ODMH Cemetery
Reclamation Project

“To Recognize the Courage of Past State Hospital Residents Who Lived with Mental Illness and Inspired Future Understanding”
In celebration of Mental Health Month 2009, The Ohio Department of Mental Health provided NAMI groups in Athens, Franklin, Hamilton, and Lucas Counties with $5,000 each to repair, restore, and improve the state hospital cemeteries.

As projects are completed, updates will be posted on our website.
Goals of the Cemetery Reclamation Project:

- Beautify the area to dignify those with mental illness.
- Acknowledge the advancements in understanding and treating mental and physical disorders.
- Give family, friends, and the community a place to grieve, remember, and memorialize those with mental illness.
- Provide proper identification of the cemeteries and honor them as consecrated grounds.
State Hospital Cemeteries

ODMH currently owns and maintains cemeteries in Athens, Cincinnati, and Columbus.

Previously, state hospital cemeteries in Dayton, Lima, Tiffin, and Toledo were owned by ODMH but were transferred to new owners during land sales.

There are active cemetery reclamation groups in Athens, Cincinnati, Columbus, and Toledo. These groups include consumers, civic organizations, community members and hospital staff.
An Overview of State Hospital Cemeteries
Appalachia Behavioral Healthcare in Athens maintains 3 cemeteries with assistance from Ohio University. Collectively, these graveyards are referred to as “The Ridges Cemeteries”.

Athens Trail

Ridges Trail

Dairy Lane

Tower Cemetery

Dairy Lane Cemeteries

Abundance Hollow

Ridges Cem. Nature Walk

OUTDOOR PURSUITS CHALLENGE COURSE

NAGY POND

Ball Field

S. Park Drive

Figgory Ln.

Dairy Lane

Nature Trail

River Valley Nature Trail

Shelter

Southside Park

Eco-House

Ridges Cem. Nature Walk

Ridges Trail

Ridges Cem. Nature Walk

Parking

Cemetery

Dairy Barn
The Ridges Cemeteries Project

- The Ridges Cemeteries Project Committee was formed in 2000 with the purpose of restoring the cemeteries. Before long, the Committee also decided to build a 1.3 mile Nature Walk in the beautiful hills between them in order to make the whole complex a place of healthy, respectful recreation.

- The committee and volunteers restored the cemeteries by clearing brush, landscaping, repairing and resetting headstones, building a nature walk, and rebuilding a pond.

- The committee received over $75,000 in monetary and in-kind support from an array of public and private entities and individuals in the region.

- To learn more about The Ridges Cemetery Project, please visit http://www.namiathenonsohio.org/ridges.html
Cincinnati

- Summit Behavioral Healthcare, previously named Longview State Hospital and the Pauline Warfield Lewis Center, maintains one cemetery.

- The cemetery is located behind an apartment complex at 7076 Glenmeadow Lane.

- The Cincinnati Cemetery Reclamation Project includes members from NAMI of Hamilton County, staff from Summit Behavioral Healthcare, and local community members.

- Admission to the cemetery is permitted with the approval of the CEO of Summit Behavioral Healthcare. To request permission to visit the cemetery, please contact:

  Liz Banks, CEO
  Summit Behavioral Healthcare
  1101 Summit Road
  Cincinnati, Ohio 43257
  513-948-3600
Cincinnati Photos

LONGVIEW CEMETERY
DEDICATED MAY 30, 1931

Though Poverty Was Thy Lot,
And Knows Where Thou Dost Lie
Has Set An Angel On High
To Save, When Thou Dost Need
And To Thy Future Leads.

John Edward Meyer

PROPERTY
OF
SEWINT BEHAVIORAL
HEALTHCARE
FOR ENTRY
CALL 513-850-3900

LONGVIEW CEMETERY
DEDICATED MAY 30, 1931

Though Poverty Was Thy Lot,
And Knows Where Thou Dost Lie
Has Set An Angel On High
To Save, When Thou Dost Need
And To Thy Future Leads.

John Edward Meyer
Columbus

- Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare maintains 3 cemeteries. They are located on Harper-McKinley Avenue, and Broad Street (2 cemeteries) on hospital grounds.

- The Columbus Cemetery Reclamation group includes members from TVBH, NAMI of Franklin County, Kenton Council Boy Scouts, Hilltop Kiwanis Club, and the West Columbus Civitan Club.

- The group has been working with an Architect to create drawings for new entrances to the cemeteries and perimeter fencing.

- On July 7, 2009, the Columbus Cemetery Reclamation group held a memorial stone dedication ceremony to honor those buried in the Columbus state hospital cemeteries.
Toledo

- There are two cemeteries in Toledo that were formerly owned by the Ohio Department of Mental Health. They are located on the North side of Arlington Avenue near Detroit Avenue and on Arlington Avenue at the entrance to East Campus Drive.

- The University of Toledo currently owns the cemeteries and is active in cemetery reclamation efforts.

- The Toledo Cemetery Reclamation group was formed under the leadership of NAMI of Greater Toledo and consists of representatives from Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare, Neighborhood Properties Inc., Abele Funeral Home, The University of Toledo Medical Center, The Ability Center, WGTE, Thomas M. Wernert Center, and community mental health advocates.
Toledo Map

Cemetery Locations

Toledo State Hospital Cemetery, the older of the two, is on UT property.

Toledo Mental Health Center Cemetery is located on the UT Health Science Campus.
Toledo Photos
# How to Get Involved

Please contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Athens</strong></td>
<td>Tom Walker, Chair, Ridges Cemeteries Project</td>
<td>NAMI of Athens County</td>
<td>740-593-7424</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kelly Markins, Chief Operating Officer</td>
<td>Athens Behavioral Healthcare</td>
<td>740-594-4142</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cincinnati</strong></td>
<td>David Ranz, Executive Director</td>
<td>NAMI of Hamilton County</td>
<td>513-351-3500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ray Menchoffer, Chaplain</td>
<td>Summit Behavioral Healthcare</td>
<td>(513) 948-3600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Columbus</strong></td>
<td>Abbie Basile, Executive Director</td>
<td>NAMI of Franklin County</td>
<td>614-501-6264</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>David Blahnik, Chief Operating Officer</td>
<td>Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare</td>
<td>614-752-0333</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toledo</strong></td>
<td>Marci Colton Dvorak, Executive Director</td>
<td>NAMI of Greater Toledo</td>
<td>(419) 243-1119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jane Weber, Coordinator of Volunteers</td>
<td>Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital</td>
<td>419-381-1881</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To Learn More

About State Hospitals:
http://www.mh.state.oh.us/what-we-do/provide/hospital-services/regional-psychiatric-hospitals/index.shtml


National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI):

- NAMI Ohio: www.nami.org
- NAMI of Athens County: www.namiathensohio.org
- NAMI of Hamilton County: http://nami-hc.org
- NAMI of Greater Toledo: http://namitoledo.org
Special Thanks to:

- David Blahnik, Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare
- Forgotten Ohio, www.forgottenoh.com
- Andrea Garringer, Hospital Services, ODMH Central Office
- Jim Ignelzi, Hospital Services, ODMH Central Office
- Kelly Markins, Athens Behavioral Healthcare
- Chaplain Ray Menchofer, Summit Behavioral Healthcare
- Trudy Sharp, Communications, ODMH Central Office
- Tom Walker, Chair, Ridges Cemeteries Project
- Jane Weber, Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital
- Sharon Yaros, Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital