



STARLIGHT

AUGUST
2023

Investigative Services Plays An Important Role for BVC

Our Investigative Services division plays an important role in the lives of the individuals supported by Blanchard Valley Center.

It is certainly one that we wish didn't need to exist. Unfortunately, there are times when people with disabilities need the help of our investigative agents.

Blanchard Valley Center employs three investigative agents (IAs). These agents investigate allegations and reports of incidents received from our staff, providers, and the general public.

Depending on the particulars of the case, IAs may collect evidence and/or conduct interviews to determine whether an allegation can be substantiated. These roles are critical in ensuring the safety and welfare of people with developmental disabilities in Hancock County.

The true intent behind reporting an incident and having it investigated is to ensure the safety of the individual. But the work of the IAs doesn't end there. It is their responsibility to work with the SSA and the team of the individual to identify the cause and to create a prevention plan.

In 2022, 163 reports were received and investigated in Hancock County. The allegations related to one or more of the following categories: abuse, neglect, misappropriation, prohibited sexual relationships, exploitation, failure to report, death, peer-to-peer acts, rights code violation, attempted suicide, missing individual, significant injury, medical emergency, law enforcement involvement, unanticipated hospitalization, and unapproved behavior support.



Our Investigative Agents - Ali Weising-Pike, Russ Teagardin and Michelle Darrach.

If you think a person with a developmental disability, whether it's a child or adult, is being abused or neglected, please report the information as soon as possible to the Blanchard Valley Center/Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities. During business hours (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.) contact 419-422-6387. During evenings, weekends, or holidays, call our emergency number at 419-722-9262.

We're Hiring!

Blanchard Valley Center currently has an opening for a maintenance position. If that interests you, come join one of the best places to work in Hancock County. To view our job descriptions and apply, visit www.blanchardvalley.org/careers

DATES TO REMEMBER | VISIT WWW.BLANCHARDVALLEY.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

August 9 – 5pm
Cardio Drumming

August 12
**Northwest
Regional Softball
Tournament
at The Cube**

August 21 – 4:30pm
**Game Night
at Stevi B's**

August 28 – 5:30pm
Board Meeting

August 28 – 6pm
**Special Olympics
Softball at
The Cube**

NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

August is About Free Popcorn And Provider Appreciation



I love the Hancock County Fair and Blanchard Valley Center will once again be on hand to serve popcorn. The fair runs from Aug. 30 – Sept. 4. Be sure to visit us in the merchant building for your free bag of popcorn. We'd love to see ya!

BVC recently hosted a provider appreciation lunch. It was our

way of showing the providers in Hancock County that we greatly appreciate and value them for the supports they provide to people with disabilities, day in and day out.

If you're interested in becoming a provider, or would simply like to learn more about the opportunities

available for providers, we encourage you to connect with Cheryl Strohm at 419-422-6387.

Kelli Grisham, Superintendent



Christmas in July was a success

Our first-ever Christmas in July was such a huge success that we're already planning a mid-summer visit from Santa next year.

The event was held in Findlay on July 25. It was a combination scavenger hunt and a search for a secret treasure.

"We had such great fun with this event that we can't wait to do it again next year," said BVC Public Relations Manager Nadine Weininger. "We'll have to come up with something special for next year to top our first Christmas in July."

Participants received their playing cards at the patio of the Millstream Art Plaza at the corner of Main & Sandusky streets. Challenges included wrapping gifts that will be donated to the Fire Relief Foundation, putting together puzzles, and other minute-to-win-it games. All the participants received a free Christmas stocking or a red bag from Friends.

Kelsey Kaminsky was the randomly selected winner of the raffle basket.

Mark your calendars for July 25, 2024, for the next Christmas in July.



BVC provides resources and supports that empower people with DD to live lives with meaning and purpose.



Blanchard Valley Center

Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities

1700 E. Sandusky Street, Findlay, OH 45840

blanchardvalley.org | 419-422-6387

**Service & Support
Emergency Number**
419-722-9262

