

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Richland Newhope hosts art/talent exhibition

(Mansfield, OH) – Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month activities in Richland County culminated Friday at the Richland Mall with a new event called “Bringing the Elements Together,” an art and talent exhibition showcasing the works of individuals supported by Richland Newhope.

The exhibition featured a wide-range of artwork, including watercolors, photography, weaving, pottery, and jewelry. There were also live performances by more than 40 singers, dancers, and musicians of all ages. In addition there were several informational displays along with some simulated disability awareness activities.

“People with disabilities are just like everyone else. They’re artists or simply enjoy the creative process. They play instruments or they merely get great joy out of singing,” said Jane Imbody, Richland Newhope’s Director of Community Relations. “This event allows us to showcase the many ‘abilities’ that people with developmental disabilities have and it provides an opportunity to involve the entire community in an awareness month activity.”

In 2010, Richland Newhope (Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities) supported more than 1,850 individuals through early intervention, preschool, adult, residential, therapy, transportation and other family support programs.

“Bringing the Elements Together” was sponsored by Richland Newhope, Element of Art Studio/Gallery, and the Richland Mall.

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