



MAJORITY RULES: More than 2,100 Ohio teens rallied in support of drug prevention and helped to usher in May as Mental Health Month during a trio of events held on April 30. Pictured above (clockwise): Teens from 66 Ohio communities gathered on the West Lawn of the Ohio Statehouse to proclaim their pride in being part of the drug-free Majority; Gov. John Kasich talks with a group of youth leaders; students take to the streets of downtown Columbus. To view more photos of the Columbus rally, visit our [Flickr](#) page.

Record Number of Ohio Youth Rally to Proclaim Drug-Free Message, Support Mental Health Month

"We are the Majority! The mighty, mighty Majority!" "I believe that we will lead!" chanted the more than 2,100 teens who rallied in Columbus, Cleveland and Elyria April 30 to proclaim that they and "The Majority" of their peers do not use drugs or alcohol.

More than 1,200 teens braved the rain to attend the third annual statewide "We are the Majority" rally held in Columbus at Columbus Commons and the Ohio Statehouse. The rally was sponsored by the [Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network](#)

(OYLPN), with support from [Drug Free Action Alliance](#), the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the [National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio](#) (NAMI Ohio) and [The Ohio Federation for Children's Mental Health](#).

"It was fantastic to see so many teens from around Ohio participate in the third annual 'We are the Majority' rally," OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck said. "These young people are truly leaders in their communities and are significant positive influences on their friends in so many ways."

The Columbus rally was being live-streamed to Elyria High School, where about 800 youth from several other Lorain County high schools gathered to proclaim they are substance-free. In Cleveland, more than 100 youth marched through the streets to City Hall. In Columbus, the rally, held just ahead of Mental Health Month in May, included a march around the perimeter of the Statehouse to form a "Resiliency Ring" and increase awareness about children's mental health.

(Continued on page 2)



Pictured: At left, Dr. Kent Youngman, CEO of the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Clark, Greene and Madison Counties, talks about the critical need for housing for persons in recovery. At right: OhioMHAS Community Capital Project Manager Doug Bailey; Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati; Tom Ciresi; Ohio Housing Finance Agency Karen Banyai; Housing Solutions Executive Director Rhonda Baer; Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing Nikki Delgado and Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) Ted Jones officially break ground on "Columbus Place."

Greene County Breaks Ground on Affordable Housing Project

More than six years of work is paying off for **Housing Solutions of Greene County**. The agency, which manages affordable housing units for homeless individuals receiving behavioral health services in Greene County, held a ground-breaking ceremony on April 14 for Columbus Place — a new six-unit apartment building in Xenia. Construction begins this month and the building will be completed and ready to lease by December. Tenants will include persons with persistent and severe mental illnesses. The project is being funded by a combination of loans and grants. Housing Solutions of Greene County currently manages 18 units for the **Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Clark, Greene and Madison Counties**. "You can't recover ... without a place to shower and put your head at night," said Housing Solutions Executive Director Rhonda Baer.

(Rally, continued from Page 1)

Once they reached the Statehouse, participants heard from several state leaders and legislators and members of the OYLPN Youth Council about the importance of being a part of "The Majority." Grammy-nominated recording artist Mario provided a motivational speech in the morning and a concert in the afternoon. The singer is the founder of the **Mario Do Right Foundation**, a non-profit organization that provides support to children whose parents are struggling with addiction.

While Mario was performing at Columbus Commons, about 50 Wellston High School students and a group of students representing other schools met with Gov. John R. Kasich in the Cabinet Room of the Statehouse. The

students were invited to meet with the governor for promoting drug prevention efforts among their peers and being leaders in their communities.



NAMI Ohio Executive Director Terry Russell and Drug Free Action Alliance Executive Director Marcie Seidel watch as the OYLPN Youth Council energizes the crowd.

Take Back Day: Ohioans Purge More Than 14 Tons of Pills

Ohio residents disposed of more than 14 tons (28,466 pounds) of unwanted prescription medications during the latest ***national drug take-back day*** held April 26.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration-led take-back initiative provided residents with a safe, convenient, anonymous way to rid their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs at hundreds of collection sites across Ohio. Nationally, the DEA has collected more than 3.4 million pounds of medications since 2010.

Prescription drugs that languish in home medicine cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Take-back events not only cut down on diversion, but provide an opportunity for public awareness and education.

ENGAGE Grant in Full Swing

ENGAGE has been quite active since OhioMHAS was awarded the four-year Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) System of Care Expansion Implementation grant in July 2013. ENGAGE (Engaging the New Generation to Achieve their Goals through Empowerment) seeks to expand the System of Care approach statewide for youth and young adults ages 14 through 21 years) with serious emotional disturbances, mental illness or co-occurring disorders (substance abuse, developmental disabilities) that have been, are currently or are at risk of being involved in child

around facilitation and coaching, trauma-informed care, cultural competence and fidelity monitoring. Trainings and technical assistance will begin in July for the first cohort.

In addition, the ***National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio*** (NAMI Ohio) was selected

through two competitive bids to oversee the development of a Youth and

Young Adult (YYA) Advisory Council and a Family Advisory Council. NAMI Ohio contracted with Angela Lariviere to serve as the Youth and Young Adult Supporter and with Katie Dillon and Raphael Weston to serve as the Youth and Young Adult Engagement Coordinators. Esther Hawkins was contracted to serve as the Family Engagement Coordinator. All four bring exceptional experience and enthusiasm to enhancing Ohio's efforts to engage youth and young adults in all aspects of decision making. The Youth and Young Adult Advisory Council was launched in March. It currently has 15 members and is actively seeking a additional members to represent northwest Ohio. The Family Advisory Council was



ENGAGING THE NEW GENERATION TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS THROUGH EMPOWERMENT

welfare, juvenile justice, criminal justice and/or homeless(ness).

To accomplish this goal, ENGAGE will implement ***High-Fidelity Wraparound*** statewide during the next three years as the effective person-centered, team-based, coordinating process for developing and implementing individualized care plans to improve outcomes for the most high risk youth and young adults. Sixty-eight counties completed the ENGAGE Wraparound Community Assessment in January. Twenty-eight counties (22 areas) were selected to be in the ***first cohort*** for ENGAGE Wraparound and System of Care Training and Technical Assistance.

Through a competitive bid, the ***Center for Innovative Practice*** with the Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Evaluation at Case Western Reserve University was selected to provide the training and technical assistance to the selected ENGAGE communities. The Center for Innovative Practice will be developing the High-Fidelity Wraparound model for Ohio which will include training and technical assistance focused on System of Care principles, community capacity building, Wrap-



Pictured above (clockwise): Members of the Youth & Young Adult (YYA) Advisory Council at the Ohio Attorney General's Symposium on Ending Youth Homelessness; members of the YYA Council at its first meeting; members of the ENGAGE Family Advisory Council and members of the YYA march as part of the 'We are the Majority' Rally and Ohio Resiliency Ring on April 30.

launched in April and currently has 13 members.

The Youth Council has been quite active since it launched, co-sponsoring both the Ohio Attorney General's Strategies to End Youth Homelessness Symposium and the Ohio Resiliency Ring and "We are the Majority Rally" held April 30 in downtown Columbus.



Dr. Gail Christopher speaks before a packed room as Joseph Hill, chief, OhioMHAS Bureau of Special populations and Emergency Preparedness, listens.

Presentation Focuses on Addressing Health Disparities

"Beyond Health Disparities: Toward Health Equity — Ending Health Inequities in the 21st Century" was the topic of a Minority Health Month presentation on April 22 at the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services in Columbus. Dr. Gail Christopher, a nationally recognized leader in health policy, was the presenter. Christopher is vice president for program strategy at the [W.K. Kellogg Foundation](#) in Battle Creek, Mich. In this role, she serves on the executive team that provides overall direction and leadership for the Foundation and provides leadership for Food, Health and Well-Being, and Racial Equity programming.

Dr. Christopher provided OhioMHAS staff and guests with an overview of the root causes of [health inequities](#) and steps that need to be taken to eliminate disparity. [Healthy People 2020](#) defines health disparity as "a particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social, economic and/or environmental disadvantage. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on their racial or ethnic group; religion; socio-economic status; gender; age; mental health; cognitive, sensory or physical disability; sexual orientation or gender identity; geographic location; or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion." Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and the elimination of health and health care disparities."

According to Dr. Christopher, we must understand the internalized racism and unconscious discrimination that occurs even among people who are not prejudiced. Unfortunately, children experience double jeopardy when they live in both poor families and poor neighborhoods, which include 20.5 percent of Hispanic, 16.8 percent of black and 1.4 percent of white children. To increase the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life, Dr. Christopher emphasized that we must go beyond the medical model to create communities that are free of violence, promote active and healthy lifestyles, and empower citizens in a way that supports their mental and emotional well-being.

The training is one of many being held this year to adhere to OhioMHAS' [Strategic Plan](#) goal of improving workforce skills and proficiency in [cultural competence](#).

MyCare Ohio Northeast Region Medicaid Enrollment Effective May 1

This month, Ohio's first integrated care delivery system began serving individuals enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid. [MyCare Ohio](#) launched May 1 in Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina counties. Individuals with health care coverage from both Medicare and Medicaid residing in the northeast region will be enrolled in one of three competitively selected managed care plans (MCPs): Buckeye, Caresource and United Healthcare. Statewide, there are five MyCare Ohio Plans serving eligible members: Aetna, Buckeye, Caresource, Molina and United Healthcare.

Eligible individuals must choose a MyCare Ohio Plan for their Medicaid benefits and may choose to receive their Medicare services from the plan. Effective Jan. 1, 2015, individuals who have not elected Medicare coverage from a MyCare Ohio plan will automatically be enrolled for both Medicare and Medicaid services, unless they elect a different Medicare option.

For more information, please see the [April 30, 2014, BH MITS Bits](#).

NAMI of Greater Toledo to Host Vets Memorial Program

As part of the Toledo State Hospital Cemetery Reclamation Project, NAMI of Greater Toledo will host its annual Veteran's Memorial Program at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 17 at the Old Toledo State Hospital Cemetery on Arlington Avenue. Known veterans include 76 men who served from the Civil War through World War II. Joseph Zerbey, president and general manager of the [Toledo Blade](#) and chair of the University of Toledo Board of Trustees will serve as a guest speaker. Reception will follow at [Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital](#). Click [here](#) for more information.



TOP LEFT: Danielle Smoot (left) and Heidi Riggs, community outreach specialists with the Office of the Attorney General, who also both lost a child to a drug overdose, spoke at the Start Talking! Summit. Smoot founded Cole's Warriors in memory of her son, Cole Smoot, 16, who died after taking a prescription pill given to him by a friend in 2011. Riggs' daughter Marin, 20, died of a heroin overdose in 2012. **RIGHT:** Franklin County Municipal Drug Court Judge Scott D. VanDerKarr (left) was among the speakers on April 22. Afterward, he discussed the issues further with (from left) the Governor's Opiate Action Team Program Manager Stephanie Ranade-Kridler and Director Orman Hall, and Specialty Docket Coordinator Andrea Boxill. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Worthington Kilbourne students assisted with the Start Talking! event by welcoming participants to their facility and offering their perspectives in an afternoon workgroup.

Nearly 40 School Districts Represented at "Protecting Ohio's Families: Start Talking!" Summit

Central Ohio resident Heidi Riggs lost her daughter to a heroin overdose two years ago. The pain she and her husband endured trying to understand why a beautiful, talented teen would choose a drug so devastating is evident in the [video](#) they filmed for Attorney General Mike DeWine's office in support of a new Heroin Unit. That video was the centerpiece of an event held at Worthington-Kilbourne High School in Columbus on April 29, which

included presentations by DeWine, Gov. John R. Kasich and OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck. More than 150 people representing nearly 40 school districts were in attendance, most representing the Alliance for High Quality Education. After hearing from office holders, the participating law enforcement officers, school administrators and drug prevention advocates broke into work groups to address ways to mediate the risk of illegal and prescription drug addiction

in Ohio's schools. "Those who attended today's summit know that their school districts are not immune to the problem of addiction," DeWine said. "They came out today to proactively work to prevent abuse and addiction among their students."

Learn more about the governor's state-wide initiative to encourage parents, school and community leaders to [Start Talking!](#) View more photos from the event on the OhioMHAS [Flickr](#) page.



SBIRT Success Story

When a 40-year-old patient recently presented with hypertension at the Gene Wright Community Health Center, he was screened for alcohol, drug and depression risk by an Ohio Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment ([SBIRT](#)) health coach. The patient's alcohol screening score indicated that he was at moderately high-risk for psychosocial or health care problems. An SBIRT provider and medical staff member met with the patient to assist him in understanding the correlation between his drinking and his hypertension. The patient stated "I'm shocked that drinking six to seven beers two nights a week is potentially detrimental to my health." After receiving a brief intervention, the patient agreed to return. During his next visit, he reported cutting back to no more than three beers per drinking occasion. This change represents a **50 percent reduction** in the patient's alcohol use after only two meetings!

Converting Crisis Calls to Treatment: Iowa Study has Implications for Ohio Treatment of Problem Gamblers

The Iowa Office of Problem Gambling Treatment and Prevention ([IGTPP](#)) has worked through a series of change projects in concert with the NIATx model of process improvement to improve access to and retention in treatment, specifically focusing on converting crisis calls for problem gambling into active treatment. As Ohio refines a [service system](#) for citizens with gambling disorder, the Iowa study offers a number of lessons-learned that could increase engagement and retention in treatment for people with gambling and co-morbid disorders.



Eric Preuss, program manager at IGTPP, said, "Most problem gamblers present as crisis callers, so engaging them on the phone when they're seeking treatment is critical." The change team tested implementing a "warm handoff" from the first call directly to a counselor whenever possible: "Hello, I have Jane on the phone. She called about a gambling problem and would like to talk to someone. Is there a counselor available who can talk to her?"

Before the NIATx recommendations, 57 percent of callers asking for help were actually connecting with a person at a treatment agency, and after this change, that number increased to 83 percent. Read more on the [ATTC /NIATx Service Improvement blog](#).

Tristate Trauma Network Serves as Clearinghouse

As part of its April 24 agenda, the Ohio Trauma Informed Care Advisory Council (TICAC) invited representatives of the Tristate Trauma Network to discuss its business model to address prevention of and recovery from trauma and toxic stress in the Greater Cincinnati area. Brenda Konradi of Indiana and Trish Burke of Ohio described how the program brought 66 organizations together to focus on training, collaboration and systems change in a way that was mutually beneficial to the multiple agencies and the people they serve. The Ohio TICAC hopes to emulate exemplary regional programs such as this one to unify and strengthen trauma informed efforts statewide. This statewide committee convened by Ohio MHAS Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst and chaired by Kim Kehl includes members who represent health care providers, hospitals, universities, human services agencies and consumers. You can follow the work of TICAC by visiting the [committee's webpage](#).

PICTURED AT RIGHT: Consumer representatives Karen Ezirim (left) and Sondra Williams (right) participate during the meeting at the Columbus Developmental Center. Ezirim is with the Ohio Primary Parent Advisory Council, which supports families involved in the child welfare system, and Sondra Williams is with the Young Leaders Division for the Autistic Global Initiative (AGI), a division of the Autism Research Institute that is self-directed by a committee of adults with autism who work in the disability and advocacy fields.



NIDA Director Urges Lawmakers to Resist Legalizing Marijuana

Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), urged lawmakers this week to resist legalizing marijuana. At a House subpanel hearing, she said marijuana can act as a gateway drug. Speaking before the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Oversight and Investigations subpanel, Volkow said studies show changes that occur in brain chemistry after people use marijuana, alcohol or tobacco can prime them for harder drugs, [The Hill](#) reported.

She told the House panel that many people think marijuana is harmless because they have heard about its potential medicinal benefits, but that more research is needed.



In a message on the [NIDA website](#) last year, Volkow wrote, "Regular marijuana use in adolescence is part of a cluster of behaviors that can produce enduring detrimental effects and alter the trajectory of a young person's life — thwarting his or her potential. Beyond potentially lowering IQ, teen marijuana use is linked to school dropouts, other drug use, mental health problems, etc. Given the current number of regular marijuana users (about 1 in 15 high school seniors) and the possibility of this number increasing with marijuana legalization, we cannot afford to divert our focus from the central point: Regular marijuana use stands to jeopardize a young person's chances of success—in school and in life."

Visit the [Drug Free Action Alliance \(DFAA\) website](#) to learn more about what Ohio is doing to educate communities around marijuana. Read DFAA's [Marijuana as Medicine position paper](#).

News & Research Roundup

Watch the May Road to Recovery Program on Treatment and Recovery in the Justice System

Persons involved in the juvenile and adult justice systems commonly struggle with mental disorders, substance use disorders, or both. The *May Road to Recovery* television [program](#), produced by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, recognizes and promotes a trend to address mental and/or substance use disorders directly through treatment and recovery support and discusses strategies such as drug courts and diversion programs. The show identifies issues associated with groups at greater risk of justice system involvement. It highlights the movement across the U.S. to reform justice system policies at both the federal and state levels, which has significant implications for the behavioral health care system.

2014 national
prevention
week
MAY 18-24

Make a Difference: SAMHSA's National Prevention Week, May 18–24

National Prevention Week 2014 (May 18–24) is a SAMHSA-supported annual health observance dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, substance abuse and mental health issues. This observance is an opportunity to join with other individuals, organizations, and coalitions in your community to promote prevention efforts, educate others about behavioral health issues, and create and strengthen community partnerships. There are many ways to make a difference. Explore the National Prevention Week website to download a toolkit that includes everything from [planning a community event](#), to taking the [Prevention Pledge](#) to participating in the ["I Choose" Project](#).

2012 TEDS-Admissions Released Online and for Download

The 2012 Treatment Episode Data Set-Admissions (TEDS-A) data and documentation files are now available for [download](#), [online analysis](#) and [Quick Tables](#). [Interactive maps](#) for the 2012 TEDS-A will be available in the coming weeks. TEDS-A is one component of the Behavioral Health Services Information System maintained by the Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality at SAMHSA. TEDS-A records annual admissions to substance abuse treatment facilities, primarily ones that receive public funding. Demographic information such as gender, race, ethnicity, education, and employment status, among others, are included in the data. Substances reported in TEDS-A include alcohol, cocaine and crack, marijuana and hashish, heroin, nonprescription methadone, other opiates and synthetics, stimulants, tranquilizers, sedatives, and over-the-counter medications, among others. A sister data system, called TEDS-D, records discharges from treatment facilities. The 2011 TEDS-D data will be released over the course of the next few weeks.

New Spanish-Language Mental Health Resources

SAMHSA has released new resources for Spanish-language speakers and professionals who work with Latinos. These resources were developed following the June 2013 National Conference on Mental Health to encourage partners and communities across the country to work together to address mental health issues. The [Toolkit for Community Conversations About Mental Health](#) (Diálogos comunitarios acerca de la salud mental) supports communities interested in holding conversations about mental health. [MentalHealth.gov en Español](#) has resources and information about prevention, treatment and recovery from mental health conditions. The website also focuses on the importance of talking about mental health and engaging parents, young people, professionals serving Spanish-speaking populations and others in conversations about mental health.

Report: 10 Percent of Older Teens Had Major Depressive Episode in Past Year

A [new government report](#) finds 10 percent of 16- and 17-year-olds had a major depressive episode in the past year. Almost 20 percent of young adults, ages 18 to 25, had any mental illness in the past year. The report also found 3 percent of older teens had both a major depressive episode and a substance use disorder; 6.4 percent had any mental illness and a substance use disorder; and 1.6 percent had a serious mental illness and a substance use disorder. Older teens and young adults with emotional and behavioral health problems are much more likely to have significant problems with school, employment and housing, the report found. Almost 8 percent of older teens who suffer from depression and have a substance use disorder do not have a stable place to live. They moved an average of three or more times in the past year. Among older teens with depression and a substance use disorder who were enrolled in school, 13.5 percent struggled academically, with a "D" or lower average. Young adults with a serious mental illness and a substance use disorder are less likely to graduate high school, compared with those without both disorders. They are also 1.4 times more likely to be unemployed. Young adults with a serious mental illness who receive treatment are more likely to graduate high school than those who do not receive any treatment. [Read](#) more.





News & Research Roundup, cont.

Keeping a Lid on Emotions Increases PTSD Risk among Abused Children

Abused children who avoid talking about their painful experiences face a higher risk of enduring PTSD later on, according to a [new study](#). Researchers from Penn State University reviewed cases of adolescent girls who had been abused during the previous year. Those who were willing to discuss their experiences and emotions were less likely to report symptoms of PTSD later on, whereas those who sought to avoid addressing their experiences and emotions suffered significantly higher rates of PTSD. "Avoidance is something we all do," said Penn State's Chad Shen. "Sometimes it is easier not to think about something. But when we rely on avoidance as a coping strategy...that is when there may be negative consequences."

PhRMA Releases 2014 Medicines in Development for Mental Health Report

America's biopharmaceutical research companies currently are developing 119 novel new medicines to help improve the lives of the estimated 61.5 million Americans that are affected by mental health disorders, according to a [new report](#) by the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America ([PhRMA](#)). These medicines in development – all either in clinical trials or under review by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) – include 36 for schizophrenia, 29 for depression, 20 for substance/addictive disorders, 15 for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and 15 for anxiety disorders. The new report conveys an array of innovative approaches being pursued to treat many of these disorders. Examples include: a medicine that may provide a broader spectrum of therapeutic activity for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); an intranasal medicine for treatment-resistant depression that may offer a rapid onset of therapeutic effects and a medicine for schizophrenia that potentially could result in fewer negative side effects than existing treatments.

Training Opportunities

Examining East Asian (Indian) Culture, Wellness, and Behavioral Health — May 19

Manju Sankarappa, executive director, Ohio Asian American Health Coalition, will provide participants with an overview of Asian and Asian-Indian culture as it relates to existing beliefs, practices and norms; resiliency; acculturation and behavioral health help seeking. Participants will learn more about behavioral health service barriers and gaps impacting Asians in Ohio that can be used to promote new policy. Participants will also learn about organizational practices that can lead to local level preventive approaches to reduce behavioral health disparities. The training will be held at 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, Room 806. Contact [Jamoya Cox](#) for details.

College Students: Strategies for Suicide Prevention Webinar — May 22

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) Training Institute will host "Promoting Help-Seeking Among College Students: Strategies for Suicide Prevention," research to practice webinar on Thursday, May 22 from 3-4 p.m. The webinar will focus on one component of a comprehensive, public health approach to suicide prevention and mental health promotion on campuses: increasing student help-seeking. Presenters will share recent research findings and will describe strategies their campuses are employing to increase the likelihood that a student who needs mental health services will seek out and secure assistance. Learn more and register on the [SPRC website](#).

Implementing the National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Service Standards — May 30

In this video conference, Cora Munoz, PhD, R.N., will provide participants with an overview of the National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Service ([CLAS](#)) Standards, and will discuss how the standards should be applied in behavioral health settings. Participants will receive strategies on how to implement the framework within behavioral health agencies to promote health equity and reduce disparities. The video conference will be broadcast from 10 a.m. to noon at the Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare Northwing Conference Room. Contact [Jamoya Cox](#) for details.

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.



Training Opportunities, cont.

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.

Solace on the Solstice Statewide Motorcycle Rally to benefit GAP Network — June 21

Drug Free Action Alliance and A.D. Farrow Co. are hosting Solace on the Solstice, a motorcycle rally to raise awareness about the dangers of opiate abuse and to raise funds for the G.A.P. Network — a network of families who have lost loved ones to opiate misuse. Motorcycle riders will begin their journeys in local communities throughout the state and meet in Central Ohio for a rally at the A.D. Farrow Co. Cost to participate in the rally is \$20 per rider, \$10 per passenger (includes T-shirt and lunch). There is no cost to attend the rally portion. Click [here](#) for complete details.

OEC: Young Adult Personal Development and Leadership Academy — June 22-25

The Ohio Empowerment Coalition is soliciting applications for a Young Adult Personal Development and Leadership Academy scheduled June 22-25, 2014. The event will address the range of behavioral health needs experienced by some transitioning young adults. It will equip young adults with the knowledge and understanding of the importance of personal responsibility and self-care. The curriculum aligns with the Ohio Peer Supporter Training Curriculum, better preparing young adults who choose to become peer support specialists. OEC will host the event at its office: 6797 N. High St., Suite 238, Columbus, OH 43085. For more information, contact [Mona Duffy-Arrington](#).

Youth to Youth International Summer Training Conference — June 23-26

Youth to Youth International will host its annual Summer Training Conference June 23-26 at Capital University in Columbus. For more information and to register online, visit www.youthto youth.net or contact [Kevin Rigby](#).

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.

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](#).

Training Opportunities, cont.

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.

Mental Health America Annual Conference — Sept. 10-12

Mental Health America (MHA) will host its 2014 Annual Conference at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia, Sept. 10-12, 2014. This year's conference, *Parity and the Affordable Care Act: Bridging Gaps to Advance Mental Health*, will examine progress in implanting these two important pieces of legislation, assess gaps and challenges related to behavioral health, and identify the programs and policies needed fill them.

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 5 — [*Employment Approaches for Housing Providers \(Cleveland\)*](#)

June 12 — [*Employment Approaches for Housing providers \(Columbus\)*](#)

June 19 — [*Employment Approaches for Housing Providers \(Dayton\)*](#)

June 23 — [*Foundations of Integrated Mental health and Substance Abuse Assessment*](#)

June 25 — [*Managing Chronic Pain in Patients with Opioid Use Disorders \(Video Conference\)*](#)

June 26 — [*A Breath of Fresh Air: Promoting Health-Behavior Change Among People with SPMI*](#)



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