

# Meet Your Stark DD Eastgate Preschool Room 107 Team:

## Administrative Staff



### **Tammy Maney - Early Childhood Director**

Tammy received her Bachelor's of Science degree in special education from the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne, IN, followed by her Master's of Education in educational supervision from Kent State. Tammy has worked with all ages of children and adults with developmental disabilities over her career. She has been with Stark DD for 15 years. Since a teenager, Tammy has enjoyed volunteer activities in various organizations that benefit people with special needs. Tammy and her husband have fostered and adopted out many cats and dogs over the years. She also enjoys reading, knitting, traveling, crafting in various media, gardening and spending time with family.



### **Millie Morehead - Preschool Secretary**

Millie is an invaluable member of the Stark DD preschool team. She has worked with our preschool program for 7 years but has been an employee of Stark DD for about 18 years which makes her a great resource about the agency. Millie enjoys helping others and can be seen at just about every event sponsored by our preschool and the agency in general. Millie is also a great support for her sister who has a developmental disability. She and her husband enjoy camping and traveling to Volkswagen swap meets all over the Midwest and eastern U.S.

## Medical Services



### **Connie Hull - School Nurse**

Connie has been a nurse with Stark DD's preschool program for 28 years and has 39 years experience working with people with special needs. Connie earned her Bachelor's of Science degree in nursing from the University of Akron with additional coursework to be certified as a School Nurse. Connie states she always wanted to be a nurse and enjoys working with the children, their families and the preschool staff to meet medical needs during the school day. Connie and her husband are enjoying spending time with their 2 grandchildren. In addition to doting on their grandchildren, they enjoy traveling and have been all over the U.S., Canada and Europe.



## Classroom Staff



### **Sarah Parry - Intervention Specialist**

Sarah has been an employee of Stark DD for 11 years. Sarah came to us already having a Bachelor's Degree from Walsh University in early childhood education. While working in our preschool as an intervention specialist assistant, Sarah returned to Walsh to complete coursework that allowed her to add Early Childhood Intervention Specialist to her teaching credentials. Sarah was added to our teaching staff as soon as there was an opening and has not looked back!

Sarah says that while spending required contact hours at Stark DD preschool way back in the beginning of her college career she just knew she would work here someday and is thrilled that dream came through! Sarah enjoys hosting family get-togethers, traveling and going for walks with her husband,



### **Mimi Fawver— Classroom Assistant**

Mimi has many years experience working with children in various settings such as the Louisville YMCA and St. Louis School before and after school care programs. Mimi has also been a guardian for an adult with special needs. Mimi has a lot of energy and enjoys teaching yoga on her days off from work. She has a Bachelor's Degree in business administration and has completed coursework toward an MBA. Mimi says what she likes most about working with

Stark DD preschool is the teamwork approach to helping families with children with special needs and the integration of typically developing peers in the preschool program. Mimi enjoys walking, talking, yoga, friendships and spending time with her husband, children and grandson.



### **Olivia Mayle—Classroom Assistant**

Olivia is entering her third year as a member of the Stark DD Preschool staff. During high school, Olivia participated in the early childhood education program at RG Drage Career Center. In addition to Drage, Olivia has past work experience in a childcare setting with young children. She has also spent time caring for an individual with Autism. Olivia has a true interest in wanting our students to learn and grow so they are successful in their future educational endeavors. After working with us the first year, Olivia chose to send her son to our preschool as a peer.

## Behavioral Support



### **Ann Williams—Intervention/Behavioral Specialist**

Ann has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Akron in child development, a Master's Degree from Akron in family development and certifications as an early childhood intervention specialist, behavior intervention specialist and as a Board Certified assistant Behavior Analyst. Ann has been with Stark DD working in our preschool program for 29+ years and says she enjoys working with our program as each day presents new challenges and offers continuous learning, adapting and growing. Ann has a passion for trying to find out why kids do what they do behaviorally. Ann enjoys decorating, shopping, going for walks and vacationing with her husband in Mexico.

## Therapy Staff



### **Lori Gowins - Speech and Language Pathologist**

Lori received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of New Mexico in Communicative Disorders and her Master of Arts degree from the University of Akron in Speech Language Pathology. Lori has worked within the Stark DD preschool for 27 years and enjoys working with the children, their families and the dedicated staff. She states that seeing the children progress, learn and grow brings her joy. Outside of work, Lori enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, swimming and being outdoors. Her favorite place she has visited is Italy!



### **Tara Mizner - Occupational Therapist**

Tara spent the first 17 years of her career with Stark DD as a certified occupational therapy assistant. While working full time, she went back to school to gain her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in occupational therapy. As a result, Tara has spent the last 12 years as one of our OTs in preschool. Tara says she loves what she does, never gets bored, and after all these years, she is still happy with her choice to spend her career in this setting. Tara enjoys the giggles and innocence of the students and when she is able to help a child better participate in an activity by using something she modified or created for them. Tara enjoys outdoors activities such as hiking, trail running, backpacking trips, biking, and caving.



### **Amanda Tabellion - Physical Therapist**

After graduating from St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Amanda went on to get a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and a Master's Degree in Physical Therapy from Walsh University. She has worked with several school districts over the past 20+ years with the last 8 years being with Stark DD's preschool program. Amanda says she originally thought of becoming a teacher but then chose physical therapy and found that working in pediatric physical therapy is the best of both worlds. Amanda enjoys being part of all the "firsts"—rolling over, sitting up, first steps, riding a bike, etc. Amanda and her husband have 3 children with whom they are heavily involved in 4H with their hobby farm and variety of animals.



### **April Marshall-Woolf—Licensed Physical Therapist Asst.**

April attended the physical therapist assistant program at Stark State College and has worked within Stark DD for over 20 years with the last 12 years being with our preschool program. April says the students in preschool give her tremendous joy. April has a lot of energy and keeps herself busy outside of work with her children and grandchildren, gardening, getting together with friends and family and farm life which includes taking care of horses, cows, cats and a bird.



# Other Stark DD Preschool Staff Who May Interact with Your Child:

## Custodial Staff



### **Ken Anderson — Daytime Custodian**

Ken has worked for the Stark County Board of DD for over 40 years, with Eastgate Early Childhood Center as his home base the last 20 years. Ken truly enjoys interacting with our students daily. He sent his own sons to our preschool program as part of our peer program and has enjoyed having grandchildren in attendance in recent years as well. Ken is a man of many skills and interests and enjoyed many hiking and mountain climbing trips in his day.

One of Ken's favorite sayings is "Not all who wander are lost."



### **Vicki Lincoln — Afternoon Custodian**

While Vicki may only have 30-60 minutes in the building while the students are here, she truly enjoys her interactions with the children. While having only been with our preschool for a few months, Vicki's sweet demeanor has quickly made her a cherished member of the preschool staff.

## Food Service Staff

### **Emily Weisend - Dishwasher**

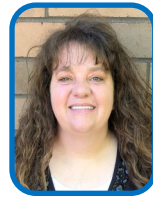
Emily is starting her third year as the dishwasher in our cafeteria. Emily enjoys being busy and participates in every staff activity that comes up. When not working in our preschool on Fridays, Emily can be found at Pegasus Farm. We are happy to have Emily working in our preschool.

### **Anna Kennedy - Head Cook**

Anna is entering her second year as the cook in our preschool. In addition to serving delicious food in our cafeteria, Ann also works as a server at the Texas Roadhouse in Alliance. In addition, she is raising a teenage daughter. When does she have time for it all?!



## Classroom



### **Dawn Fish- Intervention Specialist Assistant (Floater)**

Dawn has spent the last 12 years working in Stark DD's preschool program, first as a follow along working one on one with students in need of extra help and then becoming an intervention specialist assistant.

Dawn had a neighbor as a child who had a disability that she would play with and help which inspired her to want to work with people with disabilities as her life's work. She also has experience working within group homes with adults with developmental disabilities. Dawn says she loves watching the children grow and learn each day. In her spare time, Dawn enjoys scrapbooking, cross stitch, baking and doing crafts with her granddaughters, and supporting her son through his cross country races.



### **Karen Parrish- Intervention Specialist Substitute**

We have been very fortunate to have Karen with us for the past 3 school years as a substitute for our teachers. Karen retired after a career as a teacher of students with multiple disabilities and Autism in North Carolina and moved back to her home state of Ohio in order to be near her children and grandchildren, one of whom has special needs. Karen brings great ideas to her subbing assignments along with a calm and easy going demeanor. In her spare time, Karen likes to travel with her husband, Scott, and dote on her miniature Goldendoodle, Mitchell.



### **Rheta Feller - Intervention Specialist Substitute**

Rheta has worked for Stark DD for over 20 years with the last 8 in our preschool program. Rheta is a great resource for our preschool as she is able to step into about any role and contribute to whatever is going on in the classroom that day. Rheta has a Bachelor's of Science degree in technical education. She states she enjoys the children and staff and derives joy from seeing even the small accomplishments of our students. Rheta is very creative and enjoys

gardening, drawing and painting as well as taking trips to Salt Fork State Park.

## Behavioral Support



### **Faydra Young—Assistant**

Faydra has been a part of the Stark DD preschool staff for 3 years but she has worked for Stark DD for over 25 years! She worked many years at our K-12 school, R. Stallman Southgate School, as a classroom assistant before joining us in preschool. Faydra is now moving into a classroom assistant role working within our Discrete Trial Teaching program and has spent the summer taking courses working toward her certification as a Registered Behavior Techni-

cian. Faydra has a natural feel for working with children with behavioral issues and this certification will allow her to contribute to a greater extent in working with our students with Autism. Outside of work, Faydra enjoys being outdoors and working with and riding her horses on the small ranch she owns and operates with her husband.



Stark County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities

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2024-2025

