



Promoting wellness and recovery

John R. Kasich, Governor • Tracy J. Plouck, Director • 30 E. Broad St. • Columbus, OH 43215 • (614) 466-2596 • mha.ohio.gov

To: ADAMH Boards and other stakeholders
From: Director Tracy J. Plouck
Date: August 4, 2014
Re: Funding distribution for \$20.1 million for crisis and housing

OhioMHAS is making progress on several fronts in implementing new programming set forth in the Mid-Biennium Review ([House Bill 483](#)). Funding opportunities have been sent out to the field with regard to housing and prevention. Updates and FAQs have been posted to the [OhioMHAS website](#) for more information on the various provisions.

This communication is meant to speak specifically to the \$24.1 million set-aside for recovery supports, with an emphasis on crisis and housing. The language in the legislation describing this provision reads as follows:

(E) The remainder of the foregoing appropriation item 335507, Community Behavioral Health, an amount up to \$24.1 million, in fiscal year 2015 shall be invested in addiction and mental health recovery supports, with an emphasis on crisis and housing. These investments shall prioritize funding projects that fill gaps in the continuum of care established by boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services under division (A)(11) of section 340.03 of the Revised Code. Projects shall be identified in consultation with and may be implemented by the boards except for areas for which the Director of Mental Health and Addiction Services identifies unmet needs.

As was discussed throughout the legislative process, \$1.5 million from this funding was used to supplement certain direct and pass-through grants during the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant realignment. An additional \$2.5 million was used to sustain the AoD board "hot spot" projects that were previously funded out of the 507 line in FY 14. The balance of this funding is \$20.1 million.

OhioMHAS recently offered constituents the opportunity to give input to the department via a survey needs assessment. It is encouraging that 552 responses were received, which demonstrates the interest in the behavioral health needs of Ohioans. OhioMHAS is currently in the process of evaluating and formatting the responses and will make the results available to the field when they are ready. A very high-level summary is included with this memo. These responses may be of assistance in making final decisions on projects to be funded from the \$20.1 million. They will also inform the department in preparation of the FY 16-17 budget submission.

In order to be clear about the process that OhioMHAS intends to use in making funding decisions in consultation with the boards, the following timetable and criteria will be applied.

Generally, these funds will be distributed to projects on a regional basis with funding amounts as follows:

**OhioMHAS MBR SFY 2015
GRF 507 Budget Planning - \$20.1M by Region**

Collaborative Region	Amount
Appalachia	\$1,685,989
Central	\$4,101,344
Heartland	\$2,983,510
Northeast	\$4,406,890
Northwest	\$3,002,233
Southwest	\$3,920,035
Grand Total	\$20,100,000

Note: Amount by region is calculated using 2012 Ohio County population estimates provided by the Department of Development Services: <http://development.ohio.gov/files/research/P5007.pdf>.

Timetable:

By close of business on Wednesday, August 13, each board collaborative region should submit a draft list of investment concepts, along with proposed expenditure amounts and a high-level project timeline to OhioMHAS (Nicole.Marx@mha.ohio.gov). A sample template is attached, including some example investments that would be appropriate for consideration. As previously discussed with ADAMH boards and other stakeholders, these proposed investments should focus on existing recovery support gaps in local continuums of care. Ideas might be culled from local community plan documents, ideas that have been submitted by stakeholders, or gaps that may be recently evolved based on changes within the community system of care.

During the week of August 18, I will hold videoconference calls with ADAMH board directors from each collaborative area, any prospective project partners the collaborative chooses to include (such as providers or county partners) and other stakeholders I will designate (e.g. representatives of statewide organizations). Each collaborative-specific discussion will include feedback from the needs assessment and discussion on the proposals received.

The target date for announcement of funding decisions is September 5. By October 1, OhioMHAS expects to have an evaluation plan in place and funding made available for awarded projects.

Projects should have some of the following elements:

- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Sustainability
- Efforts to reduce administrative costs and move funds into direct services
- Stakeholder support beyond traditional behavioral health partners
- Efforts to maintain local capacity, especially meeting needs for crisis and housing
- Concepts that can be evaluated and meet the expectations set forth in the legislation

Proposals should NOT include:

- Strict per capita distribution of dollars among individual board areas. Such a submission will result in OhioMHAS seeking funding partners outside of the board structure.
- Straight supplanting of projects previously funded by other sources.
- Projects that are duplicative of those submitted for other recent funding opportunities, such as prevention, capital, and housing.

With these funds, it is the agency's goal to promote collaboration among board areas – not competition. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me at Tracy.Plouck@mha.ohio.gov.