

Butler County Task Force

Monday, November 6, 2023

2:00–3:00 p.m.

Minutes



1. Welcome and Introductions

Dawn Hamilton, Special Needs Parent Mentor for Middletown City Schools (1 of 3 in Butler County, including Lakota and Hamilton)

Lauren Vondrell, Transitions Behavioral Health

Patti Shrom, SALT Talks

2. Spotlight

- Elite Kids Therapy – Tanya Wescott
info@elitekidstherapy.com
www.elitekidstherapy.com
Main Line: 513-444-0770

3. Around the Region: Program Updates

- Autism Connections is hosting new programs next year, including online PEERS sessions.
 - Events Calendar: <https://www.autismcincy.org/events/>
- Transitions Behavioral Health is hiring Behavioral Health Managers in the community setting across all the counties, seeking ideally bilingual Spanish-speaking manager.
- SALT Talks is not holding any sessions in November or December, but they are still accepting emails and questions. In January, they are kicking off their Part 2 of Independent Living events. Reach out to get on their newsletter.

4. Policy Updates

- **Federal Update:** The Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Relief Act of 2023 was introduced in Congress by Senator Bob Casey (D-PA). The bill would provide two years of additional Medicaid funds to:
 - Improve access to HCBS by increasing direct care worker pay and benefits;
 - Decrease the number of people on waiting lists for HCBS (currently over 650,000!); and
 - Pay for assistive technologies, staffing, and other costs that facilitate community integration.
- Learn more about the [HCBS Relief Act of 2023](#).

5. Training & Events

Electronic pdfs can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/RAACflyers>

- [Children's Theatre 2023-2024 Season](#)
 - The SpongeBob Musical – October 14-23, 2023
 - Narnia the Musical – December 9-18, 2023

The Regional Autism Advisory Council of Southwest Ohio connects organizations, individuals, and family members to enhance the autism community by collaborating and sharing knowledge.

- Cinderella – February 17-26, 2024
- Finding Nemo Jr. – April 20-29, 2024
- [Cincinnati Art Museum](#)
 - Sensory Saturdays
- [iFly](#)
 - All Abilities Night
- [Ohio P2P Parent Support](#)
 - Are you interested in providing support to other families who have a loved one with a disability or special healthcare need? Please join us as we build this network. Find the flyer with more information on becoming a support parent here. Email questions or application to marion.cosgroverauch@cchmc.org
- [Ohio Special Education Response Team \(OSERT\)](#)
 - meeting 4th Wednesday of every month from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- SALT Series and Resources
 - SALT Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SALTSouthwestOH>
 - SALT Livebinder: <https://bit.ly/SALTSWOH>
 - SALT Google Drive: <https://bit.ly/SALTTALKSGOOGLE>
 - SALT YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0IRMRO59X4ISEQ7aiR3KrQ>
- DDBP Outreach Calendar
- Additional Resources:
 - All Hands In – an activity base for kids with disabilities that hosts in-person meetings in Green County, but is open to all surrounding counties; <https://www.facebook.com/allhandsingcbdd/>

6. Next Task Force Meeting

- December 4, 2023 @ 2 p.m.
- Spotlight: OCALI
- Zoom info
 - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95841474662?pwd=L25WN2w4REIDT3VUZjdIODZINDBJUT09>
 - Meeting ID: 958 4147 4662
 - Passcode: BCRAAC