

July
August
September

HELP ME GROW GEAUGA COUNTY EARLY INTERVENTION METZENBAUM NEWSLETTER

2024

Serving Geauga County children from birth to age 3 with
Developmental Disabilities. Helping people Live, Learn, and Earn in our community

Visit our website for more information on services provided by the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities:
www.geaugadd.org



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ARE YOU CONCERNED?

You know your child best. If you have concerns that your child has a delay/disability or know someone who has concerns, call us! There is no need to "wait and see."

Early Intervention (EI) works with families with children birth to age 3 who have developmental disabilities so that they have the best possible start in life.

To make a referral: Visit www.ohioearlyintervention.org to complete the process online or call us at 1-800-755-GROW



Concerned about your child's development? Act now! Contact us today to schedule your Free Evaluation at 1-800-755-GROW or online at



ohioearlyintervention.org



METZENBAUM CENTER

The Geauga County Board
Of Developmental Disabilities





Did you know there is open swimming for Early Intervention Families with Brenda at the Metzenbaum Center's indoor therapeutic pool on Wednesdays! Contact Brenda at bpowell@geaugadd.org or 440-688-5846 to sign up.

PARENT RESOURCES

Literacy Calendar:

Families, caregivers, educators, and librarians can use the Day By Day Ohio Family Literacy Calendar at home, library, classroom, or on the go. With a perpetual calendar featuring songs, activities, book suggestions, and videos, Day By Day Ohio supports early literacy skills and helps young children get ready for school.

<https://www.daybydayoh.org/july/july-1/>



Music at Metzenbaum

The Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities offers a variety of inclusive music programs available to families in Geauga County. We will bounce, sing, and explore music together. Music is powerful, it helps with our attention spans, turn taking and preschool readiness skills. It builds relationships and creates a bond. Music engages a child by gaining their attention and motivating them and most importantly, MUSIC is FUN! Families must live in Geauga County to enroll in weekly classes. Anyone can join the virtual classes.

Virtual Facebook Music- available every Wednesday at 9:30 on the page Geauga County Board of DD, posts to Instagram afterwards



Mini Music is for babies ages 6 months up to 17 months old
Classes on Tuesdays at 9, 10 or 11

Movin with Music is for children ages 18 months up to 3 years old
Classes on Mondays or Thursdays at 9, 10 or 11

For more information or to enroll in a class contact Carol at ccolombo@geaugadd.org



Music at the Libraries



Movin with Music will be offered at: Thompson library on August 30th, October 4th and November 15th. Burton library on July 12th. Contact the library for sign up.

An Early Intervention Home Visit

The goal of Early Intervention is to enable parents to learn and implement strategies and techniques that the provider (ex. Speech language pathologist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, or developmental specialist) coaches them to use during home visits. Parents are the experts on their children and are their best teachers. Research shows that children learn best with the people, places and things they are familiar with, love, trust, and enjoy. Parents can best support their child's development through natural learning opportunities that happen during everyday activities and routines. Jackson is currently receiving services through the early intervention program. Below is an example of what a typical early intervention session looks like with Ashley, our Speech and Language Pathologist (SLP)

1. Joint planning. At the beginning of the visit, Mom and Ashley (SLP) talk about strategies tried, and what did and didn't work. Mom also discusses any new issues or concerns. Lastly, they agree on what to work on during the current visit.

2. Observation. Ashley may observe how Mom and Jackson play and interact in the things they do every day. Ashley might join in or start an activity to focus on during the visit. Ashley then shows Mom strategies to use, and then Mom might try it.

3. Action. Ashley helps Mom practice new ways to support Jackson to meet his goals. In between visits, Mom can incorporate these strategies in their daily routine.

4. Reflection. Ashley asks questions about what Mom has tried and what is typical for their family. Ashley listens to Mom and they both discuss what has or has not worked, and why it has or has not worked.

5. Feedback. Ashley shares information with Mom and helps Mom figure out what strategies will best help meet the goals.

6. Joint Planning. At the end of the visit, Ashley and Mom come up with a plan together that says what the family wants to try in between visits, and then they schedule their next visit. Mom will receive an electronic activity journal after the visit with a summary of information talked about during the session.



Jackson is playing the drum in Movin with Music class, where he can practice his language skills with friends.



Jackson's Mom shares, "Jackson's very excited for speech therapy sessions and looks forward to them. When Ashley arrives, Jackson is ready and knows what's expected. We work on a specific theme or task. We address his strengths and weakness then pivot the activity if needed. We plan our next session together and then I receive an activity journal via email. The activity journal includes a session recap and activities/strategies to do at home between sessions."



The Early Childhood Subcommittee meeting will be held Thursday July 11th, 2024 via zoom at 10:00 AM. Meeting ID 868 6359 1840 Passcode 872370 [Meeting link](#)

The ECS is an advisory group of Geauga Family First Council. Membership is comprised of various community agencies, representatives, and parents who partner together to share ideas, experiences, and expertise in the area of early childhood development. The focus of the group is to gather input regarding direction, planning & success for the Geauga County Help Me Grow program. We encourage Help Me Grow parents to join us to share feedback about services they are receiving and/or gaps in services they might be experiencing. We value your opinions, and your time is valuable to us and will send you a \$25 gift card for attending the meeting. Please contact your Service Coordinator if you have any questions.



Parent Rights

To file a complaint about your child's early intervention services please contact:
 The Ohio Department of DD EI via:
 Phone: 614.466.6879
 Email: ei@dodd.ohio.gov
 Mail: Ohio Dept. of DD
 Early Intervention
 30 East Broad Street, 12th Fl.
 Columbus, OH 43215
[Click Here to View Your Rights as a Parent!](#)

Payment choices for additional Early Intervention (EI) services determined by child's IFSP. Additional EI services may include Audiology, assistive technology devices or other needed services to meet IFSP outcomes as determined by your child's EI team. For more information contact your child's Service Coordinator.
[Click Here to Learn about System of Payment!](#)

