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MRDD and mental health boards to host caregiver seminar

NEWARK -- The Licking County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (LCBMRDD) and the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Licking and Knox Counties invite caregivers and other MRDD service providers to attend an upcoming mental health seminar.

David Buchanan, MSW, LSW, will present "Working with People who have Mental Illnesses and Developmental Disabilities in Crisis Situations" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 14, at the House of New Hope conference room, in St. Louisville. There is no cost to attend and lunch will be provided. Because seating is limited, advanced registration is required.

Buchanan has more than 30 years of experience in counseling individuals who have mental health issues as well as developmental disabilities. The intent of the conference is to teach care providers how to deescalate crisis situations and to help people live in their communities and work with others. There will be a focus on people who have schizoaffective and borderline personality disorders that are coupled with developmental disabilities.

In addition to direct-care providers, the LCBMRDD also encourages attendance from those who work in the following fields: courts and law enforcement, children's services, Hospice, and elderly care. Continuing education unit credits, or CEUs, from the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities will be provided. Counselor and social work CEUs will be sought, but not guaranteed.

This conference is made possible by a grant from the Coordinating Centers on Excellence in Dual Diagnosis, made up of the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council. The mission of the organization is to identify best practices; train professionals in mental health, developmental disabilities and related service systems; and provide systemic and clinical consultation throughout Ohio.

To obtain more information or to register for the conference, please call the LCBMRDD's Service Coordination department at (740) 349-1420, or (800) 722-6096.

The LCBMRDD provides comprehensive services to more than 1,300 Licking County children and adults with developmental disabilities including early intervention services at the Ann Davino Center in Pataskala and the Eleanor S. Weiant Center in Newark; adult services at LICCO Inc. in Heath; residential supports; family respite; transportation and service coordination. The LCBMRDD is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for providing high-quality support services to individuals with disabilities and their families.

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