



2022

Annual Report





Kelli Grisham

A Message From OUR SUPERINTENDENT

Our annual report is a compilation of facts and figures, bar graphs and charts, designed to give Hancock County taxpayers a glimpse of the good work that goes on here at Blanchard Valley Center.

Seeing Ashley and Tucker and the other people we support thrive and succeed in life is why we are here.

Some of the other 2022 highlights included:

- Blanchard Valley Center currently received the highest accreditation level awarded by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, a three-year accreditation.
- Blanchard Valley Center held an open house in October, marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of our organization.
- Matthew LaFontaine was appointed to the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council by Gov. Mike DeWine. Matthew joined Molly Dible on the Council. Both receive supports from Blanchard Valley Center.
- Alex Beasley and Trevor Mahler both captured swimming gold medals in the Special Olympics State Games.
- Blanchard Valley Center launched a new technology lab for the benefit of the individuals it supports, their families and providers.
- Blanchard Valley Center opened a new Smart House at 1530 E. Sandusky St. The trial home has innovative assistive and remote technologies for individuals with developmental disabilities who want to live independently.
- The popular Hello, Hancock! podcast reached the 50-episode milestone. Congratulations to Acacia Browne, Dustin Sullivan and Nick Longo.
- Blanchard Valley Center rocked the streets of Findlay again, capturing the People's Choice and John Hancock awards in the annual Halloween Parade. The theme was Alice in Wonderland, and it captured the People's Choice Award by a landslide.
- Cheryl Strohm was named the Blanchard Valley Center Employee of the Year at the annual employee recognition dinner.

We should absolutely do that. After all, figures don't lie.

But figures also don't tell you the entire story, either. While I'm happy with our numbers, **it's the stories of the lives we touch that make me want to come to work each day. We exist to make a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities.**

It's actually a two-way street, because they regularly touch the hearts of our staff.

Ashley Settlemyre was featured in our April 2022 newsletter because she refused to be defined by her disability. She has been successful both personally and professionally. Ashley has worked at Wendy's for nearly three years and has been promoted to a team leader. She has been in her own apartment now for two-and-a-half years, and gets excited about paying rent and going grocery shopping. (I wish she would do my grocery shopping!)

Tucker Beagle graduated from Van Buren High School in 2021 and then from Millstream Career Center last year. He works at Leipsic Village Hardware, where he's an excellent employee. Tucker signed up to read to elementary classes in Van Buren in March 2022. It was the spark that made him realize that he would like to work more with children. After enjoying such a positive experience reading to students, Tucker was tapped to help mentor a third-grader who needed help with reading.



2023 Strategic Plan GOALS

Enhance & Develop Program Services

- Provider Support & Engagement
- Advocacy
- Community Employment
- Technology First
- Role in Schools
- Life Planning
- Individual Personal Connections & Opportunities
- Individual Budgets

Evaluate Internal Board Components for Long-Term Sustainability & Quality Services

- Reduce Prior Authorizations
- Increase TCM Revenue
- Customer Service
- Human Resources
- Program Service Evaluation

Strengthen Collaboration with all Stakeholders

- Enhance Existing Partnerships
- Impactful Events



SPOTLIGHT: BAYLOR INBODY

Baylor was referred to Early Intervention by his parents in May 2022 due to concerns with him being born six weeks early. At birth, Baylor spent 19 days in the NICU and faced different challenges. Five months after being born, the Early Intervention team worked with Baylor's parents based on the goals they had set for him. With much support from mom and dad, Baylor now transfers in and out of sitting position and pulls himself to standing. He will army crawl to get objects or to a person he wants. These days, Baylor is working on crawling on his hands and knees and cruising between furniture.

Your Hancock DD Roadmap to Services



Early Intervention

- Helps children from birth through age 2 meet developmental milestones.
- BVC provided supports to 239 families.



Blanchard Valley School

- Meets the developmental needs of children, ages 3-5, with a creative curriculum in our Step Up to Quality, 5-Star pre-school.
- Offers specially designed instruction based on the individual learning needs for students, ages 14-22.
- Provides physical, occupational, and speech therapy for students. Most receive more than one service.



Services & Support Administration (SSA)

- Provides person-centered supports to people, age 3 and older, by identifying goals, needs, and resources.
- There are 642 people in Hancock County who have an SSA. Of the 642 supported by the County Board, 290 people receive a Medicaid waiver.



Special Olympics

- Offers 6 sports to 176 athletes, ages 8 and older even if they do not receive BVC supports.



Transition Services

- Works with students, ages 14-22.
- Connects them with resources to prepare for life after graduation, including employment and independent living.
- Project LIFE had 3 interns for the 2021-2022 school year.



Community Recreation

- Helps people 18 and older participate in community activities.
- Operating on local dollars, Community Recreation provided more than 120 activities in 2022.

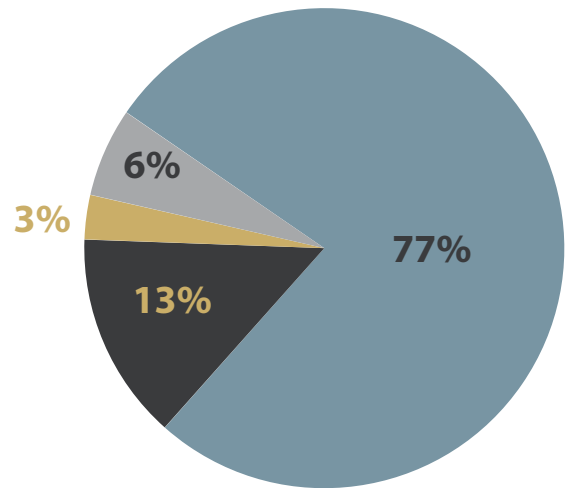
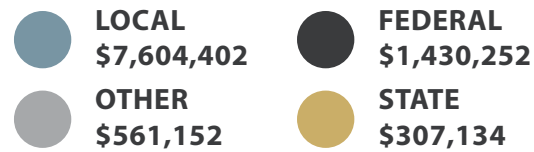


Providers

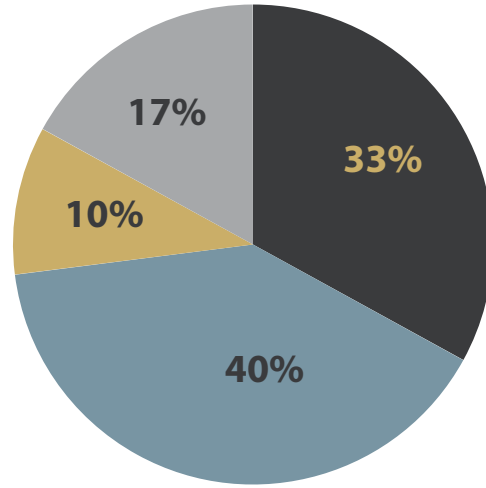
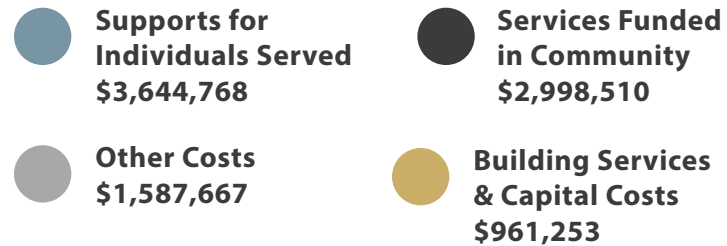
- There are 95 agency and independent providers who support people in both the home and at work.
- Blanchard Valley Center supported these local providers with \$3 million for these services in 2022.

In 2022, approximately \$6.6 million in local taxes were spent on children and adults with developmental disabilities in your community.

2022 Revenue: \$9,902,940



2022 Expenses: \$9,192,198



Blanchard Valley Center BY THE NUMBERS



76
Independent
Providers
19
Agency
Providers



Individuals Supported
239 ages 0-3 (EI Families)
317 ages 3-22
325 ages 23+



99 People Community Employed
642 People Assigned to an SSA
290 People Receiving a Waiver
9 People on an Individual Budget/Supported Living
59 Number of Staff



579
Calls for
On-Call

176
Special Olympics
Athletes



120+
Recreation activities
offered in 2022



SPOTLIGHT: OLIVIA MONTGOMERY

As Olivia has transitioned into adulthood, she and her family wanted to find a program that would continue to build on her strengths. They felt it was best to find something that provided her with hands-on opportunities to assist in her goal of obtaining employment. Since being introduced to Project LIFE, Olivia's team has seen growth and improvement in regard to her personal responsibility, organization, and planning skills. Olivia and her family believe Project LIFE has been an asset in preparing her for the future.



SPOTLIGHT: KAY GREEN

Kay Green has made significant strides over the last year. In an effort to live an independent life, Kay has started advocating for her wants and needs. She wanted to explore the world of work. She met with her SSA and was connected with TexStone Industries. Through vocational habilitation, Kay is preparing for community employment. She currently attends TexStone five days a week handling cardboard partitions. Kay is in Special Olympics, participating in bowling, track, and softball. She has been more active with our Rec program which allows her to meet new people, explore the community, and make friends. She also wanted to explore living independently so she trialed the Smart House. She now lives with a roommate, utilizing assistive technology. Since the move and taking on employment, Kay is like a different person. She is smiling more, telling jokes, and has even started preparing her own meals. She is considering the idea of working a community job in the future.



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