



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT**

Jennifer Hickin, Adcom  
jhickin@theadcomgroup.com  
216.912.2865

**Vocational Guidance Services to Manage Brooklyn and Southwest Career & Activity Centers**

*Existing services for those with disabilities to continue uninterrupted*

**CLEVELAND** – January 6, 2020 – Vocational Guidance Services (VGS), providers of personalized vocational training to individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment, is pleased to announce they have taken over operations of two Cuyahoga County Board of Development Disabilities’ Adult Activity Centers (AACs). The two Centers in Cleveland are Brooklyn, located at 10991 Memphis Ave, and Southwest, located at 4720 Hinckley Industrial Pkwy, and will now be called Career & Activity Centers.

Approximately 300 individuals visit these locations daily to participate in community activities, supported employment services and other group activities. The transition comes as a result of new federal legislation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that prohibits agencies from being both a provider of services and a coordinator of services as it presents limitations in conflict free case management.

“Vocational Guidance Services appreciates our long-term relationship with Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and we recognize the magnitude of this change in the service delivery model,” said Susie Barragate, President & CEO, Vocational Guidance Services. “We bring 130-years of workforce development experience and adult day programming to the community and we look forward to maintaining the high level of service that participants, guardians, and families have come to expect.”

“VGS has a long and outstanding history of supporting people with developmental disabilities. Its leadership team is committed to providing seamless and quality adult day and vocational habilitation services at the Brooklyn and Southwest Career & Activity Centers. The Cuyahoga County Board of DD looks forward to partnering with VGS throughout the upcoming transition,” said Kelly A. Petty, Superintendent & CEO, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

AACs are essential to ensure individuals with disabilities in Cuyahoga County can engage in their communities as valued members of society, develop interpersonal and employment skills, and earn income in an environment that is safe, accessible, and accommodating. Families and guardians rely on the partnership provided by the AACs to support their loved ones’ development and growth.



Accredited by the  
Rehabilitation Accreditation  
Commission

2239 East 55th Street Cleveland, Ohio 44103-4451 216-431-7800  
FAX: 216-431-5123 TTY: 216-431-0073  
[www.vgsjob.org](http://www.vgsjob.org)

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY/SERVICE AGENCY**



A United Way Agency



## About Vocational Guidance Services

Vocational Guidance Services is a highly acclaimed not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) vocational rehabilitation agency with 130 years of dedicated experience serving individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment. Training facilities are located in Cleveland, Elyria, Painesville and Columbus. To learn more visit: [vgsjob.org](http://vgsjob.org) or find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



Accredited by the  
Rehabilitation Accreditation  
Commission

2239 East 55th Street Cleveland, Ohio 44103-4451 216-431-7800  
FAX: 216-431-5123 TTY: 216-431-0073  
[www.vgsjob.org](http://www.vgsjob.org)

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY/SERVICE AGENCY**



A United Way Agency