

## INTENSIVE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCED

The Ohio Department of Education is conducting an Intensive Awareness Campaign in accordance with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Ohio Revised Code, and the State Board of Education's Rules for the Education of Handicapped Children. Each public school district and the Ohio Department of Education are trying to identify children with disabilities, birth through 21, who may be in need of special education services.

For children birth to three, a disability means an established condition known to result in delay or a documented development delay. For children ages three through five, a disability means that a child has a documented deficit in one or more of the following developmental areas: communication, vision, hearing, motor skills, social emotional/behavioral functioning, self-help skills, and/or cognitive skills. For school-age students, a disability means that a student has been identified as having one or more of the following conditions: autism, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment including deafness, mental retardation (CD), multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, emotional disturbance (ED), specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury and/or visual impairment including blindness. The Scioto County Local Schools and Portsmouth City Schools offer:

Evaluation for all children with suspected disabilities, birth through age 21

Education for all children with disabilities ages three through 21 years

Once the school district is notified about a child who is suspected of having a disability:

The child's parent(s) are contacted and informed of their rights, as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Ohio Revised Code, and the State Board of Education's Rules for the Education of Handicapped Children

Arrangements are made to evaluate the child in cooperation with the parent(s)

If you know a child who is suspected of having a disability, contact your local school district listed below for assistance:

### Child Find

<b>Bloom-Vernon Local</b>	Cathy McCoy	778-2320
<b>Clay Local</b>	Steve Williams	354-6644
<b>Green Local</b>	Keri Emnett (HS)	354-9150
	Jessica McIlhenny (Elem)	354-9330
<b>Minford Local</b>	Marin Applegate	820-3007
<b>New Boston Local</b>	Jennifer Scherer	456-4375
<b>Northwest Local</b>	Jeannine Shelpmann	259-2250
<b>Portsmouth City</b>	Charles Kemp	354-5705
<b>Valley Local</b>	Lisa Harley	259-2611
<b>Washington-Nile Local</b>	Eric Nichols	858-3951
<b>Wheelersburg Local</b>	Aimee Hall	574-8130