

LINKING EMPLOYMENT, ABILITIES & POTENTIAL (LEAP)

Ms. Melanie M. Hogan, Executive Director

doing justice with people with disabilities

LINKING EMPLOYMENT, ABILITIES & POTENTIAL (LEAP) was built on the principal that people with disabilities have the same rights as everyone else. In 2006, LEAP was awarded the *Freedom to Compete Award* from the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission. LEAP was honored for hiring, training and promoting people with disabilities to help other persons with disabilities find and retain employment. LEAP also earned the *Standards of Excellence Certification* from OANO: the Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

LEAP, which is consumer driven to ensure a society of equal opportunity for all persons, regardless of disability, provides education and training through the following services and programs:

ATTENDANT TRAINING works to increase employment options for persons with disabilities by providing training in personal assistance and direct care. In 2006, the program provided training for **47** individuals to become home health aids, STNA's (State Tested Nurse Assistants) and dining assistants.

BENEFITS PLANNING, ASSISTANCE AND OUTREACH educated **597** individuals about their Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, allowing them to make informed decisions about their work and living situations.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT helps consumers pursue, obtain and retain employment, resulting in increased independent and self-sufficiency and decreased reliance on government support. In 2006, **250** individuals received services to help them obtain their first job or improve their employment situation.

DORIS BRENNAN CENTER FOR DISABILITY EDUCATION & ADVOCACY offers a disability resource center, employment and independent living skills training, peer mentoring and disability benefits assistance. A low vision program is offered to Lorain County residents 55 years & older. In 2006, the Center assisted **149** consumers and developed its first recreation program – Quantum LEAP.

JOB LINK provides youth development, employability and life skills training for high school students with disabilities to help them successfully transition from school to employment and adult community life. The program worked with **91** youth with disabilities. LEAP also offers High School High Tech (HSHT) a community-based enrichment program designed to expose high school youth with disabilities to math, science, engineering and technology-based careers, and to assist and encourage them to transition into post-secondary education.

LEAP's PUBLIC POLICY CENTER works to increase the number of disability advocates and empower their participation in public policy activities on a local, state and national level. The Center works to impact local and state policy changes to make

facilities, services and opportunities available and accessible to individuals with disabilities.

LEAP's ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER was developed in 2006 to increase the use of technology by persons with disabilities to enable them to live, learn, work and play in the community of their choice.

FINANCIAL REPORT			
Revenue			Revenue
Government	1,722,010		76.5%
United Way	109,779		4.8%
Foundations	227,807		10.1%
Non Profits Org.	8,785		0.4%
Individuals & Churches	33,748		1.5%
Other	148,315		6.7%
Total Revenue	2,250,444		
Expenses			Expenses
Program	2,060,713	Program – Personnel	66.9%
Management/General	269,026	Program – Services	3.0%
Fundraising	50,028	Program – Other	16.7%
Total Expenses	2,379,767	Fundraising	2.1%
		Administration	11.3%
TOTAL ASSETS 615,189		TOTAL LIABILITIES 176,469	
		ENDING ASSETS 438,720	

For more detailed information please view our online 2006 Annual Report www.leapinfo.org