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## LICKING COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ANNOUNCES LEVY ISSUE

**NEWARK** – The Licking County Board of Commissioners voted 3-0 today to place a five-year, 1-mill renewal levy on the March 6, 2012 ballot for the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

The levy will renew the current funding for the Board of DD, which serves more than 1,400 Licking County residents and their families annually.

Voters originally passed a five-year, 1-mill levy in 1987. They returned to the polls to replace that levy in 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2007. The 2012 levy will serve as a continuation of local support received for the past 25 years. It will generate about \$3.7 million each year for five years. The levy currently costs the owner of \$100,000 worth of property about \$30.33 per year. **A renewal of the March 2012 levy means property owners in Licking County will not see an increase in property taxes to support the County Board of DD.**

Substantial cuts in state and federal funds since 2002 have made local levy dollars crucial to the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities' ability to serve the needs of county residents and their families. Seventy percent of the Board's annual revenues comes from local levies.

The Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities provides comprehensive services to more than 1,400 Licking County infants, children and adults. These include Early Intervention Services for infants and toddlers up to age three; Adult Services provided by LICCO Inc., Heath, and other organizations such as Consumer Support Services, SPARK LLC, Midwest Innovations, The Gathering Place and the Center for Disability Services' Colvin-Hoover House. The County Board of DD also provides residential supports; adaptive equipment and home modifications; respite care for families; contracted transportation services through the Licking County Transit Board; and Service Coordination/Case Management. The Board is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for offering high-quality support services to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

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