

2016

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SHECC Welcomes New Early Childhood Supervisor



Shelby Hills Early Childhood Center is pleased to introduce Kathie Lammers as the Early Childhood Supervisor. Kathie may be a familiar face to you as she was previously the preschool teacher in the Hardin-Houston satellite classroom.

Kathie has worked for the SCBDD for 11 years in many capacities giving her a tremendous perspective. She started with our program teaching elementary-aged children. She then taught preschool for several years before taking on the role of Transition Coordinator. Kathie also taught in a K-4 Multiple Disabilities classroom for 10 years in Hancock County.

Kathie graduated from the University of Toledo with a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education for Multiple Disabilities and Elementary Education. She then received a Master's degree in Educational Administration at the University of Dayton. Kathie also attended Bowling Green State University where she received her Autism Specialist Certification.

Kathie lives in Minster with her husband Jim. They have one daughter, Emily, who is a senior at Miami University. Kathie enjoys spending time with her family, shopping, and home decorating. She also enjoys volunteering in her work and home communities.

Kathie brings a great deal of experience and enthusiasm to our program. Kathie states, "I am passionate about teaching and making a difference in children's lives. I look forward to the opportunity to have an effect on the whole program and not just one classroom." We are very excited to have Kathie in this new role.

THE STABLE ACCOUNT

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The early intervention team has established a partnership agreement with the Sidney Shelby County YMCA. Our program can bring enrolled children and their caregivers to the YMCA for early intervention services. The foundation of the early intervention program is to see children and their caregivers in their natural environment and within their everyday activities and routines. Utilizing opportunities within our community allows the parents to know what resources are available to them. Our time with the caregivers allows the early intervention staff to coach the families on strategies that they can use to encourage the development of appropriate skills for their child.

Stephanie Buehler and Kendra Paulus, Occupational Therapists for the early intervention program state that the YMCA has been very welcoming and has provided a very enriching environment for the children and families.

Another continued partnership within our community is with the Sidney Municipal Swimming pool. We held 4 sessions within the baby pool section. The weather cooperated for all of our pool outings and the families had an opportunity to interact with each other and to enjoy the pool privately without the large numbers of other people who attend the pool on hot summer days.



So many skills can be worked on while at the pool: scooping/pouring, balancing and walking in the water, getting in/out of the pool, imitating a peer in play, and an overall language rich experience. What a wonderful environment to use in the community that encompasses all areas of development!



Reesa tested out the waters with a few hugs of encouragement during an early intervention session in the pool at the YMCA.

Haylee practices using her words and gestures to engage with staff at one of the early intervention swim days at the Sidney Municipal Swimming Pool.



Wilma Valentine Childcare



Wilma Valentine Childcare started another session on August 23rd. Once this date comes, we know we must say "Goodbye" to the summer field trips and Fridays at the Sidney Municipal Swimming Pool. If you follow us on Facebook, Kim Cummins, the Program Coordinator for WVC, shared many pictures of all of the great adventures the children and staff went on over the summer. Wilma Valentine is a great place for preschool children over the summer because we stay busy and enjoy learning about so many places in and around our community.



Watching the bears at the Columbus Zoo.



At the fire station in Sidney they learned so much that will help the children not be scared of a firefighter or a paramedic.



We visited New Bremen Park and they have an AWESOME playground that is accessible to ALL

If you come to visit us at Wilma Valentine Childcare, you will notice that our entrance has been under construction. We received grants from The Monarch Legacy Fund, The Community Foundation, The Right Hand Fund, and Cargill Cares to have the ground leveled out, a retaining wall built, a fence put up, a new surface put on the ground and new sandboxes built. Cargill employees spent 5 days building the retaining wall and even had help one day from a couple of workers from Crale Builders. We are extremely grateful to the Shelby County community for the support that they give to our childcare center! We are not quite finished with the project, but will be excited to share pictures of the completed project in the next edition of the newsletter!



Community & Support Services

Volunteer of the Year



On March 31, 2016, Lesli Davis was awarded Volunteer of the Year of the Child Development Center at the Sidney-Shelby County YMCA. A banquet was held during the YMCA board meeting to celebrate Lesli and thank her for sharing her time and talents with the staff and children at the YMCA. In addition to volunteering at the YMCA, Lesli also volunteers her time at Wilma Valentine Childcare and is a member of the Aktion Club of Shelby County.



Welcome New Staff Members



Taylor Westerheide began working for the Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities as an SSA in March 2016. Taylor graduated from Wright State University with a Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Services. She previously worked as a Habilitation Specialist with Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disabilities. As an SSA, Taylor acts as the primary or main point of coordination for services and supports. She's a trouble-shooter, problem-solver, and an advocate for individuals. Taylor is recently married to her wonderful husband, Mitchell, and has 2 dogs, Harper and Jax.



Jessica Baltés began working for the Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities in 2011 with the Bridges to Transition Program and then worked with the Community First branch of the Community and Support Services Department. She began as an SSA in March of 2016. Jessica graduated from Urbana University with a Bachelor of Science as a K-12 Intervention Specialist. As an SSA, Jessica acts as the primary point of contact for the transition group, ages 16 - graduation. She attends IEP meetings, teams with schools to assist in current and future planning for students, and gives referrals to other resources that could assist with any unmet needs for the individuals. Jessica is married to her wonderful husband, Matthew, and has two teenage boys, Logan and Noah.



There is a new logo for the Early Intervention Program and the Preschool Program at the Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Both programs will now be known as Shelby Hills Early Childhood. We felt the merger of a logo for both programs is most appropriate as we work closely with all children and families from age birth -5, prior to entering kindergarten. We are excited for the community to get to know our new logo and to be able to identify the excellent programs we offer for children at the Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Thank you to Behr Design who designed the logo to compliment the main logo of the Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

If you have concerns about your child's development please call the Early Intervention Program for children aged birth-not yet 3 at (937) 658-6763 or, for children aged 3-5 and not yet in kindergarten, call (937) 658-6710.

Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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For a calendar of events please visit our website at: WWW.SHELBYDD.ORG

To receive our newsletter or other correspondence electronically, please e-mail us at:

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