



Supporting People Through
Community Partnerships and Quality Services.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Bruce Opperman -WLIO TV Receive Award of Excellence

For Additional Information Contact: Esther Baldrige
Allen County Board of MR/DD
(419) 221-1385 ext. 1214
Email: ebaldrige@acbmrdd.org

(Lima, OH) – Bruce Opperman, President – General Manager of WLIO TV Lima Communications Company received an award of Excellence at the Allen County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities on March 17, 2008, for WLIO NBC Lima’s series on Autism which was aired December 10, 2006 and February 6, 7, and 8, 2007. This award was initially presented at the Ohio Public Images Annual Awareness Awards Luncheon held March 10, 2008 at the Embassy Suites in Dublin Ohio. WLIO NBC Lima received the award of Excellence in the category of Television Feature.

On December 10, 2006, reporter Rebecca Steiner featured the Slechter family on the WLIO News Journal. The Slechter family has two children who are diagnosed as being on the Autism Spectrum. As a Stand alone news report, this story provided excellent information about the Autism Spectrum.

On February 6, 7, and 8, 2007, reporter Steiner followed up with a three part series on Autism. In Part I, Ms. Steiner examined how autism is affecting the daily life of one family in the area. In Part 2, she examined the medical side of this disorder. The series concluded with Part 3 looking at the positive impact of a parent support group and the passage of the Combating Autism Act of 2006 in funding autism research.

WLIO has consistently been a source of information about issues affecting people with disabilities within our community. They focus on the strengths and abilities of people, enhancing the receptiveness of our community to accept those who have disabilities. They are very willing to cover events which focus on the abilities of the people we serve.

The Allen County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities is very proud to extend this award to Bruce Opperman and WLIO NBC Lima for their exceptional efforts in creating a greater understanding of people with developmental disabilities.

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