

2021-2022

Local – Independence Education Center

McMaster Non-Research Fellow

Clarissa Barnes, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Assistant Professor of Education, Director of Education

McMaster Scholars

MacKenzie Armye, Junior, Early Childhood Education and Intervention Specialist – This project will provide increased extracurricular activities for the students at the Independence Education Center by facilitating intramural sports in the Friday schedule. The addition of elective extracurricular activities will contribute to the overall educational experience of the students and increase student engagement.

Jadina Mozzetti, Junior, Psychology and History – This project will reform a previously-implemented Pen Pal program at the Independence Education Center. Students from the Defiance College Service Leadership Program will be selected as pen pals for students at the IEC based on a specific set of qualifications to ensure stability and longevity for the student pen pal relationships.

Emily Vargo, Sophomore, Early Childhood and Special Education – Through the creation of a school pride program, this project will help foster a sense of belonging and engagement to students at the Independence Education Center. Classroom representatives will be elected by their peers to lead activities throughout the year, building a sense of community pride that will translate to increased academic performance.