

# Hamilton County Task Force

Thursday, November 16, 2023

9:00–10:00 a.m.

Minutes



## 1. Welcome and Introductions

Cindy Molloy, Parent Group @Impact Innovation at UC

Camilla McMahon, Faculty at Miami University

Sadie Everett, IDD Education Center (UC, previous ATS)

[Natalia Eckerson](#), Hamilton County DDS

Nathan Beck, Hamilton County DDS

Jennifer Brown, Family Member

Kristina Markiewicz, Modern Woodmen of America

## 2. Spotlight

- Autism Connections – Angelo Bucci, Operations Coordinator, [abucci@autismcincy.org](mailto:abucci@autismcincy.org)
  - [Website](#) – see Social Programs, Support Groups, Resources & Education
  - The [Events Calendar](#) updates weekly with Autism Connections programs + community events
  - See Resources & Education tab to learn more about [PEERS® for Adults](#), [PEERS® for Teens](#), our [Autism Helpline](#), or our [weekly newsletters](#)
  - Autism Helpline: 513-561-2300 ext. 101, [info@autismcincy.org](mailto:info@autismcincy.org)

## 3. Around the Region: Program Updates

- About the [Rebranding at the IDD Education Center at UC](#)
- [Holiday Mixer](#) from the HCDDDS
- Beginning 2024 Financial Planning at Modern Woodmen of America, as well as providing free financial education for community and teachers. Talk to Kristina Markiewicz at [kristina.markiewicz@mwarep.org](mailto:kristina.markiewicz@mwarep.org) or 505-463-8966.
- The Department of Labor is doing some work to reduce or eliminate the availability of subminimum wage jobs. In Cincinnati, there are still ~200 people who work a job with subminimum wage. OOD working on providing paid mentors, featuring people with IDD who will provide mentorship and guidance to those in that type of employment. Learn more [about 14\(c\)](#), [about subminimum wage](#), and [about new ideas](#).

#### 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
  - 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](mailto:marion.cosgroverauch@cchmc.org)
- [Ohio Special Education Response Team](#) (OSERT)– meeting 4<sup>th</sup> 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/SALTWOH>
  - SALT Google Drive: <https://bit.ly/SALTTALKSGOOGLE>
  - SALT YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0IRMRO59X4ISEQ7aiR3KrQ>
- DDBP Outreach Calendar
- Other

## 6. **Next Task Force Meeting**

- January 18, 2023 @ 9 a.m.
- Spotlight: Reach Me Inc.
- Zoom info
  - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93141858216?pwd=ZFVlUzVOeIBPK1lkckxpWlk0UjVadz09>
  - Meeting ID: 931 4185 8216
  - Passcode: HCRAAC