

Mental Health Awareness Month Good Time to Highlight Overrepresentation of Individuals with Mental Illness Involved in Ohio's Criminal Justice System

By: Betsy Johnson, NAMI Ohio

The Ohio chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI Ohio) kicked off Mental Health Awareness Month with a **two-day conference** entitled, "Dorothea Dix Presents a Matter of Life, Strife or Death." The purpose of the event was to shine a light on the need to address the overrepresentation of individuals with mental illness in Ohio's criminal justice system.

Today, nearly 10,000 inmates are on the mental health case load in Ohio's prisons. More than 4,250 of these individuals are identified as having serious mental illness, and thousands more are serving time in Ohio jails. Raising awareness about mental illness and improving access to community services and supports are the two most effective methods of improving these statistics.

Dorothea Dix was among the first to recognize this in our country. Decades before women secured the right to vote, Ms. Dix was advocating for the humane treatment of individuals living with mental illness and the building of asylums to house and care for the insane who were imprisoned and abused.

During the conference, NAMI Ohio Executive Director Terry Russell interviewed "Dorothea Dix" (played by actress Regina Reynolds). The following is an excerpt from that interview.

RUSSELL: Your life's work has been reforming and improving the living conditions and treatment of the mentally ill. How did you come to be involved in your advocacy efforts on behalf of the insane?

DIX: It was 1841; I was 39 years old. I was invited to teach a Sunday school class for women at the Massachusetts East Cambridge House of Correction. While there, I noticed insane prisoners clothed in rags and suffering in cells with no heat. When I asked for an explanation I was told that "lunatics could not tell the difference between hot and cold." Well I knew this was not so but I could not convince the jail's administrators to change their policy. So I petitioned the East Middlesex court

and my petition was eventually granted. Seeing such inhumanity touched me in a way that is difficult to explain. Maybe I related to these lunatics in some way having suffered through my own depression and isolation. But I knew someone needed to speak up on their behalf.

RUSSELL: The cruelties you saw in East Cambridge led you to tour and investigate how the insane were being treated in other Massachusetts jails, almshouses and asylums, and, eventually, elsewhere around the country.

DIX: In the mid-1800s, for the poor insane, there was no place for them but jails or to wander the streets aimlessly. So they were imprisoned with murderers and other felons and kept from society. They received no treatment for their lunatic nature and

they were often beaten and chained into submission and deprived of basic necessities. I was shocked by the wretched and inhumane conditions in which these insane persons were living and being treated.

In his biography, *Voice for the Mad: The Life of Dorothea Dix*, David Gooaher writes, "[Dix] forced her countrymen to confront one of the nation's ugliest and most perplexing social problems. She earned worldwide acclaim not because she

invented the asylum, but because she thrust what we have come to call mental disease and homelessness squarely into the center of public policy."

In follow up to the conference, throughout Mental Health Awareness Month, NAMI Ohio will be sending out **video clips** from the conference along with tips on how to keep the conversation going. If you are interested in being added to the NAMI Ohio listserv, please e-mail namiohio@namiohio.org with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

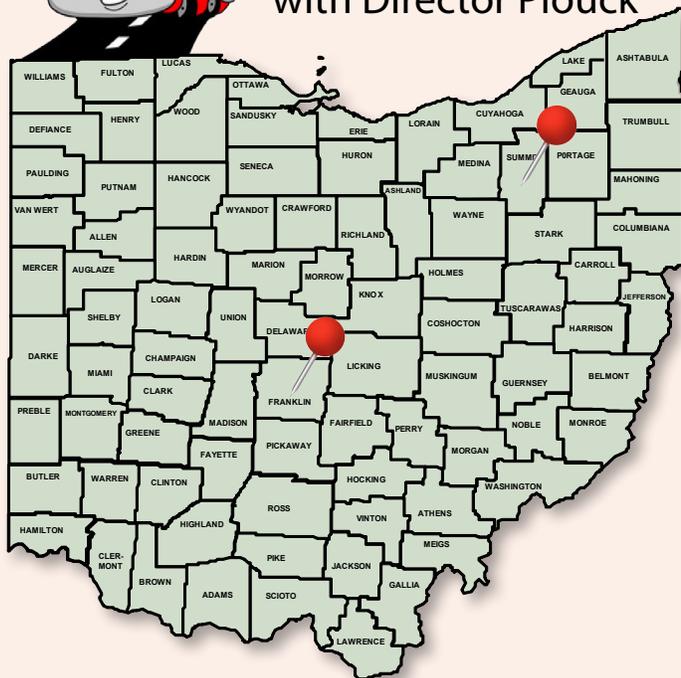
Lee Dunham, board president of NAMI Ohio, closed the conference with these words, "Shame on all of us if, in 200 years, Dorothea Dix shows up at a conference and tells us that nothing has changed."



NAMI Ohio Executive Director Terry Russell interviews "Dorothea Dix."



On the Road with Director Plouck



- 4.21.15 Testified as a part of the Medicaid, Health and Human Services panel before the Senate Finance Committee.
- 4.24.15 Joined with DRC Director Gary Mohr to deliver remarks at the **2015 NAMI Ohio Conference**, "Dorothea Dix Presents: A Matter of Life, Strife or Death."
- 4.30.15 Delivered testimony before the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Corrections regarding prison-based recovery services.
Spoke to a crowd of about 1,500 youth at the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network's "**We Are the Majority**" rally and resiliency ring at the Ohio Statehouse.
- 5.1.15 Along with Ohio State Board of Pharmacy Executive Director Steven Schierholt, participated in media event to highlight the inaugural "**Rx Take-Back by Example**" event at the Rhodes State Office Tower.
- 5.11.15 Toured **Oriana House** in Summit County.
- 5.14.15 Provided **testimony** before Senate Medicaid Committee.



Members of the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network's Youth Council surprised Dir. Plouck with a "Champion Award" for her support of youth-led prevention programming during the April 30 "We Are the Majority" Rally and Resiliency Ring at the Ohio Statehouse.



2015 WATM Rally and Resiliency Ring

More than 1,500 teens representing 49 schools in 37 Ohio counties helped kick off May as Mental Health Awareness and Substance Abuse Awareness and Education months at the "We Are the Majority" rally and resiliency ring held April 30 in Columbus. The event was co-hosted by the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network, Drug-Free Action Alliance and the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio with support from OhioMHAS and the Ohio National Guard. Pre-rally activities were held at Huntington Park where actor/singer Corbin Bleu of High School Musical fame provided remarks, lauding the youth for their decision to lead healthy, drug-free lives, and local alternative pop/rock band Truslow performed. Visit the [OhioMHAS Flickr page](#) for more photos.

PICTURED: *First Lady Karen W. Kasich (second from right) and Drug-Free Action Alliance Executive Director Marcie Seidel (center) help form the Resiliency Ring.*

Inaugural "Rx Take-Back By Example" Event Nets Nearly 105 Pounds of Medications

On May 1, the State of Ohio observed the first Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness and Education Day by hosting an "Rx Take-Back by Example" event for state employees and the public. According to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, staff collected more than 104 pounds of unused/expired/old prescription and over-the-counter medications — roughly 95,000 pills — at two Columbus locations. The event was sponsored by the **Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team** and supported by the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy. See [more photos](#) on the OhioMHAS Flickr page.



Key OhioMHAS Staff Vacancies Filled

OhioMHAS filled a trio of key staffing vacancies this month with the appointments of a new chief financial officer, chief information officer and Start Talking! youth drug prevention initiative coordinator.

Former Office of Budget and Management (OBM) analyst **Dan Schreiber** will start May 18 as deputy director of the agency's Office of Financial Management. **Rosemary Tolliver** will serve as deputy director of the Office of Information Services and former Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) policy and special projects manager **Sarah Smith** will direct the Kasich Administration's Start Talking! program.

"All three individuals bring a wealth of experience and leadership to the department," said OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck. "Their talent, expertise and professionalism will be a boon for both the department and the citizens we serve."

During his six years with OBM, **Schreiber** led the Health and Human Services Section through two operating, capital and mid-biennial review budget processes. He also assisted with the 2013 consolidation of the former

departments of Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services to form OhioMHAS. Before bringing his skills back to Ohio, Schreiber served as a fiscal and management analyst with Milwaukee County. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania and a Masters of Public Administration from The Ohio State University John Glenn School of Public Affairs.

Tolliver has re-joined OhioMHAS after a recent assignment with the State of Ohio's Computer Center (SOCC). There, Tolliver led the Exchange and ITIL teams implementing operational maturity best practices. Prior to her efforts at the SOCC, Tolliver headed up the Project Management Office at OhioMHAS for about five years. She previously worked in IT management at Nationwide Insurance for more than 21 years.

Smith is no stranger to the Start Talking! initiative. While at ODA, she played a key role in helping to launch

and manage the program in January 2014. She replaces Philip Atkins, Ph.D., who left earlier this year to become executive director of the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Union County.

In addition to leading the Start Talking! initiative, she will continue to oversee the Americorps program for the State of Ohio as a member of the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism.

Smith previously held positions with the Fairfield County Board of Elections and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center James Cancer Hospital. She holds a Master of Public Administration from Ohio University and a Bachelor degree in Political Science and Public Administration from Capital University.



Schreiber



Tolliver



Smith

Therapeutic Farm Gives People Time and Space to Heal, Connect with Nature

An inaccurate assessment can be a costly and a time-consuming setback for an individual seeking treatment for a mental illness. However, when given a correct assessment and individualized treatment, the outlook for a productive life is much more positive.

Hopewell, Ohio's only residential therapeutic farm community for adults with mental illness, has developed a new Intake Individual Assessment Tool based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-5 (DSM-5) for individuals applying for admission. The tool may be completed by using Skype or FaceTime, or even during a long-distance phone call. An important feature of this assessment is that it incorporates the residential candidate's perspective into the screening. Responses help to paint a picture of a resident's situation that will be helpful to staff during treatment. This intake process helps to inform the development of the Individual Service Plan (ISP), which functions as a road map to achieve a resident's recovery goals

Founded in 1996, **Hopewell is a 300-acre residential working farm** located in Mesopotamia, Ohio, (Trumbull County)

where adults with schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, major depression and other forms of serious mental illness learn to

manage their mental illness and return to independent life. The rural setting offers a healing respite from the chaotic daily life found closer to cities.

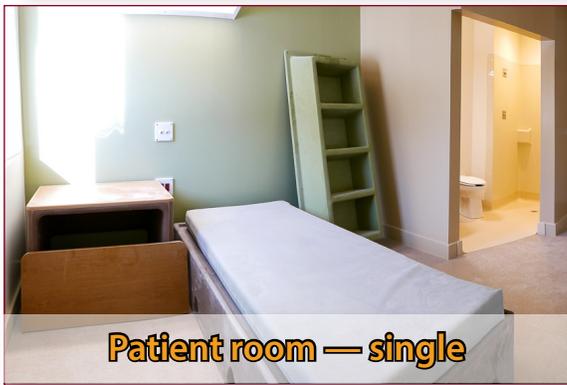
The farm is able to serve up to 40 adults, with housing in four residences. Length of stay typically ranges from six to nine months.

Information and assessments are available by contacting: Beth Orr, intake coordinator, at 440.426.2009 or Daniel Horne, director of admissions at 440.426.2079.





Unit view from nursing station



Patient room — single

Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare Construction Progressing

Construction continues this spring at Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare in Northfield. The newly remodeled and expanded hospital is on schedule for completion later this summer. A grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony is being planned for September. Stay tuned to OhioMHAS eNews for details.



Stairwell view of main courtyard



Skyway connector



Showerhead



Patient rooms



Gymnasium

Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare Hosts Outpatient Civil Commitment Conference

More than 70 participants from central Ohio participated in the *Outpatient Civil Commitment — SB 43 Conference* hosted by Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare (TVBH) on April 30.

Senate Bill 43, which took effect on Sept. 17, 2014, revised several sections in Ohio Revised Code R.C. 5122 to clarify the statutory language regarding outpatient civil commitment of persons with a mental illness. An additional criterion was added in R.C. 5122.01 (B)(5) that allows outpatient civil commitment.

The conference attracted a diverse audience, including attorneys, board members, psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers, seeking clarification on the new procedures.

Speakers included OhioMHAS Assistant Director for Hospital Services Dave Colletti, TVBH Chief Clinical Officer and Director of Clinical Services Dr. Justin Trevino, and Rachelle Martin, executive director of NAMI Franklin County. As part of her remarks, Martin recognized three family members present at the meeting who were instrumental in assisting NAMI with the development and promotion of SB 43.

Meanwhile, Franklin County Probate Court Administrative Magistrate William Reddington provided an overview of the new civil commitment law and court psychiatrist Dr. John Morcos, described the assessment process he uses when interviewing a person immediately prior to offering expert testimony during the commitment hearing.

Dr. Terry Kukor, director of Forensic and Specialized Assessment Services at Netcare Access, reviewed the clinical

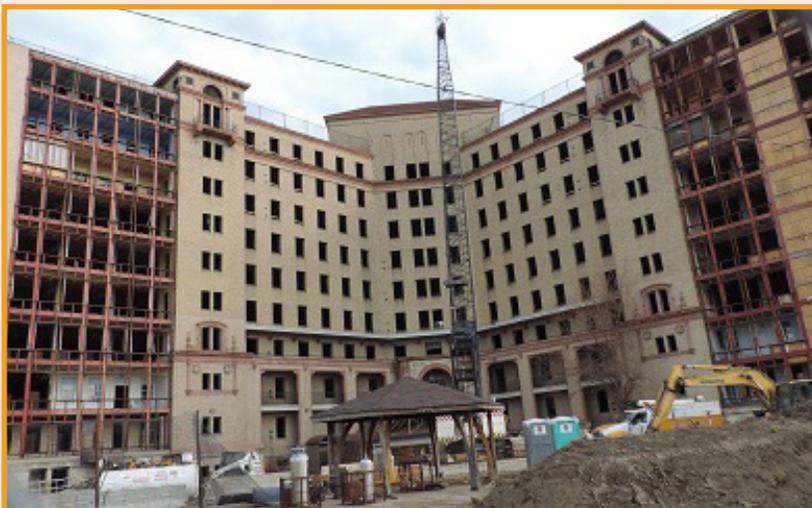


Rachelle Martin, executive director of NAMI Franklin County, speaks at the Outpatient Civil Commitment — SB43 Conference held at TVBH on April 30.

investigation procedures used after receiving a referral from the Franklin County Probate Court. He described the timelines, steps and the importance of documenting the basis for clinical opinions regarding the individual being assessed.

Dr. Delaney Smith, chief clinical officer of the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board of Franklin County, explained the new commitment procedures from the Board's perspective.

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Licking and Knox Counties Executive Director Kay Spergel and Clinical Director Todd Feasel illustrated ways the statute was being implemented in their communities. Spergel explained differences between Knox and Licking County courts compared to Franklin County court in their interpretation of the new law.



Demolition Underway at Former Cleveland Psychiatric Hospital

Demolition of the former state-run psychiatric hospital in Cleveland began in April (see photo) and is expected to be completed by mid-August. After consolidating its regional hospitals serving Northeast Ohio at the Northfield location in Summit County, the state conveyed the Cleveland property to MetroHealth in 2013. The site of the former Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare Cleveland location is a key part of MetroHealth's planned renovation and redesign of its main campus on MetroHealth Drive.

Early Childhood Mental Health Updates

Demonstration Project Brings New Hope to Victims of Childhood Sexual Trauma

OhioMHAS and the [Ohio Children's Trust Fund](#) have partnered to launch a Child Sexual Abuse Early Intervention/Prevention Collaboration demonstration project to prevent and reduce trauma in children ages three to eight who are victims of sexual assault and/or abuse. Four providers received funding through the demonstration project:

[The Nord Center](#) in Lorain County, which is partnering with local school parent/teacher associations, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Safety Towns and faith-based organizations, has reached 140 children through two "Safe Touch" presentations. Five more presentations are scheduled.

The [Cleveland Rape Crisis Center](#) is transforming aid to children and families coping with sexual assault with an expanded service model that serves clients in the comfort of their own homes. This approach increases survivors' access to services as well as the likelihood they will value and invest in treatment.

[Hopewell Health Centers](#) in Athens County has completed the evidence-based "Stewards of Children" training. The program teaches adults steps they can take to prevent, recognize and appropriately respond to child sexual abuse. The training

raises awareness of both the prevalence and consequences of child sexual abuse. Hopewell staff also have implemented Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) and is training adults on Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement (CARE), a trauma-informed, field-initiated training developed by the Trauma Treatment Training Center for general usage by non-clinical adults who interact with children with a history of trauma.

[Child Focus, Inc.](#), also, has been working to equip adults in southwestern and southeastern Ohio with skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse. Staff have provided "Body Safety Training" to 50 children enrolled in Head Start programs in Adams, Brown and Clermont counties and "Stewards of Children

Curriculum" to 38 adults in Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton and Warren counties. Child Focus has also trained an additional 12 therapists in the Greater Cincinnati in Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy. So far, the team has provided rapid response intervention and treatment to seven identified victims of substantiated child sexual abuse.



Ohio ECMH Efforts Highlighted at National Conference

OhioMHAS [Early Childhood Mental Health](#) lead Valerie Alloy, Ph.D., recently presented at the 2015 National Smart Start Conference in Greensboro, N.C., where she joined more than 1,000 early educators, policy and community partners to share lessons-learned and emergent issues regarding childhood wellness.

"The nation is focused on early childhood education and social/emotional wellness. From cross-systems professional development to workforce expansion and integration of new and emerging best practices, Ohio is truly at the center of it all," Dr. Alloy said.

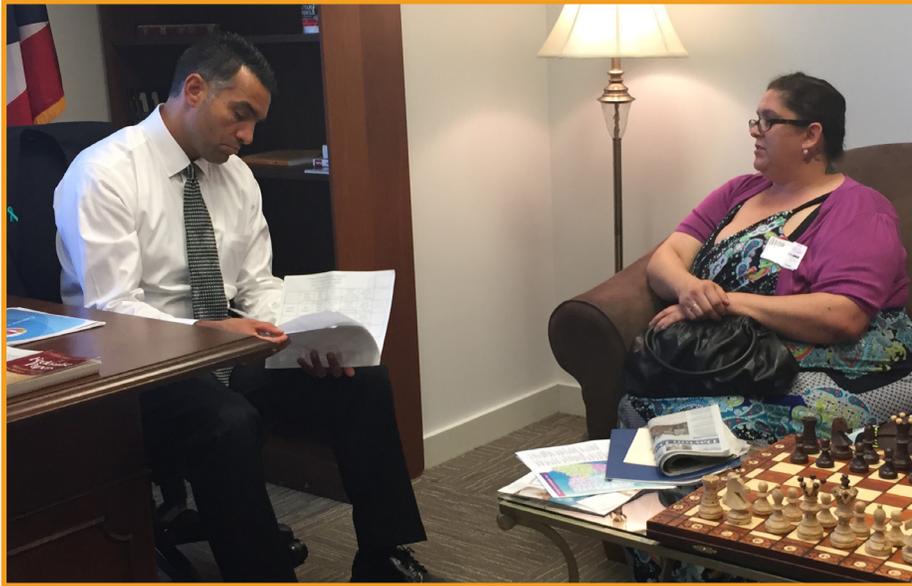
Topping the list, according to Dr. Alloy, is early literacy. OhioMHAS is demonstrating innovative, two-generation approaches in the African-American and Hispanic-American communities through its "Moms Matter" and "Dads Matter" early literacy and resiliency pilot programs.

Family and community engagement strategies also rank high among the list of best practices needed to support early learning educators. Ohio's Grow Power toolkit and parent engagement dissemination process was identified as a notable universal prevention strategy. The comprehensive kit includes a consultation brochure, guide for moms, dads, and other caregivers; quality childcare brochure for families; pediatric psychiatric network card; growth chart; brain building activity cards; and a health promotion consultants card.

Many states showed interest in Ohio's ECMH model for service delivery including classroom- and center-based consultation, which yields data-driven universal developmental screenings, to Ohio's use of home and community evidence-based treatment approaches including Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) for the treatment of trauma in young children.



(l-r) Karen Kimbrough, OhioMHAS prevention specialist and Wendy Alvina, adult outreach specialist with the Adelante community resource center in Toledo, show off dual-language "Moms Matter" maternal wellness and infant mental health early literacy resources.



ADVOCACY IN ACTION *Alicia Ginn (right), from Recovery Zone in Bellefontaine, met with Rep. Nino Vitale (R-Urbana) in his Capital Square office in Columbus on May 12. She was one of 50 individuals from throughout Ohio who attended an Advocacy Day event that began with a legislative/advocacy training session at OhioMHAS. Advocacy Day was sponsored by Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery (OCAAR) and the Ohio Empowerment Coalition (OEC) with grant funding from OhioMHAS and support from Disability Rights Ohio. The participants visited the offices of 17 state senators and 23 representatives of the Ohio House.*

Tri-County Board Hosts 10th Crisis Intervention Academy

The Tri-County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Miami, Darke and Shelby counties recently completed its 10th four-day Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Academy to help teach law enforcement officers safe and effective approaches to handling crisis situations involving a person with mental illness. This year's class included 25 officers, bringing the total number of officers trained to 198. The CIT training was underwritten by the Tri-County Board's mental health levy, grants from NAMI Ohio and in-kind donations from local food vendors. The Tri-County Board also presents CIT companion courses for mental health professionals, dispatchers, court personnel and other groups. For more information about the CIT Academy or companion courses, visit the Board's [website](#).

PICTURED: *Jodi Long, Crisis Intervention Team coordinator, and Sergeant Stephanie Black of Tipp City (middle), present a cake marking the 10th CIT Academy, while flanked by recent graduates of the 2015 CIT Academy.*



State Agencies Partner to Launch Statewide Student Survey

The Ohio Departments of Education, Health and Mental Health and Addiction Services are joining with the Ohio National Guard and representatives of educational and youth-serving organizations to roll out the Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey (OHYES!), a free, voluntary, web-based survey to collect information that schools and communities can use to access resources to reduce risk behaviors and create healthy and safe community, school and family environments.

OHYES! is a statewide survey of Ohio school students in 7th and 11th grades to be conducted in the fall of 2015.



School districts that participate will have access to district, county-, state-, (and for some items even national) level data to help identify important areas of need and track improvements in health and safety over time.

The survey includes 110 questions about health, safety and behavioral health factors. School districts may choose to remove questions that could be sensitive to some communities (such as sexual behavior and suicide) or add up to 10 questions that are important to their community.

OHYES! state- and county-level data will be publicly available on the Ohio Network of Care website along with other indicators of community health allowing schools, community coalitions and community public health and safety networks to make data-informed decisions on how best to support school and community programs and policies. Student participation in the OHYES! is completely voluntary and anonymous. **Questions?** Send an email to: info@ohyes.ohio.gov or call 1.866.563.6904.

News & Research Roundup



Summit County Opiate Task Force Launches New Website

The Summit County Opiate Task Force has launched a [new website](#) as it seeks to engage community support in ending the prescription painkiller and heroin epidemic. The site offers information and resources for parents and families, community members, youth and health care providers, including links to the Kasich Administration's [Start Talking!](#) youth drug prevention initiative.

Housing Survey Underway

The OhioMHAS Bureau of Recovery Supports has distributed a survey tool to county boards to help the department better prioritize funds, provide technical assistance and assist counties in providing a full continuum of housing within their regions. The survey was sent to boards in late April and must be completed and returned no later than May 27. Questions? Please contact OhioMHAS Housing Policy and Resource Administrator Alisia Clark at Alisia.Clark@mha.ohio.gov or 614.644.8428.

Survey: Mental Health a Greater Worry than Substance Abuse for Parents of Teens

Parents are more concerned about their teens' mental health than about their use of drugs or alcohol, a [new survey finds](#). While 65 percent of 3,100 parents surveyed said they are concerned their teen suffers from anxiety or depression, more than three-quarters said they think their teen never uses drugs or alcohol, according to the survey by Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan, Conn. The survey found almost half of parents said their teens had told them they are depressed, anxious or overwhelmed. Yet, just 20 percent of teens whose parents were surveyed had been diagnosed with anxiety, depression or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Only nine percent of parents said their teens were taking medication for any of those disorders.



New Initiative Seeks To Reduce The Number Of People With Mental Illnesses In Jails

In a May 15 *U.S. News & World Report* "Policy Dose" blog, Renee Binder, M.D., incoming president of the American Psychiatric Association, and Riki Hokoma, president of the National Association of Counties, wrote that addressing the need to keep people with mental illnesses out of jail "requires bringing together state and county policymakers, heads of behavioral health programs and leaders in the criminal justice system to create the structure to support change." For that reason, "we partnered with the Council of State Governments Justice Center to launch [Stepping Up: A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails](#)." Now, "with support from the US Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and guidance from several national groups dedicated to these issues, counties across the country are joining a call to action and taking specific, research-driven actions to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in county jails." The [American Psychiatric Foundation](#) is one of the initiative's collaborators.

Study: No Association Between Most Psychiatric Disorders, Future Violent Behavior In Youth

A [recent study](#) published in the *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry* found that with only one exception, there appears to be "no association between most psychiatric disorders and future violent behavior in delinquent youth." After analyzing "data from over 1,800 adolescents between the ages of 10 and 18 who were arrested and detained in the Chicago area between 1995 and 1998," then following the study participants over a number of years after they were detained, researchers discovered that even though "some youth suffering from mental illness were violent – young men with mania, a symptom of bipolar disorder, were twice as likely to report violent behavior as those without mania – their illnesses were not predictive of future violence."



Report: Tobacco is World's Most Prevalent Addiction

The [Global Statistics on Addictive Behaviors: 2014 Status Report](#) released this month reveals that "the most prevalent addiction worldwide is tobacco, with an estimated 22.5 percent of all adults smoking regularly." Alcohol is the second most prevalent. Researchers arrived at these conclusions after analyzing data from "the websites of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, among other global, regional, and national sites focused on alcohol use, tobacco use, psychoactive drug use and gambling." The report was published online May 11 in the journal *Addiction*.

News & Research Roundup, cont.

New Synthetic “Flakka” as Addictive as Bath Salts, Study Suggests

The new synthetic drug known as “flakka” appears to be as potent and addictive as bath salts, a [new rodent study](#) conducted by scientists at The Scripps Research Institute suggests. *Flakka* and bath salts are chemically similar, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. In some cases, flakka can cause heart palpitations and aggressive, violent behavior. Use of the drug can affect the kidneys, leading to kidney failure or death. Flakka use has recently been reported in [Florida](#), Ohio and Texas. The drug is sold in other parts of the country as “gravel.” Flakka, which comes in crystal-line rock form, can be snorted, swallowed, injected or vaped in an e-cigarette. While its effects are generally felt for three or four hours, they can continue for days. Flakka’s main ingredient is a chemical compound called alpha-PVP.



SAMHSA: Heroin Use Rose Significantly Over Past 11 Years

Heroin use rose significantly over the past 11 years, according to a [new Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\) report](#). In the past year, 681,000 Americans aged 12 and older used heroin, including an estimated 31,000 teens, the report found. The number of people addicted to heroin rose from 214,000 in 2002 to 517,000 in 2013. Between 2002 and 2007, an estimated 400,000 Americans used heroin. That number rose to 455,000 in 2008 and 582,000 in 2009. On average, every day about 460 Americans use heroin for the first time, the report stated.

Take Action Against Hepatitis C

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month. SAMHSA’s [Take Action Against Hepatitis C: For People in Recovery From Mental Illness or Addiction](#) is a consumer booklet that provides guidance about hepatitis C for people in recovery from mental illness or substance use disorders. Topics include screening, vaccination, treatment, liver transplant, behaviors for avoiding viral hepatitis infection and living with hepatitis C.

Training Opportunities

ENGAGE Webinar: CLAS Standards Overview — May 20 and 29

The Case Western Reserve University Center for Innovative Practices at the Begun Center for Violence Prevention, Research and Education will present an introductory webinar on cultural and linguistic competency in local systems of care and the launching of Ohio’s CLC Network. This webinar is an introduction to the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (the national CLAS standards) and will be followed up with a full-day training on the CLAS standards in August. The CLAS standards are intended to advance health equity, improve quality and help eliminate health care disparities by providing a blueprint for individuals and health and health care organizations (HHS, Office of Minority Health) to implement culturally and linguistically appropriate services. Click [HERE](#) for more information. To attend the webinar, click the following links (no registration required):

May 20 | 2-3:30 p.m. [Cultural and Linguistic Competency in Local Systems of Care: Brief Overview of Cultural Competency, Health Equity and the Enhanced CLAS Standards](#)

May 29 | 11 a.m.-noon [Office Hours Webinar: Q&A on Cultural Competency, Health Equity, the CLAS Standards and the Ohio CLC Network](#)

Living Independently from Tobacco (LIFT) Train-the-Trainer Workshop — May 26

The Ohio Disability and Health Program is sponsoring a free train-the-trainer workshop for individuals interested in becoming facilitators for the [LIFT: Living Independent from Tobacco smoking cessation program](#) for persons with disabilities on May 26 at The Ohio State University Nisonger Center, 1581 Dodd Drive, McCampbell Hall, Room 23 in Columbus. The evidence-based LIFT curriculum embodies a behavioral-counseling approach educating consumers on their benefits of quitting and methods of managing cravings and lifestyles changes. It also teaches and provides peer and community support when quitting smoking. Click the link for more information and to register.

Training Opportunities, cont.

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:

June 2 — [Promoting Health-Behavior Change Among People with SPMI \(Fairfield\)](#)

June 10 — [Promoting Housing Stability by Fostering a Culture of Employment \(Toledo\)](#)

June 30 — [Promoting Health-Behavior Change Among People with SPMI \(Athens\)](#)

Nurturing Parenting Program Facilitator Training — June 9-11

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) is offering a free [Nurturing Parenting Program Facilitator](#) training to teach facilitators how to incorporate the philosophy, skills and strategies of nurturing parenting on June 9-11 at the Amy Levin Conference and Learning Center in Lorain. The workshop will enhance the participant's knowledge of the material, suggest outreach tools and tips and provide OCTF certification as a facilitator of Nurturing Parenting programs. The training includes lecture presentations, videos, written material and trainee participation. Questions? Email [Ohio Children's Trust Fund@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Ohio_Children's_Trust_Fund@jfs.ohio.gov).

Register Now! Second Annual Trauma-Informed Care Summit — June 17

OhioMHAS will partner with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities to host the [Second Annual Trauma-Informed Care Summit](#) on June 17 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North-Worthington, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus. This year's theme: "Creating Environments of Resiliency and Hope in Ohio," is designed to promote a shared understanding of the concept of trauma and a trauma-informed approach. Cost is \$50. [Register](#) by June 10.

OYLPN Hosting "Alcohol Literacy Challenge" — June 18

Drug-Free Action Alliance and the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network are hosting a free alcohol prevention training "Alcohol Literacy Challenge" (ALC) on June 18. ALC is the first classroom-based prevention program that specifically and systematically challenges students' beliefs about the effects of drinking alcohol. ALC author Dr. Peter Debenedittis from the Media Literacy for Prevention in Sante Fe, N.M., will present. Learn more and register [HERE](#).

Columbiana County to Host Community Training on Drug Addiction and Recovery — June 26

The Columbiana County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board in partnership with local providers, courts and the Columbiana County Drug Task Force is hosting a free "Community Training on Drug Abuse, Addiction and Recovery" on June 26 at David Anderson High School in Lisbon. Presenters include Dr. Brad Lander, clinical director of Addiction Psychology at The Ohio State University Medical School; Brian McLaughlin, director of the Columbiana County Drug Task Force; and a panel discussion featuring local experts and advocates. Deadline to [register](#) is June 17.

REGISTER NOW! Ohio Promoting Wellness and Recovery Conference (OPEC) — June 29-July 2

Register today to attend the [2015 Ohio Promoting Wellness and Recovery \(OPEC\) Conference: Building Resiliency and Hope Through Collective Impact](#) June 29-July 2 on Ohio University's main campus in Athens. The goal of this conference is to promote collective impact through building the capacity of Ohio's prevention, early intervention and treatment workforce for children, families and communities. OPEC 2015 features six subject-matter tracks, including: prevention, collective impact, youth development, cultural competency, early childhood mental health and adolescent treatment and recovery/peer support. Registration is \$100, and includes a welcome reception on Monday, lunch Monday through Wednesday and dinner on Tuesday. CE/RCH hours have been applied for, totaling more than 20 hours. Questions? Please contact Dr. Holly Raffle at raffle@ohio.edu or Molly Stone at molly.stone@mha.ohio.gov.

Free Training for Peers in the Workplace — June 30

OhioMHAS and the P.E.E.R. Center (Peers Enriching Each others Recovery) will sponsor a free [Peers as Professionals: Living with the Stigma of Mental Health, Addiction and Trauma in the Professional Workforce Environment](#) training for professionals living with mental health, addiction or trauma issues who work in positions other than peer-service delivery. The training, which is designed to provide needed self-advocacy and coping skills and to help foster a better understanding of an individual's role as a peer and professional in the workforce, will be held June 30 from 1-4 p.m. at the State Library of Ohio, 274 E. First Ave., Columbus. Email info@thepeercenter.org for more information.

Training Opportunities, cont.

8th Annual National Rural Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Conference — Aug. 5-7

The Coalition for Healthy Youth will present its annual National Rural Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Conference Aug. 5-7 at the University of South Carolina — Lancaster Campus. [*Prevention of Youth Substance Abuse in Rural Communities*](#) is the only national conference that focuses on the unique challenges of prevention from a rural context. The three-day, annual conference includes nationally recognized keynote speakers, breakout sessions and optional evening activities. The theme of this year's conference will focus on exploring the critical issues facing rural communities, along with effective strategies to meet these challenges. Topics will focus on the growing use of social media tools, sustainability and environmental prevention. Cost is \$189. In addition, a two day pre-conference Grant Writing Survival Camp (Aug. 3-4) is available to the first 50 registrants at an additional cost of \$175. For more information, call 803.283.4995 or email coalitionforhealthyouth@gmail.com.

Save the Date! 13th Annual NADD: State of Ohio IDD/MI Conference — Sept. 21-22

OhioMHAS will partner with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and the National Association for the Dually-Diagnosed (NADD) to host the [*13th Annual NADD: State of Ohio IDD/MI Conference*](#) "Mental Health Aspects: Treatment and Support" on Sept. 21-22 in Columbus. Keynote presenters will include Craig Erickson, M.D., associate professor of psychiatry at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and Jarrett Barnhill, M.D., from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Registration will be available beginning in July.

Save the Date! Ohio Council 2015 Annual Conference & Exhibit Hall — Oct. 22-23

The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers will hold its Annual Conference & Exhibit Hall on Oct. 22-23 at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris. More information will be available later this year at www.theohiocouncil.org.

Cuyahoga ADAMHS Board Releases Summer 2015 Training Institute Workshop Schedule

The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County has released its [*Summer 2015 Training Institute Workshop Schedule*](#). You can also find the schedule by clicking on the "Education" tab in the left navigation of the [*ADAMHS Board home page*](#), and then clicking on the "Training Institute" tab.



STRONG FAMILIES, SAFE COMMUNITIES:

At the Strong Families, Safe Communities Year Two Update Presentations on May 7, (from left) Victoria Roesch, Cindy Franketti-Omen and Mickie Garrick prepare to present on their initiative affiliated with the Erie County Juvenile Court. Their project to help Ohio families and youth in crisis provides wraparound services to individuals in Erie, Lucas, Sandusky and Seneca counties. Franketti-Omen thanked the state for providing flexibility to grant recipients. "All counties are working differently to meet their needs, but supporting each other," she said. Garrick and Roesch both commented on the importance of connecting youth to mentors who can engage them in appropriate activities and help them make healthy choices. Learn more about the Strong Families initiative [HERE](#).



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