celebrating DSP (Direct Support Professional) Recognition Week. Designed as a time to celebrate DSPs across the nation, this week gives our community the chance to recognize our local DSPs and the crucial role they play in empowering people with developmental disabilities.

As some of you may know, DSPs are more than a caregiver. They are advocates. They are friends. They are the ones who empower people with developmental disabilities to live fulfilling, self-directed lives every day. Though their official role is "service provider," countless DSPs end up becoming family. So, as September 8 – 14 approaches, we invite you to join us in thanking Miami County's DSPs. If you'd like to learn more about DSPs, their roles and how you can become a DSP, please contact Becky at (937) 440-3027 or visit dspohio.org.

Like DSPs and the work they do, our agency also appreciates its FANS for your heart and dedication. It can be a smile, an extended hand or simply being a friend. Though things like these may seem small, they are the very actions that will move our culture toward one of inclusion. Thank you for the little things, because in the end, they are what lead to change. Please join me in thanking the following FANS for their latest contributions:

- **Sgt. Randy Slusher** from the Miami County Sheriff's Office for taking time out of your busy schedule to teach those we serve about online safety.
- **Morgan Wellspring** for partnering with our Aktion Club to create 5 seat cushions for local dialysis patients, including a woman we serve.
- **Eileen Littleton** for your continued help with Aktion Club and Adventures in Advocacy meetings.
- Our Golf Partners: **Dave Baker, Harry Bashore, David Battista, Ed Hatem, Jack Hoekstra, Dr. Donald Luna, Randy Miller, Mark Nagley, Linda Slattery-Lohmoeller** and **Bob Schoknecht**. Congratulations to all of you for your performances at Regionals. Good luck at State!
- An **anonymous FAN** who, on a moment's notice, volunteered to help one of the people we serve move into his new apartment.
- **Victoria Glover** and **Lauren Peters** for being a friend to two ladies we serve and having fun exploring Miami County and beyond.
- **Diane Cerbus** and the **Troy Cheerleaders** for joining us for another flag football season. We can't wait to see what cheers you come up with this time.

- **Marie Conner** for helping out at our Hawaiian Dance this August.
- **Hannah Schaffnit** for encouraging a young woman we serve as she studies for her Learner's Permit test.
- Our friends at **Troy Christian Church** for helping with our latest newsletter mailing, as well as helping a gentleman we serve move into his new apartment.
- **Laura and Tristan Stanhope** for being part of our newsletter-mailing dream team!
- **Kristie Rittwage, Lauryn Rutan** and **Connie Teserovitch** for helping coach during this year's busy softball season.
- **Charlene Wolfe** and the **West Milton VFW Auxiliary** for presenting our athletes with a \$5,000 donation to our Special Olympics program, which was raised during your annual Special Olympics Benefit Dinner in March.
- **David Maxson** for returning this fall to lead our Bell Choir. We have some new members this time around, so it'll be fun to see everyone play together.
- **Lincoln Community Center** and **Troy Main Street** to inviting us to your Back to School Bash and Final Fridays: Non-Profit/Game Night events.
- **Kirk and Melissa Nichols** for donating a bookshelf to someone we serve.
- **Mark and Cathy Jo Higgins, Chrissy and Eric Anderson, Marcy Trast, Willie Couch** and **Danielle Mitchell** from Complete Fitness for your continued support of our athletes through the Heroes for Warriors fitness training class.



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@riversidededd.org. Here are the details:

- **Basketball Coaches, Officials & Scorekeepers** – Basketball season will be here before we know it. If you'd like to volunteer as a coach, official or scorekeeper this season, we'd love to have you!

- **Woodworking Lessons** – Is carving your passion? Do you dabble in this art? A young man we serve wants to learn and is looking for a mentor.
- **Lawn Mower** – With summer rains comes many laps around the yard with the mower. Someone served by our agency is searching for a push lawn mower. Please let us know if you have one to donate.
- **Window A/C** – Summer vacation may be over, but the heat is still here. Help someone we serve stay cool in the warm temperatures and contact us if you have a window A/C unit to donate.
- **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.
- **Furniture** – 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.

Discover a new way to support those we serve? See something you'd like to donate? Have information that could help with one of these requests? 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.

Thank you again for joining us in creating a world that includes people of all abilities. We may have a ways to go, but because of people like you, we are on the right path. That is why we'd like to recognize you, our FANS. Whether it's sharing a sentence about why you decided to volunteer or a recording of your favorite FANS moment, I'd love to hear from you. If you'd like to share your FANS story, feel free to contact me.

Until next time, remember,

"Those who are happiest are those do the most for others."

–Booker T. Washington

Sincerely,

Brittany Ulman