



*Picture the Possibilities*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CARF surveyors coming to local Board of Developmental Disabilities**

NEWARK – A survey team from CARF International will pay a three-day visit to the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities this fall.

The team plans to visit Oct. 31 through Nov. 2 to evaluate how well the agency meets international standards for quality. The survey tells agencies how well they are doing and ways they might improve.

Surveyors will interview people who receive services, their families, County Board staff and others. Some questions the survey team might ask people are:

- Does the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities provide a clean and safe setting?
- Do you receive the services you need and want?
- Are you treated with respect?
- Do you take part in planning your services?
- Are you told what you need to know about your services?
- Are your questions answered in a way you understand?
- Do you know where to go with questions or concerns?

The last time the agency was evaluated by CARF was in late 2008. The Licking County Board of DD received a three-year accreditation, the highest level that can be granted to an organization. At that time, CARF noted that the local Board showed substantial conformance to standards for serving adults and children with developmental disabilities. Those agencies receiving a three-year accreditation puts itself through a rigorous peer review process and demonstrates that its programs and services are of the highest quality. Also during the last CARF survey, the Board received “exemplary” ratings primarily for its Community Employment Services program which partners with local companies to find suitable jobs for adults, and for the Early Intervention department’s cutting-edge services provided to families of infants and toddlers.

CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative process that centers on enhancing the lives of the people who are served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known simply as CARF, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services. To learn more, go to [www.CARF.org](http://www.CARF.org).

First accredited by CARF in the mid-1980s, the Licking County Board of DD provides comprehensive services to more than 1,400 Licking County children and adults with developmental disabilities. The agency offers Early Intervention services for infants and toddlers; Adult Services at LICCO, in Heath; residential supports; family respite; contracted transportation services; and Service Coordination. To find out more, visit [www.LCountyDD.org](http://www.LCountyDD.org), or search for the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities on Facebook.

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