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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Clark County Advocate Honored By Ohio Developmental Disabilities Agency**

COLUMBUS, Ohio – One of the true leaders of the *Clark County Board of Developmental Disabilities* recently was honored at the *Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) 26TH ANNUAL CONVENTION* held at the *Easton Hilton* Dec. 2-4.

Sam Greenwood was one of three board members from across the state of Ohio who received the *Distinguished Service Award*, an honor which began in 2006. There are 616 *County Board of Developmental Disabilities* members in Ohio's 88 counties. Board members are nominated and chosen for their outstanding service and commitment to their local *County Board of Developmental Disabilities*.

"These volunteer Board members are the backbone of every agency across the state that helps individuals with developmental disabilities," said Dan Ohler, *OACB* Executive Director. "Without their guidance, experience and wisdom, the 80,000 people we serve would not have their abilities and programs they enjoy today."

For more than 30 years, Mr. Greenwood has helped individuals with developmental disabilities in Clark County. In 1982, he was appointed to then *Clark County Board of MRDD*. He later served on the non-profit board that works in conjunction with the *Clark County Board of Developmental Disabilities*.

Mr. Ohler noted that in the early 1980s, Mr. Greenwood saw the opportunity to partner with the *United States Air Force* to repair cargo nets. Individuals with developmental disabilities in Clark County now not only repair the nets, but also manufacture them.

"More than 400 people with developmental disabilities are now employed and the *United States Air Force* is saving millions of dollars because of the efficiency of the Clark County operation," Mr. Ohler said.

Thanks to the work of Mr. Greenwood and others, the *Clark County Board of Developmental Disabilities* actively markets the abilities of the 1,100 individuals they service, showcasing the "possibilities. "Seeing is believing" is Sam Greenwood's motto, and this is proven on a regular basis in Clark County," Mr. Ohler said.

“I suspect most everybody here wouldn’t be here if you did believe God put you here to do what you do,” Mr. Greenwood said in his acceptance speech. “I firmly believe that is why He put me here,” he said.

Mr. Greenwood introduced his son Randy to the crowd. Randy receives support and services from the *Clark County Board of Developmental Disabilities*.

In addition to Mr. Greenwood, the other board members recognized were Joyce Cramer from the *Crawford County Board of Developmental Disabilities*, and Steve Streng of the *Union County Board of Developmental Disabilities*.

The *OACB* is celebrating its 26<sup>th</sup> year of operation. Its mission is to “support *County Boards of Developmental Disabilities* in providing services and supports to individuals with disabilities.”

All 88 *County Boards of Developmental Disabilities* in Ohio are members of this organization whose purpose is to educate and advocate for the 80,000 individuals with developmental disabilities who reside in the Buckeye State.

**CUTLINE:**

**Sam Greenwood (pictured fourth from left) recently earned one of the most prestigious awards at the annual *OACB* CONVENTION. Above, Mr. Greenwood is pictured with (front row) Mary Brandstetter, Clark County Board of Developmental Disabilities Superintendent Jenny Rousculp, Sam Greenwood, Randy Greenwood, Carolyn Greenwood, Mike Halpin, (back row) Cliff Meyer, Mike Bante, and Peggy Smith.**

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