



# Hello Hamilton County

November 2009

## E-News for Hamilton County citizens and employees

Quote of the month:

*"We're gathered today, just as we have gathered before, to remember those who served, those who fought, those still missing, and those who gave their last full measure of devotion for our country . . . Our liberties, our values, all for which American stands is safe today because brave men and women have been ready to face the fire at freedom's front. And we thank God for them."*

*~ Ronald Reagan*

## Hamilton County's New Mental Health Court: A Major Step Forward



Judge John West (center) held the first meeting of the Mental Health Court on October 30. In attendance were the Mental Health Court Project Coordinator and representatives from the Public Defender, Prosecutor, Adult Probation, Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services, and the Court Clinic.

A common complaint among those involved with the judicial system is that jails have become a holding place for people with mental illness — people whom jails were not necessarily designed to treat. Hamilton County is doing something big to address that concern — and to more effectively address the needs of people with mental illness who are involved with the criminal justice system.

Hamilton County has established a new Common Pleas Mental Health Court. The new Mental Health Court is actually a partnership known as the Mental Health Court Community Treatment Intervention Project (MHCCTIP).

The MHCCTIP's mission is to effectively manage

the risks associated with persons who have serious and persistent mental illness in Hamilton County's criminal justice system. The program strives to reduce incarceration and hospitalizations by providing mental health intervention that integrates community treatment options with judicial supervision.

"The new Mental Health Court is a major step forward for our court system," says Hamilton County Commission President David Pepper. "Thanks to Judge West and the other judges who worked hard to create this new approach, we will have a system much more attuned to the treatment needs of people in our criminal justice system."

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One of the guiding principles of the new court is that systems achieve better outcomes when they operate collaboratively. The program's goals reflect this principle. MHCCTIP program goals reference enhancing public safety by linking criminal justice and mental health treatment services and promoting more effective use of community resources.

The MHCCTIP is led by two judges who may hold court one day each week: Judge Jody M. Luebbers and Judge John West. A dedicated MHCCTIP team also serves the court.

Generally, this MHCCTIP team meets two times each week to review eligibility and admission, treatment intervention recommendations, and case status review following admission. The team must follow legal eligibility guidelines when determining who is qualified to participate in this new court. For example, guidelines specify that there must be prosecutorial and victim consent for the case to be moved to the Mental Health Court, and there must be no history of serious or repetitive violence. The judge makes the final decision to accept a defendant into the Mental Health Court.

"These are non-violent offenders charged with low-level felonies. No guns, no sexual offenses,"

said Judge West.

For those accepted into the Mental Health Court, the MHCCTIP team recommends treatment plans. The judge reviews the recommendations and orders treatment, reviews compliance, and mandates sanctions.

"I'm very excited about the Mental Health Court," said Judge West. "We will get people into the Mental Health Court, get them involved with services where they can receive their medication, get community workers working with them, and hopefully get them stabilized with homes. That should help the jail overcrowding and the use of hospital beds as well. I think it's going to be a great benefit to the community as a whole."

### Is this really new? Doesn't Hamilton County already have a Mental Health Court?

Since 2003, Hamilton County Municipal Court has had a Mental Health Court which is for people with mental illness who are accused of committing minor offenses, such as disorderly conduct or theft. The new MHCCTIP is part of Hamilton County Common Pleas Court, and it serves people with mental illness who are charged with felonies.

## MHCCTIP Partnership

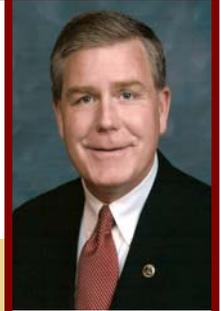
The MHCCTIP is a partnership involving many entities working together to provide responsive, integrated treatment intervention services to severely mentally ill persons. Partners include:

- **Mental Health Court Judge**
- **Prosecutor**
- **Public Defender, Retained Counsel**
- **Project Coordinator/Court Monitor**
- **Court Clinic Forensic Services**
- **Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services Assertive Community Treatment Team**
- **Talbert House Day Treatment, Crossroads Recovery, and Summit Behavioral Services**
- **Hamilton County Community Mental Health and Recovery Treatment Services**
- **Pretrial and Community Transition Services, Probation Mitigation and Mentally Disabled Offender Supervisor Team**
- **Justice Center Mental Health Unit, Mental Health Access Point**



*Patrick's Perspective*

## Re-Thinking County Government Structure Is The Right Thing to Do in 2010



**Patrick Thompson,  
Hamilton County  
Administrator**

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) unanimously approved the 2010 general fund budget on October 28. The approved budget is leaner than any Hamilton County general fund budget has been over the past ten years.

This budget process has made it painfully clear that the status quo of doing business is no longer good enough. Money is tighter than ever, yet we must provide the services that Hamilton County needs. Department heads and elected officials understand this. They have stepped up to the plate, and I appreciate their cooperation.

Hamilton County leaders know it's important to serve effectively even in lean times. We need to continue to think innovatively. I support establishing a community task force to look at alternative forms of operating Hamilton County government.

Commissioner Portune submitted a motion in September for the establishment of the task force, and the BOCC unanimously approved the motion.

"Next year is going to be a year of great reform in Hamilton County," said Commissioner Portune. "With great hardship, change, and turmoil comes great opportunity."

The task force will develop recommendations regarding alternative forms of county

government and report them to the BOCC by April 30, 2010. The BOCC will hold public hearings on the issue and could advance a recommended alternate form of Hamilton County Government to the ballot for the November 2010 General Election.

I am a strong proponent of government organizations working creatively to meet challenges. Especially governments working cooperatively to achieve efficiencies by sharing services, consolidating functions, and achieving economies of scale. Hamilton County has made strides in this direction with the Government Cooperation and Efficiency Project (GCEP), which explores opportunities for shared services with local municipalities.

Through GCEP, Hamilton County is creating opportunities to share services with other local governments to save money, increase efficiency and improve quality. For example, we currently have a grant from the State helping us improve our building and development process. We're working with other jurisdictions to provide better service that reduces confusion for the builders and developers.

Another example of government cooperation involves our Purchasing Department. Amy Hoh and her staff have done an excellent job of leveraging the

purchasing power of numerous surrounding communities to obtain better deals on standard commodities such as road salt. Recently, we have begun exploring whether there is a practical opportunity to consolidate 911 emergency dispatch services with the City of Cincinnati.

Sharing services and resources at the governmental level makes a whole lot of sense, and you will see more of it in the future.

GCEP is providing a great opportunity to reconsider how we do business. The Alternative Forms of Governance Task Force's efforts in 2010 will help us consider options for governance on an even larger scale. In addition to finding more ways to share services internally and with other municipalities, we may even be able to modify our government structure to increase operational efficiency within Hamilton County government.

These are exciting times for our County. I encourage everyone to keep an open mind about the opportunities involved with reforming county government. Times like these call for bold thinking and bold measures. All ideas are welcome. Hop on board!



## Hamilton County Adopts 2010 General Fund Budget Early

Hamilton County Commissioners unanimously voted to adopt a \$210 million 2010 budget on October 28, which was well before the December 31 deadline.

"This is early to be passing a budget," said Commission President David Pepper. "With every budget there are contingencies, but department heads and elected officials have said this helps them plan for next year. It's also helpful to the other jurisdictions who are impacted by our budget."

The approved budget reduces spending to the lowest since 1999 without raising taxes and keeps core services intact. The budget is fiscally responsible, prioritizes public safety and continues to invest in economic development and job creation.

"Given the severe decline in

revenues, this was a difficult budget process, but all the County departments stepped up to cooperate and be creative," said Commissioner Pepper. "While many sacrifices were made, we were able to reduce our spending to a level not seen in a decade and still fund our top priorities of public safety and economic development."

"Everybody worked very hard to make the best of a bad situation," said Commissioner Todd Portune. "There was a proactive effort taken by administrators, elected officials, and department heads who all came together understanding that a \$60 million reduction can't be wished away."

"This budget gives an important signal to the public about where our priorities are," said Commissioner Greg Hartmann, citing the budget's focus on

public safety.

County Administrator Patrick Thompson spoke about the importance of the county's workforce as the budget was passed. "We have asked a lot of our employees. They are our most valuable resource, and we need to treat them as such."

Thompson called for continued fiscal responsibility as a means to addressing the well being of the Hamilton County workforce. Thompson also commended the Department of Budget and Strategic Initiatives for their work on the 2010 budget.

Now the County Administrator and his staff will develop a work plan around the approved budget. Thompson noted, "It needs to be realistic, reflect the commissioners' goals, and reflect the economic reality."

## Summary of the 2010 Hamilton County Budget

- A reduction in spending of \$60 million dollars from just two years ago;
- 70% of the budget is dedicated to public safety, including the Sheriff, Prosecutor and Courts;
- The budget keeps the County's crime lab open and operational;
- The budget provided enough funds to avoid any reduction in jail space, avoid further Sheriff's Deputy layoffs, and even adds dollars to rehire Sheriff's Deputies laid off in 2009;
- The budget continues the Commission focus on reforming government and "sharing services" so all levels of government in the County live within their means and do more with less.
- The budget continues the commitment to rebuild the County reserves.



# Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission Provides Valuable Service for Veterans



The Blue Ash Bicentennial Veterans Memorial Park, pictured above, is a tribute to veterans. Many Hamilton County communities will host Veterans Day events to honor veterans on November 11.

As our nation prepares to honor all who have served our country on Veterans' Day, the Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission continues its year-round mission of serving veterans.

The Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission provides financial assistance to veterans, active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States, and certain dependents. The Commission also advises and assists them in presenting claims or obtaining rights or benefits under any law of the United States or Ohio.

"Filing claims with the VA is one of the biggest things that we do for veterans and widows," says Executive Director William Boettcher. "We help them get compensation for claims related to injuries and illnesses that are a

direct result of service."

Boettcher says the Commission also helps veterans with eligibility for VA loans and provides emergency financial assistance for things like rent, mortgage payments, food, medical and utilities.

The Veterans Service Commission consists of five members who are appointed by the Court of Common Pleas. Each person serving on the Commission must be an honorably discharged or honorably separated veteran.

"The Veterans'

Service Commission is available to all Hamilton County veterans who have served honorably," explains Boettcher. "If there are any entitlements we can help them gain access to, we like to work with them."

For more information about the Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission, please visit this link: <http://www.hamiltoncountvohio.gov/veterans/>

- Hamilton County Veteran's Service Commission Members**
- Robert E. Ultsch, President**  
Representing AMVETS
  - Carl E. Pratt, Vice President**  
Representing American Legion
  - Sam Bucalo, Secretary**  
Representing Disabled American Veterans
  - Clifford H. Park, Member**  
Representing Veterans of Foreign Wars
  - Roy Miller, Member**  
Representing Korean War Veterans



## Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board Awarded \$9 Million Federal Grant To Serve Youth



The Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHRSB) has received the largest grant in its history. The \$9 Million, six-year federal grant was awarded by the Center for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The grant will fund a new project called Journey to Successful Living (JOURNEY), which will strategically build upon an existing partnership between the mental health and substance abuse system, child welfare system, juvenile justice system, and/or mental retardation and developmental disability system.

“The grant will help develop a system of care for youth who are dealing with difficult adolescent years and, at the same time, coping with their mental illness,” said Patrick Tribbe, President and CEO of MHRSB.

The grant will fund one year of planning for JOURNEY and five years of implementation. During the planning year, JOURNEY will involve additional partners from schools, social service agencies, and the business community.

“It is exciting to have a project that will benefit the youth and families we serve,” stated Moira Weir, Director of Hamilton County Job and Family Services.

A unique feature of the grant will be the participation of youth and families from the planning stage to policy development and comprehensive service planning, which is designed to address behavioral health, education, employment, social, housing, financial, health insurance and physical health needs of the youth.

“This grant will transform the way mental health services will be integrated and specifically targeted to meet the needs of youth ages 14-21 and their families,” said Diana McIntosh, Vice President of Clinical Services with the MHRSB. McIntosh will oversee the grant.

The Hamilton County MHRSB is the planning, funding and evaluating agency for publicly funded behavioral health services in the county. It has the responsibility for managing a system of high quality, cost effective services.

To learn more about the Hamilton County MHRSB, please visit this link:

[http://www.hcmhrsb.org/getting\\_services.htm](http://www.hcmhrsb.org/getting_services.htm)



## Hamilton County Job and Family Services Recognizes National Adoption Month

More than 200 Hamilton County youth are available for adoption. While agency employees work throughout the year to bring awareness of these available youth, special events are planned for November's National Adoption Month.



This year's theme of National Adoption Month is "Answering the Call -- You don't have to be perfect to be a perfect parent. There are thousands of teens in foster care who would love to put up with you." Nationwide, there are 129,000 children in foster care waiting for adoptive homes.

The most celebrated event during Adoption Month is National Adoption Day; the 10th anniversary of the first National Adoption Day will be celebrated on Nov. 21. HCJFS will celebrate the adoption of several children for its Mass Adoption on Friday, Nov. 20. Nationally, more than 25,000 children have been adopted from foster care on National Adoption Day; locally, eight were adopted in 2007 and seven in 2008.

Other events HCJFS has planned for this special month include:

- A live **online chat** about adoption, Wednesday, November 4 10 a.m.—11 a.m. on [www.hcjfs.org](http://www.hcjfs.org).

- **Adoption Recruitment Event**

Saturday, November 7  
Noon—3 p.m.  
at The Skatin' Place,  
3211 Lina Place,  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239.  
Children available for  
adoption and approved

adoptive families interested in adopting older children are invited to attend a fun afternoon of roller skating and pizza.

- **Adoption Appreciation Event**

Friday, November 20  
6 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
at Mayerson Community Center,  
8485 Ridge Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45236.

Families who have adopted since November 2008, families with adoptive placements, families waiting to adopt, along with the agency's waiting children and their foster families are invited to attend the adoption appreciation event. The event includes entertainment provided by the Amazing Portable Circus, plus magicians, face painting, inflatable maze, carnival games and more. Refreshments, including pizza, salad, popcorn and cotton candy will be provided from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m..

Hamilton County is on pace for more than 100 adoptions this year. In 2007, the agency set a record with 135. In 2008, 115 were adopted. To learn more about adoption, please visit [www.hckids.org](http://www.hckids.org).



## Hamilton County Residents Save \$100,000 Thanks to Prescription Drug Discount Program



The Hamilton County Prescription Drug Card program reached a big milestone in September, having saved Hamilton County residents over \$100,000 in just nine months!

In September, residents saved \$16,000 using the Prescription Drug Card Program, bringing the total amount saved since the program's implementation in

January to \$109,446.31.

The Hamilton County Commissioners introduced the money-saving program in January. The program provides prescription drug discount cards to any Hamilton County resident. Residents can use the card to get discounts on any prescriptions not covered by insurance that are purchased from participating pharmacies.

The Prescription Drug Program is provided at no cost to Hamilton County, and it benefits the residents who use it. On average, residents save about 21% of the cost of a prescription drug when using the card. That's about a \$9.42 price savings on

each prescription.

For more information, please visit [www.hamiltoncountyrx.com](http://www.hamiltoncountyrx.com)

### Pick up your free card at any of these locations:

- Branches of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
- YMCA Branches
- Many social services agencies, such as the FreeStore Foodbank and Talbert House
- Hamilton County Job and Family Services Offices

## Hamilton County MR/DD a "Best Place to Work"

Hamilton County MR/DD has been named one of Greater Cincinnati's top 25 "Best Places to Work" by *The Cincinnati Business Courier*.

More than 100 workplaces participated in an on-line employee survey that was the catalyst for choosing the top 25. Winners will be recognized at a luncheon on November 11 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center.

"The employees that I am proud to lead make our agency the best, as they consistently put individuals with disabilities and their families whom we serve first," said Cheryl Phipps,



Hamilton County MR/DD Superintendent. "We are honored to receive this nomination and look forward to celebrating with fellow finalists at the luncheon."

Agency employees completed an on-line anonymous survey to put Hamilton County MR/DD in the top.

The Hamilton County Board of MR/DD's mission is to support individuals with disabilities and their families to achieve what is important to them. For more information about the agency, please visit [www.hamiltonmrdd.org](http://www.hamiltonmrdd.org).



## Hamilton County Public Health Coordinating School-Based H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinics

Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) is working with local schools to administer the H1N1 flu vaccine through school vaccination clinics. HCPH began school-based vaccination clinics based on the quantity of vaccine received and held the first clinics October 16. The organization is working across the county to assure that all interested and eligible students will receive the vaccine as quickly as possible.

“Even though we’ve only received initial doses of vaccine, we want to start vaccinating people as quickly as possible,” said Tim Ingram, Health Commissioner. “We ask members of the public to be patient as more vaccine becomes available and we work across the county to vaccinate school-age children. Even though supplies are delayed at first, there will be enough vaccine in the coming weeks and months.”

Evidence shows that school-age children are among the groups at higher risk of H1N1 infection or serious complications. School-age children are among the key high-risk populations identified by The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as being likely to come in contact with H1N1 flu. Like seasonal flu, H1N1 flu can be a serious contagious disease. An important step in protecting children from H1N1 flu is to receive the H1N1 flu vaccine.

“This is a young person’s disease,” Ingram said. “This effort will provide protection to thousands of children from H1N1 flu.”

Because scheduling of school vaccination clinics is dependent upon the timing of shipments and quantity of vaccine received, HCPH cannot predict when it will be at a particular school.

School-based vaccination clinics will only serve to vaccinate enrolled students and some eligible staff of the school/school district. Students must have consent forms signed by parents in order to attend. These clinics are not open to the public.

Response from schools hosting the vaccination clinics has been positive.

“Hamilton County officials planned the vaccinations several weeks in advance for the Loveland Schools,” said Pam Greenberg, District Nurse for Loveland City Schools. “Their coordination with our district administrators and nurses was terrific. The county nurses and staff vaccinated about 3,000 children in one day.”

HCPH is looking beyond the school-based vaccination clinics, assessing information regarding the amount of vaccine that will be available for distribution to the community. Once this information is available, HCPH



**Hamilton County Public Health Sanitarian Brad Johnson ensured that the vaccination clinic went well at a school in Loveland on October 29.**

plans to distribute the vaccine at sites throughout the county to individuals who are in the other key priority groups identified by the CDC. Key priority groups include pregnant women, people ages 6 months to 24 years old, healthcare and EMS workers, caretakers of children younger than 6 months, and adults ages 24 – 65 with chronic health conditions.

More information about vaccines should be available in the next few weeks. Individuals who wish to pre-register to receive the vaccine at targeted vaccination clinics may visit the following Web site:

<https://h1n1vaccine.odh.ohio.gov>.



## Cincinnati Youth Collaborative Programs Benefit Youth and the Community

As Vice President of the Hamilton County Development Company (HCDC), Harry Blanton plays a key role in Hamilton County's economic development strategy. HCDC is a private, non-profit organization committed to creating and retaining jobs and improving the local economy. Blanton's career is all about helping Hamilton County grow and succeed.

So what does Blanton like to do in his spare time? He helps Hamilton County grow and succeed in other ways! For twelve years, Blanton has been involved with the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative (CYC) as a mentor.

The CYC makes a significant difference in the lives of young people in grades 3 through 12 by providing mentoring and college readiness services. The CYC brings together over 2,100 volunteers and 120 local businesses and organizations to help young people graduate from high school and successfully make the leap forward into post-secondary education or rewarding employment.

"I first started mentoring Patrick Russell when he was nine years old," Blanton says. "He had been in and out of foster-homes, and his grades needed some help. Patrick is now twenty-one, a senior at Xavier University, a member of the student senate and was on the Dean's list last semester. Patrick is a wonderful young man who already has done impressive things."

"Since Patrick is now an adult, I have started mentoring other young

boys," says Blanton. "Javonne is the oldest at thirteen and is attending Pleasant Hills. He is a wonderful young man, and I do things with him and his brothers, James and Ahmad. We are focusing on their grades right now, and we also do a lot of fun things like go to UC Bearcats games and visit museums."

Clearly, CYC programs are rewarding for the volunteers and students involved. The programs get great results, too. CYC serves 90% of all Cincinnati Public Schools. 97% of seniors involved in CYC programs graduated from high school. 82% of these seniors applied to college. 92% of students who participated in CYC programs were promoted to the next grade level.

After years of mentoring, Blanton is taking on an additional role with the CYC. He is heading up their Government Affinity Group — a group dedicated to getting government employees more involved with mentoring and tutoring as part of the CYC. Blanton will be reaching out to Hamilton County employees to encourage them to consider mentoring or tutoring.

Blanton feels that mentoring fits well with the mission of many of Hamilton County's departments.

"I think mentoring touches what we all do for the County, whether we



**Harry Blanton and one of his CYC mentees, Patrick Russell**

work for Job and Family Services, the Court system or Community Development. All of us are trying to make Hamilton County a better place. These kids can play a positive role in our communities, or they can fall through the cracks. I would rather try to give them an opportunity to succeed and fill one of the jobs that are created through economic development than end up filling a bed in the jail system. As a community, I think we are much better off in the long run if we spend a little time with these kids today. It really doesn't take much of your time to make a difference."

For more information on how you can impact the life of a young person through mentoring or tutoring, contact Cincinnati Youth Collaborative at 513.475.4148 or visit their website at his link: [www.cycyouth.org](http://www.cycyouth.org).



## Take Advantage Now, Before Popular Department of Environmental Services Programs Close for the Season in November



**A Hamilton County resident uses DOES' Household Hazardous Waste program.**

Hamilton County residents have a little more time in 2009 to take advantage of free programs provided by the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services (DOES).

### **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program: Ends Saturday, November 14**

"The household hazardous waste program is one of the District's most popular programs," says Holly Christmann, Program Manager for the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District. Between March 14 and September 30, 2009, 7,149 households used the program. 460 tons were collected during that period.

Through the Household Hazardous Waste program, residents are offered a safe alternative for disposing of hazardous products. By using this program, residents reduce the risk of injuries to their waste hauler and can prevent childhood poisonings by removing unusable hazardous products from their home. "We are very pleased with the amount of waste collected and the number of households served by this program," says Christmann.

For information about the Household Hazardous Waste Program's hours, drop-off locations, and items accepted, please visit this link:

[http://www.hcdoes.org/sw/HHW/hhw\\_collection\\_program.html](http://www.hcdoes.org/sw/HHW/hhw_collection_program.html)

### **Yardwaste Recycling Program: Ends Sunday, November 22.**

Yardwaste comprises nine percent of material entering landfills. The District's yardwaste drop-off program is a simple way for residents to divert leaves, brush, and grass clippings from landfills. In 2009, DOES' Yardwaste Recycling Program collected over 3,700 tons — that weight is equal to the weight of 24,735 cars!

For information about the Yardwaste Recycling Program, please visit this link:

<http://www.hcdoes.org/SWMD/Residents/Yardwaste/ywdropsite.html>

Both programs will be available for Hamilton County residents again in 2010.



## You Can Buy These Vehicles Using the Hamilton County Surplus Auction!



Visit the Hamilton County Surplus Auction to bid to purchase items such as vehicles, office supplies, electronics, and furniture that Hamilton County and select other municipalities no longer need. Items available change frequently, and you can find some great bargains.

[www.hamiltoncountyohioauction.com](http://www.hamiltoncountyohioauction.com)



## Hamilton County Helping Working Families

What can the Hamilton County Families website do for your family?

- Help reduce costs on everyday family needs like prescription drugs and child care, so you have more money in your pocket.
- Help your family avoid a foreclosure.
- Help connect you to job opportunities and job training.

Visit this website to help save money and seek economic opportunity.

[www.hamiltoncountiefamilies.com](http://www.hamiltoncountiefamilies.com)



## Caring Families are Needed!



**Isaiah**

**Born April 27, 1997**

Energetic Isaiah loves to laugh and loves hands-on activities. Isaiah's favorite things to do are playing with his matchbox cars and zoo animal figures.

Isaiah enjoys running, but he tends to like to watch sports more than participate. He likes to watch basketball on TV and had a great time watching the Special Olympics from the stands.

A pleasant and lovable young man, Isaiah has the most fun when his foster family spends time together going out to eat for

a night or on big adventures like summer vacation.

Isaiah loves his one on one time, when he can sit down and have a book read to him. Isaiah needs a calm nurturing family. Isaiah is not verbal, so he needs a family that can dedicate the time necessary learning how he communicates his needs and emotions.

**To learn more about Isiah and others available for adoption,  
Please call 513-632-6366 or visit [www.hcadopt.org](http://www.hcadopt.org).**



**Please post "Hello Hamilton County,"  
so everyone can see what's going on!**

Hello Hamilton County is published monthly. It is designed to inform citizens and employees about news and events related to Hamilton County government and our community in general. You can find current and archived editions on the County's website. If you have questions, suggestions, or article submissions, please contact Laura Maus.

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