



# DRAGON EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Community Learning &  
Resource Center

Issue 5 – Summer 2019

A project providing services and programs to students, families, and the community so that all can be successful in school and life.

The **DEC**

## NEWS AND UPDATES

### Wonderful Community & School Summer Event

June 21, 2019

Family Fun Day!  
**SUMMER**  
Safety Event



**Bike Safety! Water Safety! Vendors!  
Food Trucks! Local Safety Forces!**

What a wonderful event! It was terrific to see everyone who came out to the Family Fun Day- Summer Safety Event! We had a beautiful day and we can't thank our community partners enough for all of their support! They all offered great activities and information on how to keep our kids safe this summer!

Many thanks to Amy Blake and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) who provided volunteer support and a free transportation loop through a special grant from ServeOhio.

We also thank our many community partners: the Ashtabula County Metroparks gave FREE Kids Bike Helmets, Ashtabula Family YMCA provided Water Safety, Greater Cleveland Food Bank-FREE Produce, ACDL Bookmobile, OSU Extension Office- Smoothie Bike, Ashtabula Fire Department Safety Trailer and basic summer safety tips from our local departments, Family Pride, 2-1-1, APMC with First Aid for Kids, and the Food Trucks...Kona Ice, Tidy Whiteys, The Bus Stop, Tropical Flame ... and more! Thank also to Jarred Bunch for stopping by to inspire our local youth!



The Strong Foundations, Successful Futures- Community Learning & Resource Center Advisory Group consists of: Ashtabula County Community Action Agency, Community Counseling Center, LEADERShip Ashtabula County, and the Ashtabula Area City Schools.



## Super Day of Sports & Games



### Family Play Day! Dragon Sports & Games July 22, 2019

Family Play Day was a lot of fun! Even though it started out a little rainy...the sun came out and the event began. Members of Lakeside's Football, Basketball, Track, and Soccer teams worked with area kids to learn a little about their favorite sports. There were also board games, chalk art, and the wonderful campus playgrounds were open and in full use. Thank you to Rebecca Stowell, After School Discovery for bringing the bubbles!

All in all it was just a great day to be outdoors! And we had kids of all ages enjoying themselves.

Many thanks to Jason Baxter, AACS Athletic Director, for organizing to have the Lakeside teams participate and for being our grill master. A BIG THANK YOU to the Lakeside Dragon athletes who offered their time and talents to help foster a love of sports for the kids who attended! Thanks also to Ashtabula Insurance whose generous support provided free lunch for all attendees.







## CDI Conducts Dental Clinic at DEC!

On Thursday, May 16 we hosted a dental clinic at the Dragon Empowerment Center! Thanks to the staff from CDI- Dr. Schneyderman, Dr. O'Donnell, Dr. Elrawy, Lujain Amoud, Theresa Mihalick, and Sean Calhoun. We also want to thank our volunteers from the PTO who helped escort the children, and those who assisted in the clinic area to keep the event running smoothly. We are so appreciative of the support of the AACS Administration, Teachers, and Nurses.



And Kudos to Jen Bunnell, our Community Resource Coordinator at the DEC, for an excellent job planning and organizing!

This was a great beginning...we look forward to working with CDI to provide regular dental services for the coming school year.

## The DEC "Out-and-About"

The DEC is a year-round program and this summer our Community Resource Coordinator offered free summer enrichment activities to kids in the neighborhoods attending the Summer Food Service Program Sites. Activities were Tuesday and Thursday at Harbor Ridge (before the Summer Food Lunch) and at Bonnie-wood (after the Summer Food Lunch). Jen made a lot of connections with kids and their families while providing some summer learning and fun. Other DEC services, including tutoring continued at the DEC by appointment.

## DEC Supports AACS Employee Health Fair

We were on hand for the Ashtabula Area City Schools Health Fair and Jen had the chance to spread the word about the DEC, and Community Action's WIC Dietitian, Allie Wessell offered a demonstration and information about healthy eating featuring Kale Pesto Pasta.



## Stuff The Bus!

Thank you to Salvation Army- Ashtabula and Walmart for selecting the DEC to receive the school supplies collected during their "Stuff the Bus" on August 3rd! Thanks to AACS for supplying the bus!



## Help Us Build Successful Futures

Donations can be made payable to:

ACCAA  
PO Box 2610  
Ashtabula, OH 44005-2610  
Memo- SFSF-CLRC



## Looking for Readers for "Guests on DEC"

The DEC would like to help students maintain and increase the literacy skills they are learning in the classroom by providing recorded story-time. The idea is to have volunteers (anyone who would like to- parents, teachers, principals, community leaders, business people) stop by and sit in the "DEC" chair and read a story. We will video the story and then broadcast it on Facebook for the children to view. If you would like to be a "Guest on DEC" please contact Carmen at [ckuula@accaa.org](mailto:ckuula@accaa.org) or Jen at [jbunnell@accaa.org](mailto:jbunnell@accaa.org) or 855-0081.



## The DEC Staff Attend PBIS Training

The Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, or PBIS, approach is a key initiative for the District. It is a framework for classroom management that provides clear expectations, a system of interventions, and creates a learning environment that is Predictable, Consistent, Positive, and Safe. PBIS will be implemented across all settings and on a continuum throughout all grade levels. The DEC staff want to be consistent with the strategies and systems utilized by the teachers, staff and administrators, we are very grateful to have attended the PBIS trainings conducted during early summer to learn more. We will be working to integrate PBIS into the activities of the DEC and participate where possible on the building teams.

## Clothing Bank at the DEC

The DEC Clothing Bank has clothes in a variety of sizes. To get clothing- students, teachers or family members can stop by the DEC. Or call Jen, the DEC Community Resource Coordinator to, arrange for items. There is no charge and services are confidential. We are exploring a clothing bank at the High/Jr. High campus. If you have items to donate you can bring them to the DEC, Huron Primary Rm 132, or call Jen at 440-855-0081 for pick-up.



## Dragon Back-To-School BASH

Community Action Housing Staff- Marlo Millard and Carol Jahnke, WIC Staff- Michele Fenton, DEC Staff- Jen Bunnell and Carmen Kuula attended the Back-To-School Bash August 12th to give out info about the DEC, and Community Action. They also handed out school supplies (courtesy of ACCAA Housing Program) and "Cutie" oranges (courtesy ACCAA WIC). We had a great time seeing all the students and families!



## Stay Up To Date With What's Going On



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## Contact Info

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