



2025

Annual Report

Improving lives by supporting choices of people through community partnerships and quality services.

2025 Board of Directors



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President



Baylee Butler
Vice President



Katie Guba
Secretary



Amy Beam



Hunter Robinson



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Message from Superintendent Beeler

At the Ross County Board of Developmental Disabilities, our work has always been rooted in one simple truth: the people we serve make our community whole.

This past year, that belief guided everything we did. From expanding programs that open new doors for individuals and families, to deepening the partnerships that make Ross County stronger, 2025 reminded us why this work matters. We were proud to receive a 3-year accreditation from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities - a reflection of the dedication and professionalism of our entire team. But even more meaningful were the stories of individuals who found new confidence, new opportunities, and a greater sense of belonging.

We also remain deeply committed to being responsible stewards of the public trust. The funds entrusted to us by Ross County residents are managed with care and intention, always with the people we serve as our first priority, and fiscal responsibility as a close second. Every decision we make is guided by that balance.

None of this happens without the incredible people who show up every day for our mission. To our staff, providers, board members, families, and community partners - thank you. Your dedication, compassion, and belief in the people we serve is what makes the Pioneer Center truly special.

Looking ahead, we are on track with our 2025–2027 Strategic Plan and have developed our 2026 Annual Action Plan with clear areas of focus, continuing our commitment to driving inclusion, expanding accessible technology, supporting meaningful careers, and showing up as a trusted community partner every single day.

It is truly our privilege to walk alongside you.



About Pioneer Center

The Ross County Board of DD exists for the purpose of improving the quality of life for our citizens who have a developmental disability. We are committed to providing quality services that give individuals and their families choices that enhance community participation and the ability to achieve a life of increasing capabilities.

Our Philosophy

- The Board recognizes that all individuals desire and deserve the opportunity to make decisions about their lives.
- Person-centered planning is a process that enables people with developmental disabilities and their families to communicate their wants and needs to us so that the Board can arrange the supports they need for a quality life.
- Service coordination is a process of assisting individuals and their families to identify and acquire the appropriate services and supports they choose for themselves within the resources available.
- The dignity and self worth of each individual shall be respected.
- Services and supports should be personalized and age appropriate.
- Services for individuals with developmental disabilities should be close to their homes and families.



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Early Intervention

The EI program provides services to infants and toddlers under the age of three who have a qualifying medical diagnosis or developmental delays. These services include evaluations, parent coaching and community playgroups/events. Each infant/toddler also has access to an EI team which includes developmental specialists, speech-language pathologists, physical and occupational therapists, and more.

Pioneer Preschool

The Pioneer preschool program is located The Pioneer School. Preschool students receive physical, occupational, speech, and music therapy services.

Pioneer School

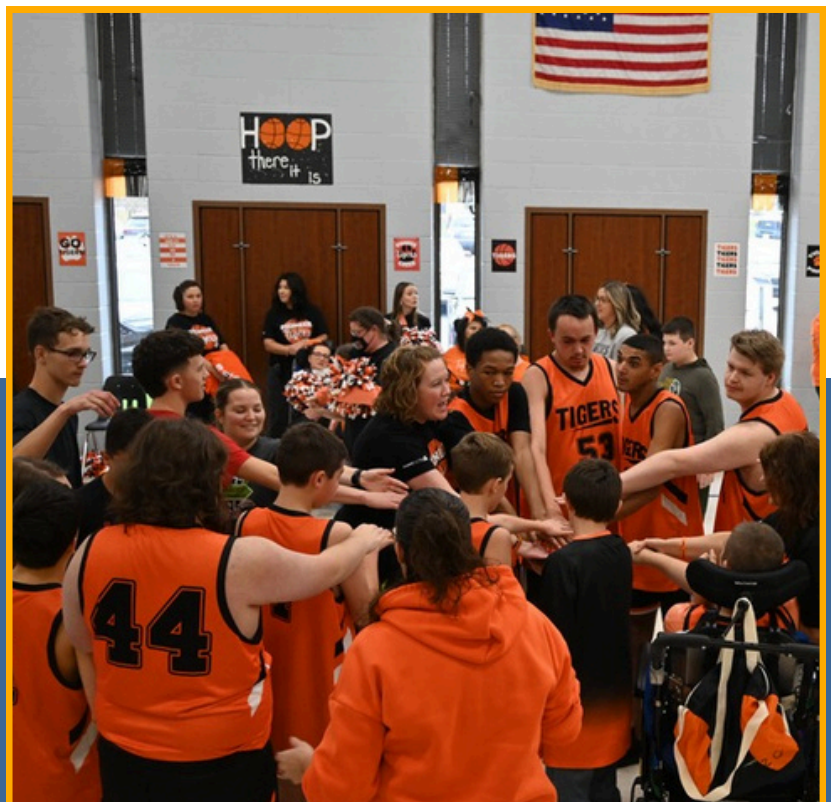
The Pioneer School is where students with disabilities receive specialized instruction from intervention specialists in small size classrooms. Pioneer School students have access to nursing, physical, occupational, speech and music therapy services based on their individualized needs.

Health & Respite

Health and respite funds are used to assist families with adaptive equipment, home modifications, therapy services, comps, or other supports needed. Respite care is temporary care provided to a person with a disability because their caregiver is unable to provide care or to provide them a temporary break.

Service & Support Administration

Service & Support Administrators (SSAs) provide case management services for individuals in need of service coordination. SSAs complete a person-centered planning process to identify an individual's wants and needs and what is important to the individual. Once identified, SSAs coordinate the needed services and supports. These services may include residential supports, nursing, employment navigation services, transportation, housing, assistance with maintaining benefits, and emergency assistance for health and safety needs.



Residential Supports

Individuals with developmental disabilities are supported to live in the community as independently as possible. Supports include home modifications, adaptive/assistive equipment, and certified provider assistance with daily living skills such as personal care, medication administration and household chore assistance. The county board authorizes these services using local supported living funds or Medicaid waivers.

Adult Day Services

Adult day supports, provided by certified providers, encourage participation in community activities, build community membership, develop and maintain meaningful relationships, and offer opportunities for personal growth, independence, and natural supports. These services are funded by the county board and Medicaid.

Waiver Administration

The county board assists individuals in accessing a variety of Medicaid waiver programs. These waivers allow individuals to receive supports in the community rather than an institutional setting. The county board authorizes services and pays approximately 40% of waiver services provided by certified providers.

Special Olympics

Ross County Special Olympics is offered to any individual eight years or older in Ross County that has been diagnosed with an intellectual disability. Individuals have the opportunity to play throughout the year, and do not pay to play, due to sponsorships, community partnerships, and fundraisers.

Advocacy

The Capital City Crusaders Advocacy Group hold monthly meetings, produces newsletters and podcasts, and attends regional and state-level advocacy meetings. All individuals with a developmental disability are welcome to participate.

Provider Recruitment and Support

Qualified providers meet individuals needs through our Medicaid waiver programs. Serving over 300 individuals, in a variety of settings— weekly drop in, after school services, weekends and homes that require 24 hour support. Technology helps meet individuals needs, having remote supports that reduces having a staff person in the home while allowing the individual to have increased independence.

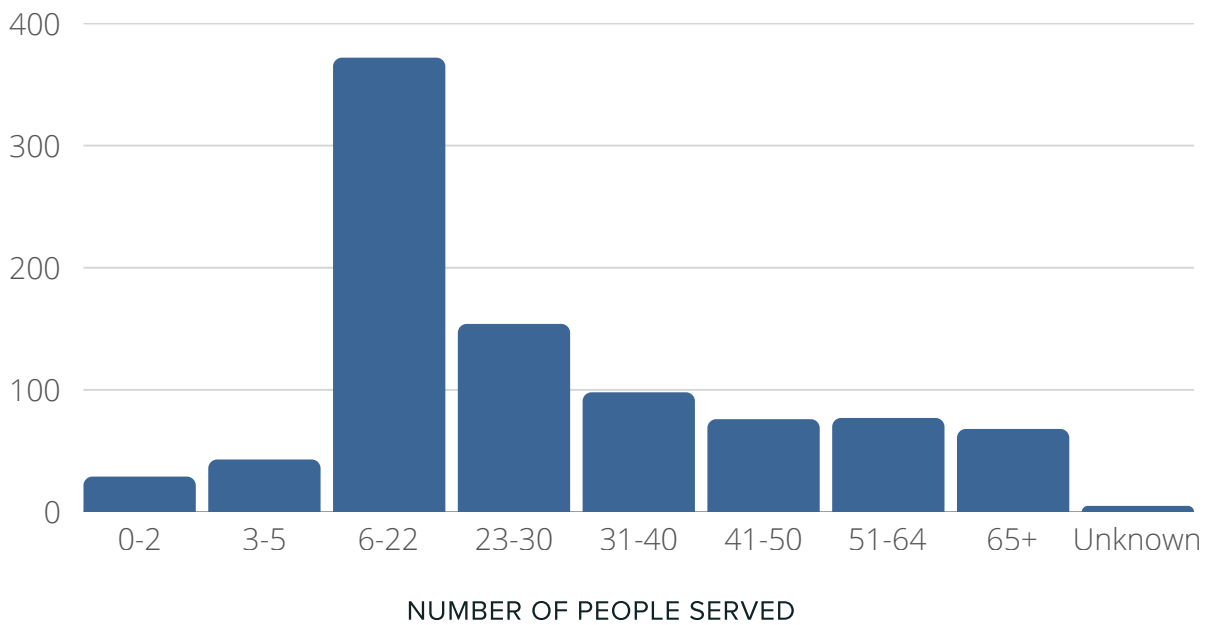
Parent Advocacy, BREATHE, and The Landrum Youth Empowerment Center

With the help of an OHMAS grant and the Landrum Grant, the purchase of The Landrum Youth Empowerment Center has provided another location to provide programming for parent support groups and Ohio SIBS. The focus of this space is for support for Ross County youth. The center has been under construction and will house life exploration and Project Life programs for The Pioneer Center once complete.

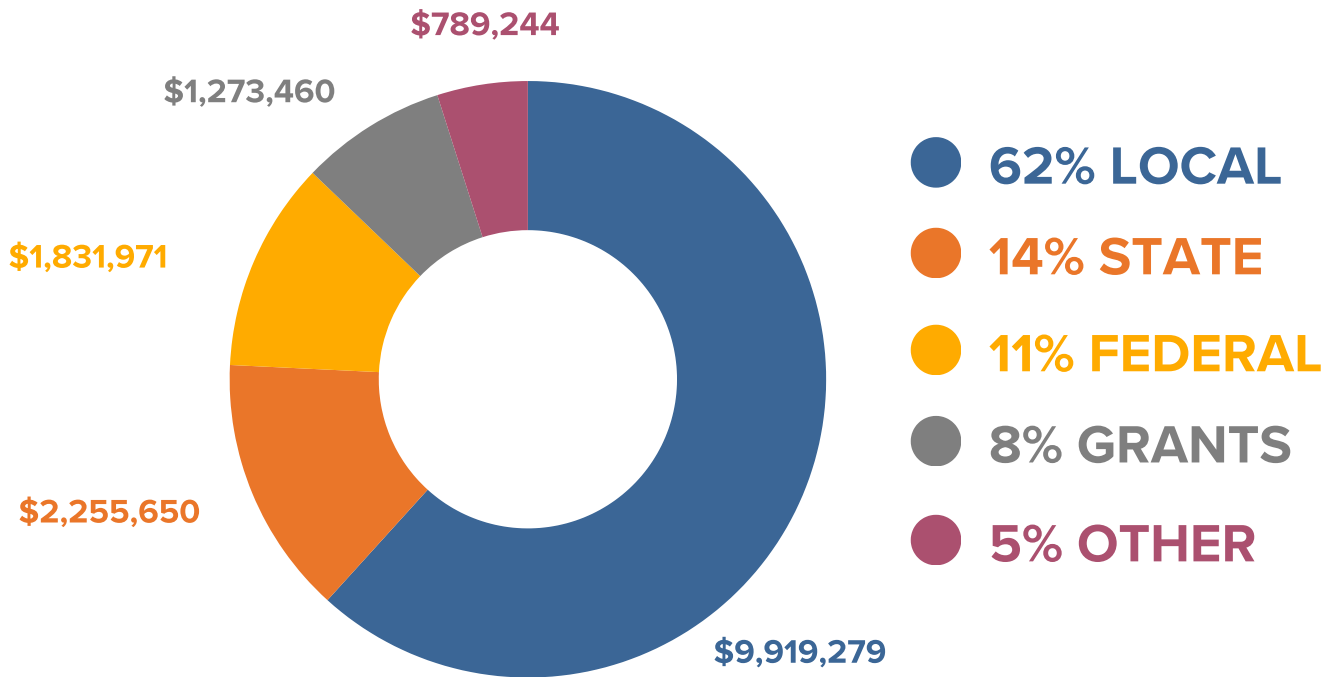


Enrollment Overview

The Ross County Board of Developmental Disabilities currently serves **922** citizens with developmental disabilities.

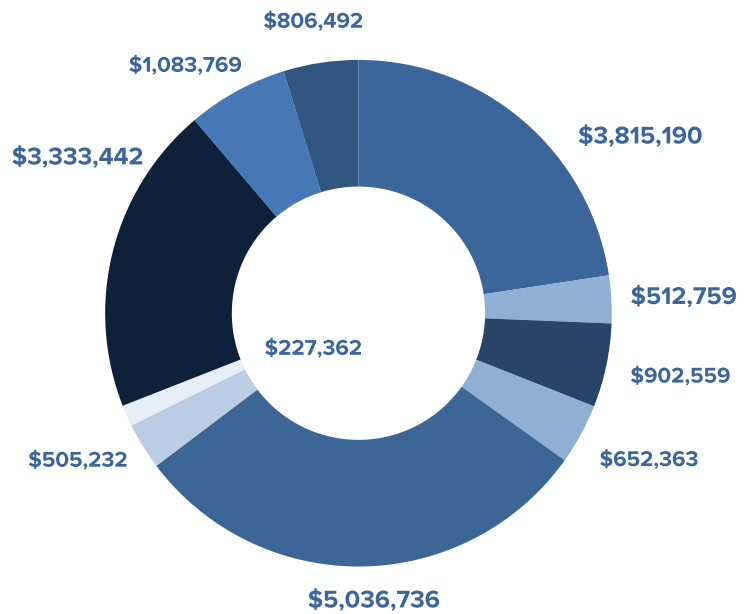


Financial Overview



2025 Revenue

- 30% SCHOOL AGE
- 23% WAIVER SHARE
- 20% SSA
- 6% ADULT & COMM. EMPLOYMENT
- 5% EARLY INTERVENTION
- 5% MISCELLANEOUS
- 4% PRESCHOOL
- 3% GRANT EXPENSES
- 3% COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL
- 1% HEALTH & RESPITE



2025 Expenditures



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the
**PIONEER
CENTER**
Ross County Board of DD

