

Message from Director Tracy Plouck ...

Springtime Offers Ample Opportunities to Learn About, Promote Behavioral Health and Wellness

Spring is upon us. With the change of seasons come daily reminders that this is a time of jubilation, rebirth and hope. It seems fitting then that the awareness and advocacy celebrations are as plentiful as spring blossoms. As we work together to strengthen the safety net of services available to Ohioans affected by mental illness and addiction, I invite you to join the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) in recognizing and supporting the following awareness activities during April and May:

Alcohol Awareness Month — April

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD) founded National Alcohol Awareness Month in 1987 to increase public awareness and understanding aimed at reducing the stigma associated with alcoholism that often prevents individuals and families from seeking help. For the 27th Anniversary of Alcohol Awareness Month, NCADD has chosen the theme "Help for Today. Hope For Tomorrow." Learn how your community can get involved [here](#).

Minority Health Month — April

Minority Health Month was created in 1989 to be a 30-day, high visibility health promotion and disease prevention campaign. Conducted with and by community-based agencies and organizations, this celebration reaches into urban, suburban and rural areas of the state. Minority Health Month is designed to: provide crucial information to allow individuals to practice disease prevention; promote healthy lifestyles; showcase the providers of grassroots health care resources and information; highlight the disparate health conditions between Ohio's minority and non-minority populations; and to gain additional support for ongoing

efforts to improve minority health year round. Visit the Ohio Commission on Minority Health [website](#) for more information and a calendar of events.

Child Abuse Prevention Month — April

National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families. During the month of April and throughout the year, communities are encouraged to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness strategies and activities and promote prevention across the country. The Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) is sponsoring a state-wide campaign to increase awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention this month, with local prevention activities in your community. Learn more [here](#).

Mental Health Month — May

For 65 years, Mental Health America and its affiliates across the country have led the observance of **May is Mental Health Month** by reaching millions of people through the media, local events and screenings. The 2014 Mental Health Month theme is "Mind Your Health." Materials are geared towards building public recognition about the importance of mental health to overall health and wellness; informing people of the ways that the mind and body interact with each other; and providing tips and tools for taking positive actions to protect mental health and promote overall health.

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2014 — May 8

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day focuses on the unique needs of young adults, ages 16–25, with mental health challenges and the value of peer support in helping young adults build

resilience in the four life domains of housing, education, employment and health care access. In Ohio, **Awareness Day** seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children's



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mental health and reinforces that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth. I encourage everyone to join us for the annual Ohio Resiliency Ring Celebration, which will be part of the "We are the Majority Rally" held on April 30 at the Ohio Statehouse. OhioMHAS is excited to partner with NAMIOhio, The Ohio Federation for Children's Mental Health, Drug Free Action Alliance and the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network for this event, featuring entertainment from Grammy-nominated recording artist Mario. Click [here](#) for complete details.

Substance Abuse Awareness and Education Month - May

As communities push back against prescription painkiller abuse and other potentially deadly addictions, Substance Abuse Awareness and Education Month, established in 2011, encourages Ohioans to educate themselves to help prevent youth drug use before it starts. As communities across the state gear up for

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Harvey A. Snider poses with OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck.

Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board Chair Honored by NAMI Ohio

Harvey A. Snider, Esq., received the **Herb Reisenfeld Hall of Fame Award** — NAMI Ohio's highest honor — on March 11. The award is named after NAMI Ohio's "founding father." Mr. Snider was recognized for his dedication to people and families living with mental illness and his extensive background of serving as former president of NAMI Greater Cleveland, NAMI Ohio, CONNECTIONS and, currently, the chair of the Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board.

Ohio SBIRT: Integrating Behavioral and Physical Care

Each year, thousands of Ohioans seek treatment in emergency departments (ED) for substance use and behavioral health disorders. According to researchers, adult patients who enter the ED are more likely to smoke, drink, use illicit substances and misuse prescription drugs than are members of the general population. A growing body of evidence suggests that screening and referring these patients to treatment (a protocol known as **SBIRT**) can be an effective way to help them. In August, the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded Ohio a five-year, \$10 million cooperative agreement to design, implement, diffuse and sustain SBIRT — an evidence-based technique that incorporates principles of motivational interviewing, empathy, positive framing, reflective listening and gentle education to encourage people to

change risky behaviors. In addition to being an effective counseling technique, say the researchers, there is evidence that investing in SBIRT can result in health care cost savings by reducing the use of the ED.

The Ohio SBIRT project is currently working with the Health Partners of Western Ohio to provide SBIRT services in three Federally Qualified Health Centers located in Lima, New Carlisle and Kenton. To date, the project has served more than 2,000 patients — 23 of whom have been referred into the community treatment system for additional services. Plans for Year 2 include expanding the number of clinical sites, providing training and technical assistance to other interested parties and establishing linkages with the Ohio National Guard. For more information, contact: Stephen H. O'Neil, at 614/644-0617 or via email stephen.o'neil@mha.ohio.gov.

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prom and graduation season, this is the perfect opportunity to integrate Ohio's new Start Talking! youth drug prevention initiative into your work. Championed by Gov. John R. Kasich and First Lady Karen W. Kasich, Start Talking! brings together proven strategies that leverage the parent-child relationship to promote conversations between

youth and trusted adults. The initiative, which features four key components, is predicated on national research that shows children whose parents talk with them about the risks of drugs are up to 50 percent less likely to use drugs than kids who do not have these critical conversations with their parents. Learn more at: www.StartTalking.Ohio.Gov.

CCAT Releases New Recovery App for iPhone and iPad

The Center for Chemical Addictions Treatment (CCAT) has launched a new Recovery App designed for recovering alumni, as well as anyone recovering from drug and alcohol addiction in the Greater Cincinnati area. CCAT Recovery App has links to daily meditations from both Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous and the 12 Steps from each fellowship. The app can be personalized with the date the individual became either clean or sober, along with a cumulative total day count. The "Restore to Sanity" page has emergency hotline numbers for Cincinnati AA and NA Chapters and can be personalized to dial up to two individual sponsors (if using an iPhone). **Download** the app for free from the iTunes Store.



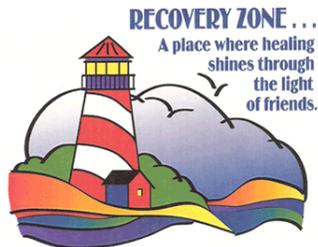
Center for Chemical Addictions Treatment

Ohio Empowerment Coalition Seeking Board Members

The **Ohio Empowerment Coalition** (OEC) is seeking board members, especially from southeastern Ohio. Members are expected to attend meetings, respect the opinions of others, assist with fundraising and advocate for persons with mental health lived experience. OEC is an independent and autonomous organization that represents the collective voices of consumers in all 88 counties, as well as consumer-operated services and advocacy groups. In keeping with the OEC's emphasis on geographic diversity, the Ohio Empowerment Coalition's Board Members represent all regions in Ohio: Northeast, Northwest, Central, Southeast and Southwest. OEC Regional Ambassadors and liaisons from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) provide information and guidance to the Board of Directors by attending the monthly meetings and participating in teleconferences and work group meetings.

Recovery Zone Showcases New Location

The Recovery Zone, a peer support and recovery center for adults with mental illness, hosted an open house and ribbon cutting to showcase its new Bellefontaine location on March 14. Initially, the peer-run group met at the Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Services Board of Logan and Champaign Counties office in West Liberty. The group purchased its new facility in the fall of 2012 with support from OhioMHAS and the ADAMHS Board.



Founded in 1991, the Recovery Zone is a safe haven for persons in need of socialization without stigma or prejudices, a supportive environment set to assist those coping with mental illness through increased knowledge and understanding of specific illnesses, treatments and medications in the quest for recovery, and a place to learn skills and share ideas to cope and deal with the different aspects of everyday life. The Recovery Zone is open weekdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m..

Representatives from OhioMHAS, the Ohio Empowerment Coalition, NAMIOhio and the Logan and Champaign AD-AMH Board joined Recovery Zone Executive Director Diana Korte and local advocates to celebrate the grand opening.



The Recovery Zone celebrated the grand opening of its new Bellefontaine location with a March 14 open house and ribbon cutting ceremony.

Frank and Pearl Gelbman Recovery House to Extend Services for Mahoning Valley

Recovery-Supportive Home To Be Built Near Neil Kennedy Recovery Clinic's Main Campus

Thanks to the \$100,000 gift from the Frank & Pearl Gelbman Trust of Huntington Bank, an eight-bed recovery-supportive housing unit will be built near the **Neil Kennedy Recovery Clinic's** (NKRC's) Main Campus in Youngstown. The facility, to be named the **Frank & Pearl Gelbman Recovery House**, will offer a supportive sober-living environment for patients who need more structure than a regular outpatient program provides, but who no longer require medical monitoring. Ground-breaking for the facility is scheduled by June 15, 2014, with occupancy set for January 2015.

"The need for detox services in the Mahoning Valley has increased significantly over the past decade due, in large part, to the alarming increase of prescription-drug and heroin abuse," Jerry

Carter, NKRC's Executive Director, said.

"According to the most recent data available from the Ohio Department of Health, opiate-related overdose deaths in our region increased 775 percent from 2000 through 2011."

NKRC is the sole regional resource for non-hospital, community-based medical detoxification services. For many patients with substance-use disorders, detox is first step toward recovery.

"We understand that in order to serve more people in the detoxification program, NKRC needs to offer expanded services, so the Gelbman Trust believes the contribution really supports the overall health of the Mahoning Valley," J. David Sabine, J.D., senior vice president and senior trust officer, Huntington Bank, said. Mr. Sabine also serves on NKRC's Board of Directors.



When completed, Gelbman Recovery House will include rooming and meals, 24-hour security, a full day of outpatient substance-use treatment services via the main facility, community-building skills with the other residents, recovery coaching to build resiliency and connection to the larger recovering community.

The new recovery-supportive home will allow NKRC to serve an estimated 400 additional patients annually who require detoxification services, as well as up to 188 more people per year in the recovery-supportive housing



Inaugural Midwest Alcohol Policy Summit Draws More Than 300 from 26 States and Canada

To explore progress in advancing alcohol policies at the local, regional and national levels, Drug Free Action Alliance, with support from OhioMHAS and other local and regional partners, hosted the inaugural Midwest Alcohol Policy Summit (MAPS) April 1-3 in Columbus. More than 300 attendees represented 26 states and Canada at the Summit.

Pictured (l-r): OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck provided opening remarks; Bob Brewer, M.D., alcohol program leader for the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was one of the featured speakers at the Summit.

Ohio Represented at National Mental Health & Aging and PASSR Conference

The National Association of PASSR Professionals (NAPP) and National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors — Older Persons Division (NASMHPD-OPD) held the *National Mental Health & Aging and PASSR Conference* March 24-25 in Indianapolis, Ind. Representatives from 39 states, including Ohio, attended the conference to highlight innovative programs and share best practices. Ohio's contingency was invited to share as part of the "What's Trending" and the "PASSR and Transitioning" sessions. Links to videos of these presentations and related power points/handouts follow: [Watch](#) Brandon Sturgill, Jeff Ryan and Adreana Tarrt present, *"Transitioning Older Persons Diagnosed with Mental Illness from Nursing Facilities to Community Settings."* [Watch](#) George Pelletier and Adam Anderson present, *"Promising Innovations in OHIO: Community Options and Recovery Requires a Community."*

Bill to Require Ohio Hospitals to Report Number of Newborns Dependent on Opioids

Gov. John Kasich signed [House Bill 315](#) into law April 10, requiring maternity units, nurseries and maternity homes to report the number of newborns dependent on opioids to the Ohio Department of Health on a quarterly basis. "Reporting the number of babies addicted to drugs will help us to track the progress Ohio is making in the fight against drug addiction," said the bill's sponsor Rep. Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon). "It's one of the best ways to find and measure the patterns of drug use that are beginning to unfold at any given point in time. If we know where and when the problem is, we can do something about it."

Last August, the Kasich administration announced a \$4.2 million Maternal Opiate Medical Support (M.O.M.S.) pilot program to help pregnant women kick their heroin and prescription-drug habits. Babies exposed to opioids often have neonatal abstinence syndrome, which includes breathing and feeding problems, low birth weight and seizures.

According to the Ohio Hospital Association, treatment for drug-addicted newborns cost more than \$70 million in 2011, when there were 1,649 admissions to inpatient and outpatient facilities. In November, OhioMHAS researchers published the report, [Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Drug Use Among Pregnant Women in Ohio 2004-2011](#).



News & Research Roundup

SAMHSA Releases New Trauma-Informed Care Publication

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has released [Treatment Improvement Protocol \(TIP\) 57](#) to assist behavioral health professionals in understanding the impact and consequences for those who experience trauma. This Trauma-Informed Care in Behavioral Health Services (Trauma TIP) provides evidence-based and best practice information for behavioral health professionals working with people who have been exposed to acute and chronic traumas and/or are at risk of developing detrimental reactions to traumatic experiences. The content can be adapted across behavioral health settings that serve individuals, families and communities — underscoring the importance of coordinating and integrating services.

GUEST COLUMN

Transforming Ohio's Health Care System to Eliminate Disparities

By: Charleta Tavares, Executive Director

Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence, Inc. (MACC)

The state of Ohio is at a crossroads in addressing the historic and prevalent health disparities among racial and ethnic populations. We can chart a new course by blazing a different trail or continue on the road of comfort and familiarity by doing what we have always done. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) provides the context for dismantling the "sickness model" of health care to one that is focused on preventative services and a "wellness model." This model of care can prevent millions of African-American and other racial, ethnic and cultural populations from suffering from diseases and illnesses that can be prevented such as diabetes, hypertension, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease and substance use.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and the National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity, which was released two years ago, are designed to address the systemic barriers to health equity. The Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence (MACC) has collaborated with the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), Ohio Commission on Minority Health, state departments, hospitals, cultural organizations and health advocacy groups under the Ohio Statewide Health Disparities Collaborative (OSHDC) to develop an Ohio plan that uses the framework of the HHS documents. The OSHDC convened by CDF has an opportunity to mirror the goals outlined and develop Ohio specific strategies and actions to eliminate health disparities.

These partners are working with the Ohio Department Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) under the Disparities and Cultural Competence Advisory Group (DACC) to develop a behavioral health cultural competence plan to eliminate disparities. This planning process purposefully includes many of the same stakeholders and advocacy groups in the Ohio Statewide Health Disparities Collaborative to work together to eliminate both health and behavioral health disparities among racial and ethnic populations. It also

builds on the Ohio statewide cultural competence definition developed and adopted in 2010. These efforts to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate services in behavioral health will be incorporated into an overall state cultural competence plan to eliminate "health disparities."

The Governor's Office of Health Transformation, under the leadership of Greg Moody, has worked to integrate health and behavioral health during the last several years. This plan

will connect the mind and body into a system of health and wellness. The office has also worked with members of both collaborations to prioritize the elimination of health disparities among racial, ethnic and cultural communities — taking a new path in health care delivery. Another path taken to help eliminate disparities among un/underserved Ohioans was the decision to expand Medicaid for more than 366,000 people who will now have health care coverage to prevent and treat their medical needs.

We have taken the road less traveled — a new road to "transform our health care system" and deliver services and care that meet the needs of the populations that have disproportionately suffered from morbidity and mortality rates, which are preventable. The Governor's Office of Health Transformation, DACC, OSHDC, the ACA and the expansion of Medicaid have positioned Ohio to move towards health equity and the elimination of disparities among Ohio's racial and ethnic populations. We have a window in time to design a system that improves quality of care and outcomes for Ohio's people — and especially those who have needlessly and persistently suffered and died.



*Charleta Tavares, Executive Director
MACC, Inc.*

Provider Class Approved for Peer Specialist

The [*National Uniform Claim Committee*](#) has approved the creation of a new provider class of Behavioral Health & Social Service Providers/Counselors that will be defined as: **Peer Specialists — Individuals certified to perform peer support services through a training process defined by a government agency such as the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), or a state mental health department/certification/licensing authority.** This new provider classification goes into effect Oct. 1, 2014, which coincides with the creation of a new VA stop code for Peer Specialists that will allow them to be identified as the provider for that encounter. Not only will this new provider classification legitimize peer specialists as bona fide providers within a mental health system (both VA and non-VA), but in VA where the term, "person class" is used, now secures peer specialists an appropriate identification with other members of the mental health system treatment team. Click [here](#) for frequently asked questions (FAQs) about Peer Services in the VA system.

News & Research Roundup, cont.

SAMHSA Disaster App Lets Users Access Critical, Disaster-Related Behavioral Health Resources

In a disaster, it's essential that behavioral health responders have the resources they need — when and where they need them. The [SAMHSA Disaster App](#) makes it easy to provide quality support to survivors. Users can navigate pre-deployment preparation, on-the-ground assistance, post-deployment resources, and more — at the touch of a button from the home screen. Users also can share resources, like tips for helping survivors cope and find local behavioral health services. Self-care support for responders is available at all stages of deployment.

Birth to 5: Watch Me Thrive! Campaign

As many as one in four children from birth to age 5 is at risk of developmental delay or behavioral challenges. To promote healthy development and early identification of these issues, several agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (including SAMHSA) and the U.S. Department of Education have partnered to launch the [Birth to 5: Watch Me Thrive!](#) public outreach campaign highlighting the importance of universal developmental and behavioral screening, and support for young children. The campaign seeks to: promote universal screening; identify possible delays and behavioral issues in any child setting; enhance developmental supports for children and offer resources for professionals working with children. These resources include screening tools, user guides for different audiences (including behavioral health providers) and an array of online resources for providers and parents.

FASD: New Voice for Experts in the Field

SAMHSA's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Center for Excellence recently launched "[Ask the Expert](#)" to spotlight key issues and leading voices in the FASD field. The latest "Ask the Expert" looks at the 12-year history of the FASD Center for Excellence and examines the progress made in raising FASD public awareness and building systems of care, as well as the challenges that lie ahead in adequately addressing FASD.

Bullying Among Kids Tied to Suicidal Thoughts

Children and teens who are involved in bullying — both as victims and perpetrators alike — are more likely to think about suicide or attempt it, [new research](#) asserts. The findings also show that cyber bullying appears more strongly linked to suicidal thoughts than other forms of bullying. The new results, published in the journal *JAMA Pediatrics*, are based on 43 previous studies. They don't confirm that bullying directly pushes kids to be suicidal, however. It's possible that the connection is more complex, or even that suicidal kids are more likely to be bullied, the researchers said. The researchers examined 34 studies with a total of about 285,000 participants that explored the relationship between bullying and suicidal thoughts. They looked at nine studies, with about 70,000 participants, which focused on bullying and suicide attempts. Only three studies in the review dealt with cyber-bullying. In general, the studies found that bullies and bully-victims — people who bully others and are bullied themselves — are at higher risk of suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts. The design of the review didn't allow the authors to quantify the increased level of risk in lay terms, but a statistical analysis suggests the increased risk is significant. Experts said it is possible kids who are depressed might be more vulnerable to bullying. Visit [StopBullying.Gov](#) for additional resources.

Traumatic Experiences in Childhood Have Immediate Impact

Although research has shown that children who experience stressful events are more likely to face poor health outcomes as adults, a [new study](#) shows the effects may show up much sooner. Researchers at the University of Florida discovered that when children experience three or more stressful events, they are *six times* more likely to suffer from a mental, physical or learning disorder than children who didn't face these traumatic experiences. UF researchers analyzed data collected as part of the National Survey for Child Health, which included nearly 96,000 children from across the United States. The survey contains data on the number of adverse experiences the children faced, including parental divorce, economic hardship, exposure to domestic and neighborhood violence, poor caregiver mental health, exposure to drug use and having a parent in jail. The parents also reported on any conditions their children had. According to the study, between 11 and 24 percent of parents reported that their children had been diagnosed with at least one disorder. About 4 percent of parents reported that their children had at least one disorder from all three categories — mental, learning and physical. Children who had faced adverse experiences were more likely to have a disorder in every category than children who had not. Experts believe the cause could be chronic toxic stress, which they believe prompts changes to the body's developing neuroendocrine and immune systems.



News & Research Roundup, cont.

Study Identifies Most Common, Costly Reasons for Mental Health Hospitalizations for Children

Nearly one in 10 hospitalized children has a primary diagnosis of a mental health condition, and depression alone accounts for \$1.33 billion in hospital charges annually, according to a [new analysis](#). The study, which will be published in this month's issue of the journal *Pediatrics*, is the first to examine frequency and costs associated with specific inpatient mental health diagnoses for children, and is a step towards creating meaningful measures of the quality of pediatric hospital care. Researchers found that depression, bipolar disorder and psychosis are the most common and expensive primary diagnoses for pediatric admissions. Using two national databases — Kids' Inpatient Database and Pediatric Health Information System — the researchers looked at all hospital discharges in 2009 for patients aged three to 20 years old to determine the frequency of hospitalizations for primary mental health diagnoses. They compared the mental health hospitalizations between free-standing children's hospitals and hospitals that treat both adults and children, to assess if there was a difference in frequency of diagnoses. They found that hospitalizations for children with primary mental health diagnoses were more than three times more frequent at general hospitals than free standing children's hospitals, which the researchers say could indicate that general hospitals have a greater capacity to deliver inpatient psychiatric care than free-standing children's hospitals. At both kinds of hospitals, the most common mental health diagnoses were similar (depression, bipolar disorder and psychosis), which the researchers say supports the creation of diagnosis-specific quality measures for all hospitals that admit children.

Stay Current With the New CSAT Consumer Affairs News

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) has a new email newsletter to keep you informed about news and opportunities from SAMHSA and HHS. The weekly e-newsletter contains newsworthy items and information about events and grant opportunities from SAMHSA and from other HHS agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Subscribe at: [CSAT CONSUMER AFFAIRS ENEWS@list.nih.gov](#).

PsychAlive Launches New Website, Online Courses and Webinars

[The Glendon Association](#) has revamped its [PsychAlive.org](#) website and online resources. In addition to a complete redesign, PsychAlive now offers eCourses, a series of webinars and new video interviews with psychology experts, (including Dr. Peter Levine and Dr. Jon Kabat-Zinn) along with a collection of archived webinar recordings.

HHS Releases Security Risk Assessment Tool to Help Providers with HIPAA Compliance

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has released new security risk assessment (SRA) tool to help guide health care providers in small- to medium-sized offices conduct risk assessments of their organizations. The [free downloadable tool](#) is designed to help practices conduct and document a risk assessment in a thorough, organized fashion at their own pace by allowing them to assess the information security risks in their organizations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Security Rule. The application also produces a report that can be provided to auditors.

CDC: Autism now affects 1 in 68 children

A new CDC report estimates that 1 in 68 children in multiple U.S. communities has been identified with autism spectrum disorder. The new estimate is roughly 30 percent higher than previous estimates reported in 2012 of 1 in 88 children being identified with an autism. The number of children identified with autism ranged from 1 in 175 children in Alabama to 1 in 45 children in New Jersey. Also of note: Thimerosal, a mercury-containing preservative that vaccination foes had previously blamed for rising autism figures, was removed from childhood vaccines in 2001. More [here](#).

Feds Release Updated Action Plan to Combat Viral Hepatitis

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has launched an updated [Action Plan for the Prevention, Care and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis \(2014-2016\)](#), building upon the nation's first comprehensive cross-agency action plan to prevent new infections and improve the diagnosis, care and treatment of individuals living with chronic hepatitis C. Between 3.5 and 5.3 million Americans are living with chronic viral hepatitis, and most of them do not know that they are infected. Viral hepatitis is the leading cause of liver cancer and the most common reason for liver transplantation in the U.S. In addition, it is a leading infectious cause of death in the U.S., claiming the lives of 12,000–18,000 Americans each year.



Training Opportunities

MACC Annual Gala — April 24

Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence (MACC) will host its annual gala “Celebrating Our Cultural Kaleidoscope” April 24 at the Ohio History Center, 800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus. Click [here](#) for more information.

Tyler’s Light 5K Run/Walk and Toddler Trot— April 27

Tyler’s Light will host a 5K Run/Walk and Toddler Trot April 27 at Victory Park in Pickerington, Ohio. Proceeds will help Tyler’s Light continue to educate youth and parents about the dangers of drug use. For more information and to register, visit: www.tylerslight.com.

Strides for Sobriety 5K Run/Walk — April 27

The Neil Kennedy Recovery Clinic - Dublin is a gold sponsor of the inaugural “Strides for Sobriety” 5K Run/Walk to benefit youth in need of substance abuse treatment. The race will take place at 10 a.m. at Karrer Middle School in Dublin, Ohio. For more information and to register, visit: www.stridesforsobriety.com.

Prevention Ethics Training — April 28

The Butler County Educational Service Center, in partnership with the Alcohol and Chemical Abuse Council, will host “Ethics and Applicability: Breathing Life into our Professional Codes” April 28 in Hamilton, Ohio. This six-hour training is broken into two parts: Part I will focus on the foundational components of Codes of Ethics, the intersections between personal values and professional Codes of Ethics, and the contrasts among various professional Codes of Ethics; Part II will target Ohio Certified Prevention Specialists (and Registered Applicants), focusing specifically on the prevention Code of Ethics. [Register online](#) or email Heather Peters at petersh@bcesc.org.

OACCA Advocacy Conference — April 28-29

The Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies (OACCA) will host the 2014 OACCA Advocacy Conference on April 28-29 in Columbus, Ohio. The conference is designed for behavioral health and child welfare professionals. Social Work and Counselor CEUs are available. Learn more and register [here](#).

ADAPAO Annual Conference — May 5

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Association of Ohio (ADAPAO) will hold its annual conference “Prevention on the Ground” May 7 at The Boat House at Confluence Park. The conference features Dr. Josephine F. Wilson of the Boonshoft School of Medicine at Wright State University, as well as some of Ohio’s leading prevention professionals. The conference will focus on local implications and opportunities of the integration of behavioral health into traditional alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse prevention efforts, from school-based and youth-led prevention, coalition work and high-risk populations to career-pathing, social enterprise and expanded funding opportunities. The conference will also feature presentation of the 2014 ADAPAO Awards and silent auction. Click [here](#) for registration materials.

CWRU Center for Evidence-Based Practices Trainings

The Case Western Reserve University Center for Evidence-Based Practices has released its schedule of upcoming trainings. Click the links below for more information:

- May 6 — [Housing: Integrated Stage-Wise Approaches for People with Mental and Substance Use Disorders \(Cleveland\)](#)
- May 12 — [Housing: Integrated Stage-Wise Approaches for People with Mental and Substance Use Disorders \(Columbus\)](#)
- May 13 — [Overview of Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction and Mental Health Treatment \(DDCAT/DDCMHT\)](#)
- May 14 — [Motivational Interviewing Resources for Clinical Supervisors \(Central Region\)](#)
- May 19 — [A Breath of Fresh Air: Promoting Health-Behavior Change Among People with SPMI \(Toledo\)](#)
- May 20-21 — [Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment for Residential Treatment: Program Leaders Training](#)
- May 28 — [Motivational Interviewing: Applied Skills for Practice \(Central Region\)](#)
- May 28 — [Safe and Sound Prescribing During the Opioid Epidemic: Update on Legal and Regulatory Issues \(Video Conference\)](#)

Unnecessary Losses: Advancing Strategies for Suicide Prevention in Ohio — May 16

OhioMHAS in partnership with OSU Harding Behavioral Health’s Stress, Trauma and Resilience (STAR) Program will host [Unnecessary Losses: Advancing Strategies for Suicide Prevention in Ohio](#) May 16 at the [Ohio Union](#) (on the campus of The Ohio State



Training Opportunities, cont.

University). The Ohio Suicide Prevention Conference will be a statewide symposium focused on strategies, advancements and outcomes regarding suicide prevention. Nationally-recognized speakers for this inaugural conference include: [*John Campo M.D.*](#), professor and chair, The Ohio State University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health; [*Jeff Bridge, Ph.D.*](#), associate professor of Pediatrics and Psychology, The Ohio State University and Nationwide Children's Hospital; [*Matt Nock, Ph.D.*](#), professor of Psychology, Harvard University and [*Michael Hogan, Ph.D.*](#), Hogan Health Solutions, LLC.

Roadmaps to Recovery Conference — May 21

The Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board is partnering with the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Marion and Crawford counties to host "Road Maps to Recovery" on May 21 at the Mid Ohio Educational Service Center in Mansfield. This conference will demonstrate that there are many roads to recovery from mental health and addiction, and each person's road is unique to who they are and their life experiences. Click [here](#) for complete details and registration information.

The Role of the Physician in Prescription Drug Abuse — May 31

The Summit County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board is partnering with Northeast Ohio Medical University and Oriana House to host "[*The Role of the Physician in Prescription Drug Abuse*](#)" a training "for physicians by physicians" on Sat., May 31 at Akron General Wellness Center-West. This training targets physicians and health care providers. For more information, contact Doug Smith, M.D. at dougsmith@admboard.org.

Register Today: 25th Annual OPEC & Early Intervention Conference — June 2-5

Registration is now open for the Ohio Prevention & Early Intervention Conference, "Transforming Wellness for Ohio's Children, Families & Communities," to be held June 2-5, 2014 at Ohio Wesleyan University. This collaborative effort merges the 25th annual Ohio Prevention & Education Conference (OPEC) with the Ohio Early Childhood Mental Health Conference — both sponsored by OhioMHAS, and also integrates early childhood and early intervention initiatives of the Ohio Departments of Health and Education. [Register](#) online.

Ethics in Prevention: A Guide for Substance Abuse Prevention Practitioners — June 16-27

OhioMHAS in collaboration with SAMHSA's Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPT) Central Resource Team will host an online course [*Ethics in Prevention: A Guide for Substance Abuse Prevention Practitioners June 16-27*](#). This web-based learning event offers substance abuse prevention professionals—both experienced and new to the field—with an opportunity to explore the role of ethics in their work. Over a two-week period, participants in this moderated course will examine the prevention code of ethics' six key principles and explore a four-step decision-making model for assessing, addressing, and evaluating a range of ethical issues. This is an asynchronous course, meaning that participants can log on to the course when it is most convenient for them. The moderator will log in to respond to participants' assignments and questions at various times within the two-week period. [Register](#) by Weds., June 11. Questions? Contact: Molly.Stone@mha.ohio.gov.

Registration Now Live for 2014 Opiate Conference — July 1

The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities, in partnership with OhioMHAS and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency will host "Ohio's 2014 Opiate Conference: Don't Get Me Started" on July 1 in Columbus, Ohio. This fifth annual conference will bring together a variety of professionals from across Ohio to learn about Ohio's opiate epidemic and continue developing solutions in practices and communities. The event will offer more than 20 breakout sessions that cover an assortment of areas that are all impacted by opiate usage in Ohio. A pre-conference offering DATA 2000 training to qualified physicians will take place June 30. Registration information is available [here](#).

Generation Rx University Conference — Aug. 5-7

Registration is now open for the [*2014 Generation Rx University Conference*](#) to be held Aug. 5-7 at The Ohio State University Blackwell Inn & Conference Center. Cost is \$250 for general attendees and \$150 for current students.



Training Opportunities, cont.

Save the Date! 2014 Addiction Studies Institute — Aug. 6-8

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center Talbot Hall will host the 2014 Addiction Studies Institute Aug. 6-8 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The Institute is the largest midwest conference of its kind, providing an array of dynamic educational choices for the chemical dependency counselor, social worker, prevention specialist, criminal justice professional, clergy, physician, marriage and family therapist, nurse and other health care specialists. Sessions range from entry-level to advanced. More details will be available in coming months on the [Institute website](#).

MACC 2014 Training Conference — Sept. 4-5

Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence (MACC) will host its 2014 Training Conference "Heading Downstream: ACA Meets Cultural Competence" Sept. 4-5 at the Quest Conference Center, 8405 Pulsar Place, Columbus. The conference will focus on health and behavioral health integration and in eliminating disparities across communities and systems. The audience mainly consists of behavioral health and social services providers and administrators, advocates, consumers and family members. Conference registration and more information is coming soon at www.maccinc.net.

Save the Date! National Loss Team Conference — Sept. 9-10

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, in partnership with the National Loss Team Committee, will host the 2014 National Loss Team Conference "Postvention, It's About Time!" Sept. 9-10 at the Embassy Suites Hotel — Columbus Airport. Frank Campbell, Ph.D., will serve as keynote. For more details, contact Carolyn Givens at 614/429-1528 or carolyngivens@ohiospf.org.

Call for Presentations: 12th Annual MI/DD Conference — Sept. 16-17

The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed ([NADD](#)) is [seeking proposals](#) for 90-minute presentations and three-hour skill-building workshops for the State of Ohio 12th Annual MI/DD Conference slated for Sept. 16-17 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North. The deadline for submissions is **Friday, April 18**.



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