

# 70

*Years of Caring*

1952 - 2022

## A Look Back with Dan Dickerson

### MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT

**BRIAN W. GREEN**

Superintendent Brian Green shares updates on current and upcoming activities as we continue celebrating our 70th Anniversary.

### Summer 2022

An Interview with Dan Dickerson | 3

Touch A Truck Recap | 4

DSP Spotlights | 7

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Our Mission is to empower  
people with developmental  
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**Superintendent's Corner**

This has been a year of exciting activities as we mark our 70th anniversary. In May, we hosted a “Touch A Truck” event at our facility as a way to thank the community for their steadfast support. We had never hosted this event and based our expectations on numbers from counties in the area that hosted similar events. Suffice it to say that the crowd greatly exceeded what we had anticipated, nearly tripling the number of people we thought might come. It was a tremendous success, and we are grateful for the businesses and organizations that participated in creating such a family-friendly event. Read about Touch A Truck on page 4 to see a list of those participants.

A few weeks later, the Friends for Riverside committee participated in the Troy Strawberry Festival. Many of our employees volunteered their time to work in the booth with a new vendor, Chicago Gyros and Dogs, a family-owned restaurant with locations in the Dayton and Cincinnati area. Once again, the community did not disappoint, and expectations were exceeded. The lines were constant all weekend long, and guests raved about the food. Thanks to all who visited the Friends for Riverside booth that weekend.

While big events are winding down, we are still very busy with our day-to-day activities. Our Service and Support Administrators (SSAs, or case managers), are always working to ensure services are coordinated for the more than 1,000 people we serve. Our Early Intervention department that serves children ages 0-2 is seeing record numbers this year with projections expected to continue climbing. Our Community Awareness and Opportunities department is full swing with in-person activities and a very full schedule. In addition, our Quality and Innovations department and Business and Operations department are all staying very busy supporting the customer-facing side of our work. Through it all, we humbly acknowledge the role of our Miami County supporters who make our work possible. Without you, we could not deliver on our mission of empowering people with developmental disabilities to live, work and play as full members of our community. I invite you to read about the many ways we are doing just that in the pages to follow. From a look back with Dan Dickerson to looking ahead to upcoming Summer and Fall activities, our success is dependent upon your support.

Thank you again, Miami County. Our 70th year has been amazing so far!



Brian W. Green  
Superintendent



# 70th Anniversary Feature:

## An Interview with Dan Dickerson

### Connection to Riverside:

Tim and Greg, my younger brothers, have both attended and been involved with Riverside almost since birth. My Father and Mother, both deceased, Lowell (Pat) and Phyllis Dickerson, were both heavily involved. My sister Rhonda and her daughter both worked for Riverside.

### When and how did you first come into contact with Riverside?

Before I was 10 I remember Mom and Dad involved in the early campaign to build the Riverside building. Now decades later both brothers live with me and my wife of 52 years, Fay, and I am an independent provider for both brothers.

### What services did your family members have through the years?

Tim and Greg both attended Riverside and later RT. They still work through RT.

### How was your family involved?

My Dad started the Riverside softball team, and with help from the team, built the ball field behind Riverside. He subsequently led the team to a national championship.

Over the years Tim and Greg both participated in the Special Olympics as well as bowling. They still enjoy bowling through The Arc. Greg was also on the basketball and volleyball teams. He was also a member of the bell choir for many years.

### What were some of the biggest challenges your family members faced?

Learning the best ways to help Tim and Greg cope with day-to-day activities.

### What changes did you witness throughout the years?

The development of how society has changed its mind and approach to people with disabilities and have accepted them as an equal part of society.

### What achievements are you most proud of?

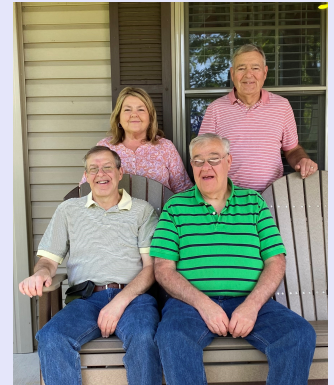
The fact that our family was so involved over the many years. In fact my children and even my grandchildren are involved and still helping out.

### What advice would you give to a family member of a person with a disability?

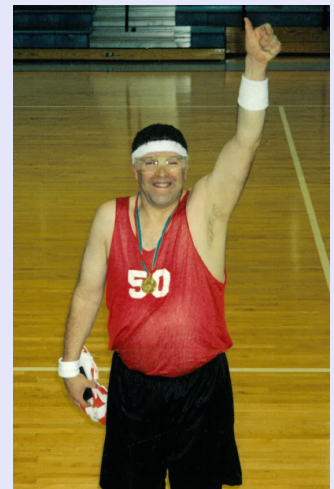
Any family member who has a person with disability should accept them as they are and work to enrich their lives together.

### Is there anything else you would like to share?

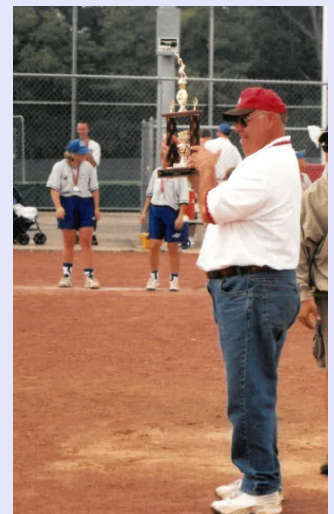
Just that this short questionnaire has awakened many memories and that we are very fortunate to have such an excellent member of the family such as Riverside and its people over the decades as it has grown into an example for others to strive for.



*Fay and Dan Dickerson (standing) at home with Greg and Tim Dickerson*



*Greg gives a thumbs up after a Special Olympics basketball game many years ago*



*Tim accepts a trophy after a Special Olympics softball game. His father started the program*

# Touch A Truck Event Brings Joy to Community

An estimated 1,500 people ventured out for our Touch A Truck event on Saturday, May 14. Touch A Truck was a free family-friendly event that featured dozens of large vehicles - from a semitruck and bookmobile to a firetruck and helicopter! Riverside hosted the event as a way to show our gratitude to the Miami County community for its 70 years of steadfast support.

Guests enjoyed climbing in and exploring the vehicles, along with games, hot dogs, snacks and ice cream. "The weather helped ensure a terrific turnout for the event," says Brian Green, Riverside Superintendent. "We enjoyed the opportunity to show our gratitude to our community through the event. It was great to see so many smiling faces."

The event would not have been a success without the numerous partner businesses and organizations that participated. We extend a BIG THANK YOU to the following for helping to make the day so special:

## Vehicles

Adams, Haines & Maiden Families from Covington (military vehicles)

AES Ohio (bucket truck)

BD Transportation (semitruck)

Ernst Concrete (cement truck)

Miami County Sheriff's Department (tactical unit)

Miami County Public Transit (mini bus)

Piqua Police Department (police cruiser)

Premier Health (CareFlight helicopter)

Mr. Roth (Doc Hudson)

RT Industries (accessible bus)

Tipp City Police Department (K-9 unit)

Troy Police Department (police vehicle)

Troy Fire Department (fire truck and ambulance)

Troy-Miami County Public Library (bookmobile)

US Postal Service (mail truck)

Susie's Big Dipper (food truck and ice cream)

Power 107.1FM Radio Station (radio van and live remote)

## Games

CORS/HeadStart

Help Me Grow Home Visiting

Piqua Parents As Teachers

Seeds of Hope



We extend a THANK YOU as well to our ice cream sponsors: BD Transportation, Indian's Pizza and Aktion Club of Miami County. Their generosity allowed us to provide guests with free scoops from Susie's Big Dipper!





## Community Supporters

We are incredibly fortunate to have the support of so many in our community, such as these generous organizations that recently made donations to our programs. Thank you to:

Dave's Services A/C and Heating  
Lifestyle Furniture and Mattress  
Tim Priddy RE/MAX Realtors  
Semper Fi Sunday School Class  
Power 107.1FM  
Franklin Lodge #14

We also thank Troy Fish & Game for their donation of several tickets to see the Dayton Dragons and Columbus Clippers. With support like this, we are able to continue delivering on our mission of empowering people with developmental disabilities to live, work and play as full members of our community!



<< Riverside Superintendent Brian Green (right) accepts a gift from Jim Morlan of Dave's Services A/C & Heating.

>> Riverside Community Awareness & Opportunities Director Melissa Nichols accepts a donation from Franklin Lodge #14 for Miami County Special Olympics.



## Back In Action

After making the best of the pandemic with virtual activities, smaller groups, social distancing and other measures, we are excited to have a full schedule of in-person activities in our Community Connections department! Check our latest Community Connections Newsletter for registration information, or call Community Connections Manager Krista Smith if you would like to get involved!



*Adventures in Advocacy welcomed Marissa Teneyuque and Caleb Means from Edison State Community College as they shared about the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services and the enrollment process for their academic programs. It was a great turnout and the group enjoyed learning about opportunities available in our community.*

*When a woman whom we serve expressed interest in learning to shoot a bow and arrow, we reached out to our good friend Harry Campbell at Troy Fish and Game who came out, set up a archery range and taught a group how to do shoot safely.*

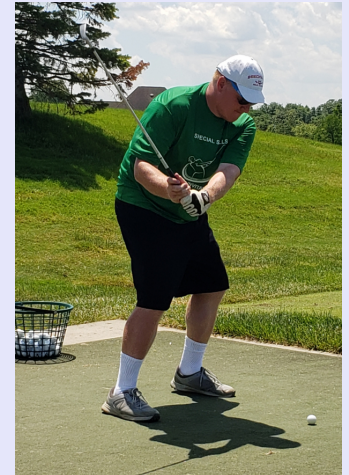


*In May, we hosted our first dance since last year. Dozens of people showed up for fun with friends, a pizza dinner and dancing. We look forward to a fun Halloween Dance - always one of our biggest activities - in late October.*

## Special Olympics Update

The Miami County Special Olympics Golf Season is now underway, with 10 athletes and their volunteer partners. We extend a big THANK YOU to the Troy Foundation for their generous grant from their fall 2021 cycle, which will cover fees for our athletes and volunteers as they practice all season at Homestead Golf Course in Tipp City. Thank you, Troy Foundation!

The Miami County Special Olympics Powerlifting Team - better known as "The Crew" - have been busy with many tournaments this spring. They competed at the Regional Meet in May and headed to the State Games at the Ohio State University in June. The team will take a few months off before picking back up with training and competitions in the fall. Congratulations to the powerlifters and coaches on a tremendous season!



## Triple P - Positive Parenting Program

Triple P is the Positive Parenting Program that aims to help parents raise more confident kids. Riverside's Early Intervention team is proud to have 2 Triple P-certified employees who can help parents of toddlers find more successful strategies for many of parenting's biggest challenges.

Triple P offers FREE online parenting courses at [triplep-parenting.com](https://triplep-parenting.com). Sign up today and support your children to manage a variety of challenges. Triple P programs have many simple strategies you can start using right now:

- Promote your child's or teenager's emotional wellbeing.
- Make family life more enjoyable for everyone with routines and rules that really work.
- Join parents in more than 40 U.S. states who've been helped by some type of Triple P - Positive Parenting Program!



For more information, visit [triplep-parenting.com](https://triplep-parenting.com).



# DSP Spotlights

## Meet Calvin Arnett with Limitless Abilities

Calvin Arnett became a Direct Support Professional (DSP) 3 years ago and he says it's the greatest thing he's ever done. "The ability to help the people we serve makes your life so much better," he says. "It teaches you so much about yourself and how much you care about other people."

Calvin and his mother, Teri Watkins, another DSP, started a new business in March 2022. "Limitless Abilities" provides adult day services for people with developmental disabilities in Miami, Darke and Shelby Counties. They provide transportation to and from activities for their 5-hour weekday programming. They can serve up to 8 people at a time.

According to Calvin, Limitless Abilities is focused on serving the needs of the people they support. They want to do what the people served want to do, and seek their input each step of the way. "We get excited when we help them get comfortable making strides in their personal lives," he says.



*Calvin Arnett (right) with David Singley, the first person who signed up for services through Calvin's new business, Limitless Abilities.*



*Tammy Mayberry enjoys her work as a DSP. She is independently certified through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, and as an independent provider of services, she enjoys the freedom of being self-employed.*

## Meet Tammy Mayberry, Independent Provider

Tammy's friend, Dana, introduced her to the concept of becoming a DSP. After working for 12 years doing taxes at a local CPA firm, Tammy learned she could use her fiscal knowledge to help people with developmental disabilities manage their money. She worked with Riverside to earn her certification, and she has been serving as a "payee" helping people budget their funds, in addition to providing in-home services for several adults. She has been a DSP for 3 years now, and currently serves 15 people.

"Being a DSP is exciting!" Tammy says. "I sit in meetings where these people make goals, whether it is learning to cook a spaghetti dinner or saving for a vacation in July. Some of these people have never had choices, never been cheered on for their accomplishments, never were the first ones picked. To see them hit those goals ... I just want to cry."

Tammy's services as a payee are in high demand. She currently helps 11 people, but has 6 additional people pending decisions or interviewing soon.

To anyone who is considering becoming a DSP, Tammy offers enthusiastic encouragement. "It is life changing. These people become like family. I love my work."



## Inside this Issue

### Summer 2022

Riverside is celebrating its 70th Anniversary this year!

Reflect on our history, learn about our current activities and join us as we celebrate throughout 2022!