

\$4.63M Channeled to Ohio Communities to Bolster Prevention, Problem Gambling Efforts

Ohio's prevention and problem gambling services systems were beneficiaries of significant state investments in recent weeks.

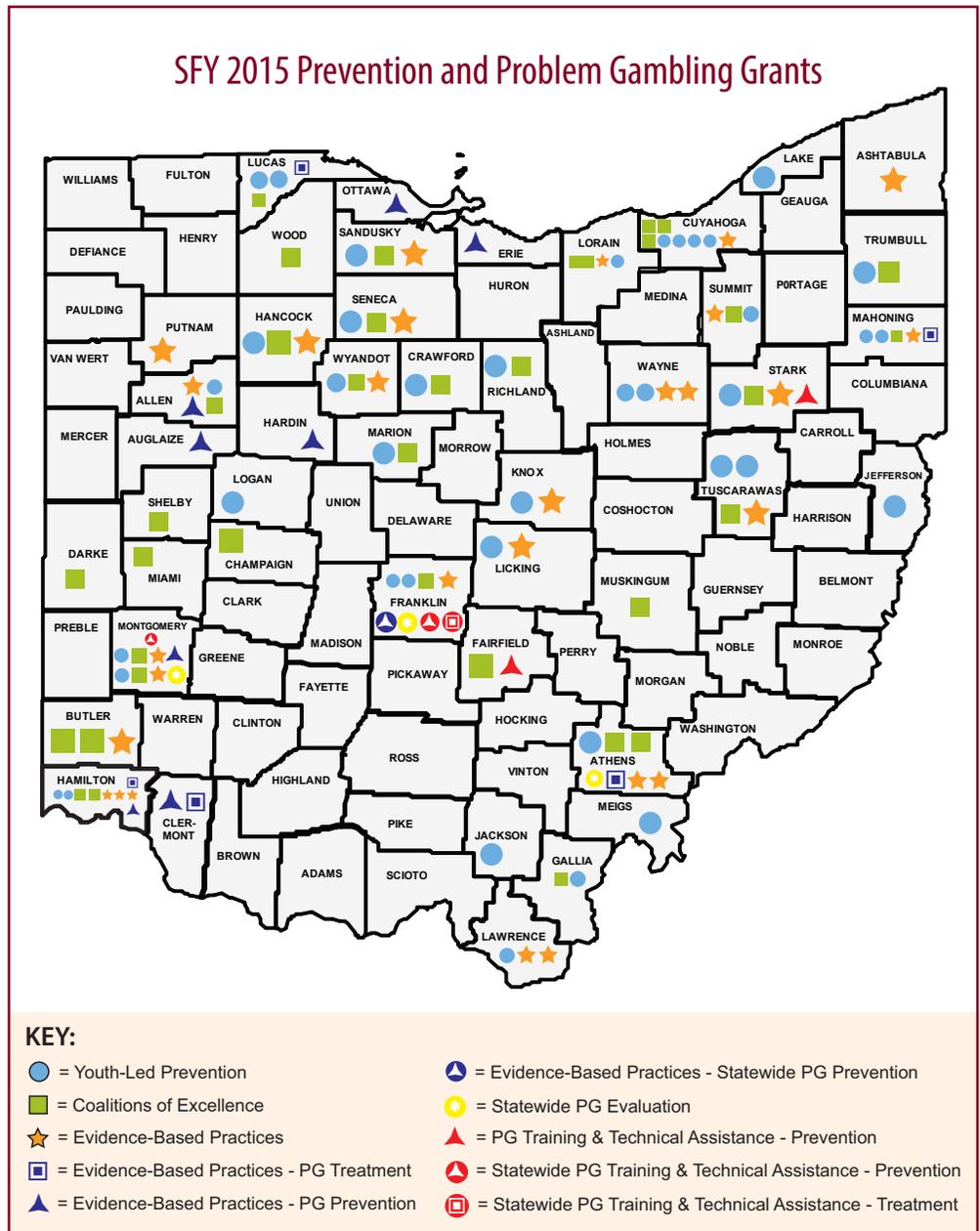
Through two separate funding announcements, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) awarded a total of \$4.63 million to local communities to assist with prevention, treatment, research, evaluation, training and technical-assistance activities.

In late September — as part of the Kasich Administration's ongoing commitment to fighting substance abuse and addiction — OhioMHAS **announced \$3.4 million** in grants to help strengthen community prevention services. Utilizing funds set aside in the 2014 Mid-Biennium Review (**House Bill 483**), the grants benefit a total of 37 counties, plus several statewide organizations, in three major investment categories: expansion of youth-led programming, promotion of evidence-based practices and reinforcement of local anti-drug coalitions.

"Prevention efforts are essential in order to stem the tide of substance use and addiction in the state of Ohio, said OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck. "This infusion of funds into the prevention system represents the largest state-level investment in many years. Coupled with the launch of the Start Talking! youth drug prevention initiative earlier this year, we are sending a clear message that Ohio is serious about giving young people and families the tools they need to make healthy decisions."

The Department followed this action in early October with the announcement of a series of grants to strengthen community-based problem gambling prevention and treatment services.

Along with its partners in **Ohio for Responsible Gambling**, OhioMHAS **announced 13 grant-funded projects** designed to ensure that effective, science-based strategies are in place to prevent problem gambling and

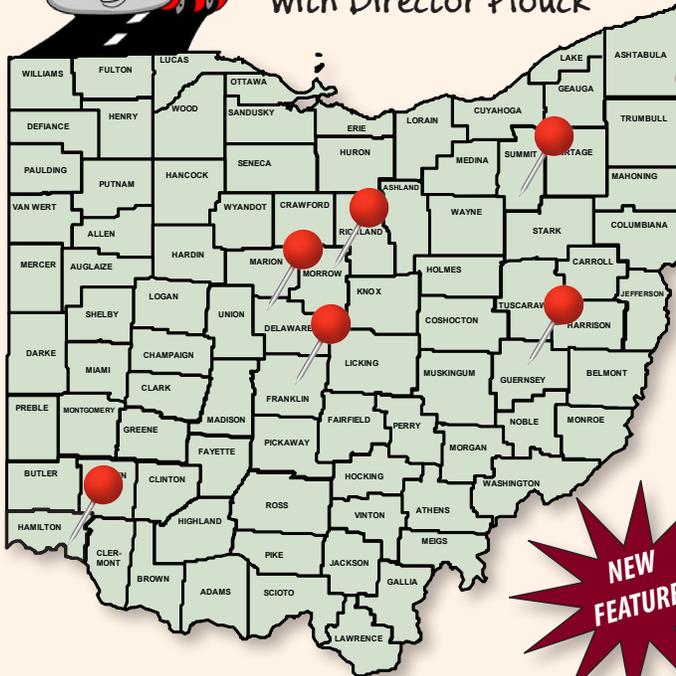


to help Ohioans struggling with gambling disorder. Totalling \$1.23 million, the grants will support the creation and implementation of evidence-based practice models for prevention and treatment of gambling disorder and will incentivize

service systems that prioritize data collection toward demonstrating effective outcomes. Grantees represent Ohio's provider agencies, county Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health boards and universities targeting problem gambling.



On the Road with Director Plouck



It's been a busy start to the fall season for OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck as she visited a number of community providers and provided policy updates to key stakeholder groups. Each month, we'll highlight some of the Director's visits and public engagements in this column.

Below is a summary of her recent travels:

- 9/23 Participated in **Ohio MEDTAPP Summit**
- 9/24 Provided remarks at 2014 OhioMHAS **AoD Recovery Housing Conference** (Guernsey)
- 9/25 Attended 40th anniversary luncheon for Akron's **Community Health Center** (Summit)
- 9/29 Attended strategy session for the **Strong Families, Safe Communities** grant awardees to identify successes and barriers from the first year of funding. (Delaware)
- 9/30 Attended Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc., Annual Meeting
- 10/3 Provided updates on key policy initiatives at the **Ohio Council** of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers' annual member conference. Accepted Mary E. Pterus "Excellence in Public Policy" award on behalf of the Governor. (Franklin)
- 10/9 Keynote speaker - Niagara Foundation Luncheon Forum Series
- 10/14 Visited staff at **Summit Behavioral Healthcare Hospital** (Hamilton)
- 10/17 Toured **OSU STAR House**, a drop-in facility for transition-aged youth who are homeless (Franklin)



Lighthouse Haven Housing Project to Serve Jefferson County Homeless

Jefferson County leaders gathered with staff from Jefferson Behavioral Health System on Oct. 6 to celebrate the groundbreaking of Lighthouse Haven, a \$1.8 million housing development that will assist homeless individuals and their families and help them get back on their feet.

The 10,000-plus square foot building, which will be located in downtown Steubenville, will feature 10 apartments. Residents will have access to a range of supportive services and community resources. The OhioMHAS Office of Capital and Support Services contributed \$500,000 to the project. Other partners include the Ohio Housing Finance Authority and the Federal Home Loan Bank. Construction should be completed by next fall.



OhioMHAS Launches Art in Recovery Series

In support of recovery, OhioMHAS is featuring artwork created by patients in Ohio's regional psychiatric hospitals at our central offices located on the 36th Floor of the Rhodes State Office Tower. The first phase of the project, launched during Mental Illness Awareness Week (Oct. 5-11), features artwork created by patients at Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare in Athens. Artwork from the five other OhioMHAS-administered regional psychiatric hospitals, as well as the OASIS Therapeutic Community at Pickaway Correctional Institution, will also be featured in the coming months.

New Website Provides Employment Assistance to Ohioans with Disabilities

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and Ohioans with disabilities now have a free way to search for jobs and access information about a variety of work-related resources. Working in tandem with OhioMeansJobs.com, OhioMeansAccessibility.com will help job seekers with disabilities post resumes, search for jobs and more.



"The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is committed to expanding employment opportunities for all Ohioans," said

ODJFS Director Cynthia C. Dungey.

"Whether you are looking to start a business, grow your business, begin a new career or take advantage of a job-training course, OhioMeansAccessibility.com can help."

After posting a resume at OhioMeansJobs.com, job seekers with disabilities can indicate whether they would like to be referred to employers specifically looking to hire individuals with disabilities. The website also offers information about starting a business, building financial assets, work incentive programs, transitioning from school to work, health care and more. For employers, the site offers information about hiring incentives, workplace accommodations, employment law, and engaging a qualified and diverse workforce.

OhioMeansJobs.com was recently expanded to include career exploration services for students, job-search and job-training information for adults, and a Business Support Center for employers looking to hire. Ohioans can post their resumes, search tens of thousands of job openings, learn about training programs and live-chat with career counselors, among many other things. The website is free for both job seekers and employers.

Tri-County Board Emphasizes Wellness in Partnership with Local Parks Systems

A small but hardy band of nature lovers recently braved the elements for the first "Wellness Walk" at Shawnee Prairie Preserve just outside the Darke County seat of Greenville. A joint effort of the Miami County Parks District, Darke County Parks, Recovery and Wellness Centers of Midwest Ohio, and the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services of Miami, Darke and Shelby Counties, the walks are designed to promote the physical and mental wellness properties found in natural spaces.

The inaugural walk at Shawnee Prairie was dampened with rainy, blustery conditions, but those who persevered enjoyed a brisk, naturalist-led journey through woodlands and prairie, as well as visiting the site's working blacksmith shop and raptor enclosure.

Brad Reed, director of Community Resource Development at the Tri-County Board said local partners chose to focus on wellness in an effort to help stamp out stigma. "We are trying to get people to think of mental health in a positive sense, rather than solely as recovery from illness," Reed explained.

The Board has additional outings in Miami and Darke counties throughout October at Hobart Urban Nature Preserve in Troy (Oct. 12), Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary in Piqua (Oct. 19) and a second excursion at Shawnee Prairie Preserve (10/22). There is no fee for the walks, and no registration is necessary.



Hikers participate in the inaugural Wellness Walk hosted by Tri-County Recovery and Mental Health Services Board and its partners.

Ohio Entities Tapped to Receive \$2.7M in Federal Grants to Train New Providers, Improve Mental Health Services for Young People

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) *recently announced* \$99 million in grant awards to train new mental health providers, help teachers and others recognize mental health issues in youth and connect them to help, and increase access to mental health services for young people. These funds were included in the federal *Now Is the Time plan* to reduce gun violence by keeping guns out of dangerous hands, increasing access to mental health services and making schools safer.

Several Ohio organizations are among the grant recipients, receiving more than \$2.7 million in federal grants:

Project AWARE - State Educational Agency Grant:

- Ohio Department of Education (\$1,924,316)



Project AWARE - Local Educational Agency Grant:

- Fulton County Board of Education (\$99,982)

Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training:

- Ohio University (\$163,246)
- University of Cincinnati (\$139,338)
- Case Western Reserve University (\$76,848)

Educate and Train Paraprofessionals:

- Northern Ohio Recovery Association (\$299,999)



Hope-Filled Awareness Campaign Champions Benefits of Recovery

The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) has launched *Recovery is Beautiful* — a movement that focuses on all of the positive aspects of recovery.

The campaign drives home the fact that Recovery is about much more than addressing physical issues. True recovery is physical, emotional and spiritual — it's about waking up every morning and making conscious, healthy and productive decisions.

RecoveryisBeautiful.org, a website designed to celebrate recovery by having individuals in recovery share their reflections and recovery stories, is also a place for individuals, families and communities to show their support. The site will be continuously updated with recovery stories, blogs and photos.

"We are striving to change the conversation about mental illness and addiction," said OACBHA CEO Cheri L. Walter. "We are shining the light on the beauty of recovery for individuals, families and entire communities. As an individual in recovery, I can tell you recovery truly is a beautiful thing."

Dr. Kent Youngman, CEO of the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Clark, Greene, and Madison Counties and OACBHA president, shares Walters' vision. "We want people to understand that mental illness and addiction are chronic diseases and when individuals have access to the necessary treatment

and recovery supports, recovery is not only possible it is *probable*," he said. As an outgrowth of the new campaign, Ohio's Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Boards have developed a blueprint that creates a framework to move Ohio's communities towards becoming *Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care* (ROSC). This new five-year plan, *Recovery is Beautiful: A Blueprint for Ohio's Community Mental Health and Addiction System*, will promote good health through prevention and wellness programs, as well as provide crisis intervention, treatment and recovery supports to individuals with mental health or substance abuse problems.

"Recovery is about the evolution of an individual from a state of disease to a state of wellness," said Walter. "True recovery is about a person's total well-being; physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. We know for a fact that *Treatment Works and People Recover*. Moving towards a Recovery-Oriented System of Care recognizes that health care is changing, and while treatment for crisis situations and acute symptoms is necessary, for a person to sustain long-term recovery, we must also offer an array of recovery supports that help individuals integrate into their local communities."

This transition is driven by the body of research demonstrating that the ROSC framework improves outcomes by ensur-

ing that individuals, families and communities have timely access to prevention and treatment services, as well as access to long-term recovery supports that increase their likelihood of achieving and sustaining recovery.

Working with local partners, Ohio's Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Boards will serve as the Recovery-Oriented System of Care hub to develop local plans and establish the necessary goals and action steps to meet the unique needs of their local communities.

"We are shining the light on the beauty of recovery for individuals, families and entire communities."

— Cheri L. Walter
OACBHA CEO

Lorain County Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board Executive Director Elaine Georgas stated, "Partnerships are essential and the inclusion of voices and experiences of recovering individuals and their families cannot be underestimated if we are to succeed." Recovery is Beautiful is all about getting back to the core of why these systems exist — helping Ohioans with a mental illness and/or addiction, and helping Ohio's communities become and stay healthy and safe.

//// Hospital Headlines



TVBH Patients, Staff Celebrate 'Recovery Month' with Day of Learning, Activities

In observance of National Recovery Month, patients and staff at Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare (TVBH) in Columbus hosted "Celebrating Recovering: A Sharing of Possibilities" on Sept. 30. The celebration kicked off with patient performances from the Kosar Choir and CLEAR Unit Band. The band played a medley of songs, including Bachman Turner Overdrive's classic hit "Taking

Care of Business," which led to a discussion on the role of employment in the recovery process. Throughout the afternoon, patients participated in a variety of interactive quizzes and contests that tested their knowledge on recovery topics, including: substance abuse, employment and meaningful activity. Many patients shared personal recovery stories.

Although an event agenda was pre-planned, once the sharing began, patient enthusiasm created a spontaneous program of peer sharing, which is the basis for the recovery model. Approximately 100 patients and 50 staff attended the event. NAMI of Franklin County co-sponsored the celebration, providing refreshments and NAMIWalk T-shirts for patient participants.

ABH Embraces Trauma-Informed Care

Statistics show that up to 90 percent of public mental health clients have been exposed to trauma. Hospital leaders say that is why Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare (ABH) in Athens is focused on providing Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) to the patients they serve. The model assesses a service-delivery system and makes modifications based on the basic understanding of how trauma affects the life of an individual seeking services.

As a first step, ABH employees were trained in Trauma-Informed Care. Staff members were subsequently surveyed to solicit feedback on ways in which they felt ABH could become a more trauma-informed organization. An internal TIC Committee was formed to advance trauma-informed practices at the hospital. So far, the committee's work has resulted in several positive developments, including: improvements in the content of patient comfort boxes, the use of weighted blankets and the provision of rocking chairs on each unit. Meanwhile, to help employees stay abreast of ongoing changes, ABH developed a quarterly, internal Trauma-Informed Care newsletter.



SFY '15 Problem Gambling Strategic Plan Released

OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck presented the *SFY 2014 Annual Report and SFY 2015 Plan for Problem Gambling Services* to the Ohio Casino Control Commission.



The Annual Report/Plan looks at the past year's efforts and statistics, and previews the highlights to come for prevention, treatment and research tied to problem gambling.

Along with Dir. Plouck, the Commission heard from Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley of the ADAMHS Board of Montgomery County on that county's active Problem Gambling Coalition, juvenile offender prevention programming and community-based focus on growing awareness and capacity for treatment of gambling disorder. Read the [*SFY 2014 Annual Report and SFY 2015 Plan for Problem Gambling Services*](#) and view the [presentation slides](#).

Conference Focuses on Ohio's AoD Housing Efforts

A passionate presentation from [White House Office of National Drug Control Policy](#) Deputy Director David Mineta opened Ohio's statewide "Alcohol and other Drug Recovery Housing Conference" Sept. 24-25 at Salt Fork State Park. More than 160 recovery housing providers,

ADAMH and ADAS Board representatives, and peers in recovery attended the training. OhioMHAS hosted the conference in collaboration with Access to Recovery, the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers, and the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio. Attendees discussed elements of the Social Model of Recovery presented by the [National Alliance of Recovery Residences](#)

President Jason Howell. Other topics included training on the characteristics of NARR Recovery Residence Levels I-IV, Ohio recovery housing quality standards, legislative initiatives for recovery housing, and research and data on the effectiveness of recovery housing.

Pictured above: ONDCP Deputy Director David Mineta (center) presented OhioMHAS and Ohio Council staff with a Recovery Month Proclamation in recognition of Ohio's recovery housing accomplishments. From left: Hugh Wirtz, Ohio Council CEO; Alisia Clark, OhioMHAS recovery housing administrator; Mineta; Jody Lynch, OhioMHAS deputy director of Treatment and Recovery; Lori Criss, Ohio Council associate director; and Roma Barickman, OhioMHAS lead on housing policy.



Ohio Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant Project Update



On Oct. 3 the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) Advisory Committee, SPF SIG Evidence-Based Practice Workgroup and 13 SPF SIG communities from throughout the state participated in a final meeting at the Ohio Governor's Residence to discuss current implementation plans and sustainability efforts. SPF SIG grantees highlighted their project successes with a poster session and gallery walk. Through the use of an evidence-based, systems-change model, Ohio's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) Initiative has successfully enhanced the capacity of the state and counties to build a sustainable, culturally and linguistically competent infrastructure that focused on delaying the onset of alcohol use, reducing underage drinking, alcohol-related problems, illicit drugs and the misuse of prescription medications among 19-25 year olds. Although the SPF SIG project officially comes to a conclusion at the end of this year, many of tools and trainings will continue to be available at www.mha.ohio.gov/spf.

\$1.2M Grant Aims to Reduce Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Help Homeless Find Housing

The Northern Ohio Recovery Association (NORA) is reaching out to serve Cleveland-area homeless women through a \$1.2 million dollar grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The purpose of the three-year grant is to help women secure permanent housing and facilitate recovery.



Led by Anita Bradley, the non-profit substance abuse and alcohol recovery agency is implementing the Collaboration PUSH initiative. The

project is guided by a 10 member community stakeholder advisory group and will serve 120 adult women, including 50 who are U.S. military veterans.

Outcome objectives include: reducing alcohol/drug use; reducing mental health distress symptoms; increasing permanent housing and securing legal income sufficient to maintain housing and basic needs. Children will be allowed to stay with their mother in NORA housing.

Substance use problems among homeless populations vary from 30-50 percent. Psychiatric disorders, meanwhile, are estimated to affect about one-third of the homeless population.



Buckeye Square Grand Opening

On Sept. 17, *Housing First*, a coalition of more than 40 private and public organizations, celebrated the grand opening of Buckeye Square, an \$11 million, four-story apartment complex with 65 furnished and subsidized studios for persons in Cleveland who are chronically homeless. Support for residents includes on-site social services, common laundry facilities, a computer lab and a 24-hour staffed front desk. OhioMHAS contributed \$500,000 to the project.

News & Research Roundup

New Behavioral Health Publications from SAMHSA

The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has released several new behavioral health resources, including:

Gambling Problems: An Introduction for Behavioral Health Services Providers provides an introduction to pathological gambling, gambling disorder and problem gambling, and their link with substance use disorders. The publication also describes tools available for screening and diagnosis, as well as strategies for treating people with gambling problems.

TIP 59: Improving Cultural Competence assists professional care providers and administrators in understanding the role of culture in the delivery of substance abuse and mental health services. This resource discusses racial, ethnic and cultural considerations and the core elements of cultural competence.

Understanding Compassion Fatigue explains the causes and signs of compassion fatigue, the burnout and secondary trauma a disaster-response worker can experience. The guide offers self-care tips for coping with compassion fatigue and discusses compassion satisfaction as a protective tool.

Adult Drug Courts and Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence highlights the use of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid dependence in drug courts. The publication reviews effective medications, including methadone, buprenorphine and naltrexone, and provides strategies to increase the use of MAT in drug court programs.

Leading Change 2.0: Advancing the Behavioral Health of the Nation 2015-2018 introduces six Strategic Initiatives that will guide SAMHSA through 2018 to increase awareness and understanding of mental illness and substance use disorders, promote wellness, increase access to effective treatment and support recovery.

SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach introduces a concept of trauma and offers a framework for how an organization, system or service sector can become trauma-informed. Includes a definition of trauma (the three "E's"), a definition of a trauma-informed approach (the four "R's"), six key principles and 10 implementation domains.

TAP 34: Disaster Planning Handbook for Behavioral Health Treatment Programs provides guidance and current best practices in disaster planning. Recommendations are included for protecting people's health, including their behavioral health. Other chapters of TAP 34 address overall disaster planning; mitigation and other preparation steps; management of prescription medications; and completing, testing, activating and deactivating the disaster plan. It includes guidance on coordinating for preparedness and response with the state behavioral health agency and with other government entities, community organizations and treatment programs within the state.



News & Research Roundup, cont.

Teens with Traumatic Brain Injury More Likely to Drink, Use Marijuana

Teenagers who experience a traumatic brain injury (TBI) are at increased risk of using marijuana, drinking alcohol and smoking, a [new study](#) finds. They are also at risk of getting poor grades. Study authors defined a TBI as a blow to the head that resulted in the teen being knocked out for at least five minutes, or spending at least one night in the hospital due to symptoms associated with the injury. Researchers used data from a survey of more than 9,000 students in grades seven through 12. They found girls with a TBI were three times more likely to smoke than girls without a brain injury. Girls with a TBI were also more likely to endure bullying, think about suicide or suffer from anxiety or depression after their injury, risks that were not associated with boys who experienced a TBI. Some of the risks increased with age. Boys with a TBI were twice as likely to smoke daily in their late teens. The number of girls with a TBI who drank increased 20 percent as they left their middle teens, and reached 89 percent between ages 17 and 20. The findings appear in the journal [PLOS ONE](#).



CDC Report: Heroin Overdose Deaths Up Sharply

Heroin deaths jumped sharply in many states, according to a [report of death certificate data](#) from 28 states published by the CDC. Despite these findings, still more than twice as many people died from prescription opioid overdoses in these states in 2012. The CDC says the increase appears to be driven by increased heroin supply and widespread prescription opioid exposure and increasing rates of addiction. Research has found that approximately three out of four new heroin users report having abused prescription opioids before using heroin. Meanwhile, SAMHSA has released an [Opioid Overdose Toolkit](#) to assist communities in responding to the surge in overdose deaths.

Substance Abuse a Growing Problem Among the Elderly

A growing number of older adults are struggling with drug and alcohol abuse, according to a [recent article](#) in *The New York Times*. Alcohol abuse is the biggest problem among older adults, but the rate of illicit drug use among adults ages 50 to 64 is also on the rise. Many older adults who drink are retired, the article notes. They may have lost a spouse, as well as their career, and feel they have no purpose. They may be lonely and depressed. It can be difficult for doctors to differentiate between signs of chemical dependence, such as memory loss and disorientation, and normal signs of aging. Doctors often are not trained to discuss substance abuse with their older patients or they don't have the time to conduct a thorough screening. A [report issued by the Institute of Medicine in 2012](#) concluded substance abuse is a growing problem among older Americans, and the nation's health care system is not prepared to adequately address the need. Up to one-fifth of Americans older than age 65 have substance abuse or mental health conditions, the report stated.

Cincinnati Children's Among Hospitals Testing Suicide Risk Screening Tool for Teenagers

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among teens aged 12-17, accounting for about 1,000 deaths in 2011. A [2013 survey](#) indicated that as many as 2.7 percent of high school students nationwide made a suicide attempt resulting in injury or overdose requiring medical attention in the past year. The same survey also found that 8 percent of students reported having made at least one suicide attempt in the past year and 13.6 percent reported having a plan for how they would kill themselves. To improve evidence-based emergency department (ED) practices for detecting and referring at-risk youth, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is funding the [Emergency Department Screen for Teens at Risk for Suicide](#) (ED-STARS) project, a recently-launched study in a network of 14 EDs throughout the country — including Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. The goal of the project is to develop and test a personalized, computer-based suicide risk screening tool for teens.



In the project's first study, more than 6,000 youth will be screened, and researchers will follow up on a subsample of 12-17 year-olds who score high on suicide risk factors, as well as those who score low. Their experiences during a six-month period will be used to develop a computerized adaptive screen (CAS) for predicting suicide attempts that adjusts its line of questioning depending on responses to previous questions. The researchers will then compare the sensitivity, specificity and predictive value of the CAS with the [Ask Suicide-Screening Questions](#) (ASQ). A second study will validate the CAS and associated risk stratification algorithm, determining the measure's ability to predict suicide attempts in a new sample of more than 2,000 youth. The potential benefit of including a behavioral test of suicidal thoughts — the Implicit Association Test (IAT) — as part of the screening process also will be evaluated.



News & Research Roundup, cont.

Planning and Implementing SBIRT for Risky Alcohol Use: A Step-by-Step Guide for Primary Care

The CDC National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities has developed a step-by-step Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) [guide](#) for use by primary care physicians. SBI entails health professionals asking patients a few short questions to identify drinking patterns, followed by a brief conversation about these patterns and referral to treatment if needed. This guide is an important tool to help primary care practices implement SBI to reduce the burden of health problems associated with excessive alcohol use.

National Survey: People Have More Negative Opinions About Drug Addiction Than Mental Illness

A national survey finds Americans are significantly more likely to have a negative attitude about drug addiction than mental illness. "While drug addiction and mental illness are both chronic, treatable health conditions, the American public is more likely to think of addiction as a moral failing than a medical condition," said study leader Colleen L. Barry, Ph.D. of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. "In recent years, it has become more socially acceptable to talk publicly about one's struggles with mental illness. But with addiction, the feeling is that the addict is a bad or weak person, especially because much drug use is illegal." The survey included a nationally representative sample of 709 participants who were asked about their attitudes toward either mental illness or drug addiction. The findings are published in the journal [Psychiatric Services](#).

Training Opportunities

FASD Basics Webinar — Oct. 29

The Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (MOFAS) will present *FASD Basics*, a webinar designed to provide an introduction to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders for primary and behavioral health care providers, social workers, educators and other professionals who work with individuals with an FASD and their families on Oct. 29 from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. EST. Cost is \$25. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Changing the Cycle of Child Abuse and Family Violence — Oct. 29

The Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, Franklin County Family and Children First, Nationwide Children's Hospital and Action for Children will partner to host [Building Better Lives: Changing the Cycle of Child Abuse and Family Violence](#) on Oct. 29 in Columbus. Presenter Dr. Kristie Brandt will discuss her "Tile and Grout" approach to planning interventions for adolescents. [Register](#) online.

Creative Minds in Medicine Conference — Oct. 29-30

Greater Cleveland's world-renowned arts, culture and health care assets have long been a source of great pride delivering excellence, innovation and service to our communities. And now, more than ever before, those assets are joining forces, using creativity to deliver positive personal and community health outcomes to the region and beyond. Join the [Community Partnership for Arts and Culture](#) (CPAC) at the [Global Center for Health Innovation](#) in Cleveland on Oct. 29-30 for the [Creative Minds in Medicine Conference](#). CPAC will be offering 12 continuing education credits (six credits per day) to psychologists and counselors.

2014 Children's Conference: Treating the Traumatized Child — Nov. 3

Mental Health America of Franklin County will host its 2014 Children's Conference: [Treating the Traumatized Child - Combined-Parent-Child \(CPC\)-CBT: Engaging Families to Heal Together](#) Nov. 3 at the Ohio Department of Transportation Auditorium, 1980 W. Broad St., Columbus. Cost, which includes seven CEUs/RCHs for social workers, counselors, psychologists, RN/LPNs, is \$119. Please contact Tonya Fulwider, program director, with questions at 614.221.1441, ext. 109.

12th Annual Partnering for Progress Conference — Nov. 6

The Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities will present the 12th Annual Partnering for Progress Conference featuring keynote presenter Jo Mascorro, Nov. 6 at the Crowne Plaza-Columbus North hotel. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

8th Annual Recovery and Wellness Fair — Nov. 7

Summit Behavioral Healthcare, one of six OhioMHAS-operated regional psychiatric hospitals, will host its [8th Annual Recovery and Wellness Fair](#) on Nov. 7 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 1101 Summit Road in Cincinnati. OhioMHAS Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst will be among the featured speakers.



Training Opportunities, cont.

Ashland County Heroin Summit — Nov. 14

The Ashland County Mental Health and Recovery Board will host a Heroin Summit Nov. 14 at the John C. Myers Convocation center on the Ashland University campus. Speakers will include experts from the fields of addiction treatment, education and prevention, law enforcement, prosecution and public policy. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

11th Annual Ohio Specialized Dockets Conference — Nov. 20

OhioMHAS is partnering with the Supreme Court of Ohio Specialized Dockets section to host the [11th Annual Ohio Specialized Dockets Conference](#) on Nov. 20 at The Ohio State University Fawcett Center. This seminar will offer national speakers and several breakout sessions on a wide range of topics pertinent to specialized docket programs. This event attracts more than 400 attendees from throughout the state each year, providing participants with open communication and enabling them to establish relationships with professionals in other counties. Deadline to register is Nov. 7. For more information, contact Specialized Dockets staff at 614.387.9430.

2014 Ohio Infant Mortality Summit — Dec. 3-4

The Ohio Collaborative to Prevent Infant Mortality will host the 2014 Infant Mortality Summit “Turning up the Volume on Infant Mortality” Dec. 3-4 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Click [HERE](#) for registration information.

Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network Adult Leader Summit — Dec. 5

Register today to attend the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network Adult Leader Summit “Creating Opportunities for Youth to Lead: The Critical Role of Adult Allies” on Dec. 5 at the Quest Conference Center in Columbus. The Summit is for all adult leaders, novices and experts alike, who are dedicated to advancing youth-led programming that promotes the health and well-being of Ohio’s young people, including youth with lived experiences. For more information, contact Trena Twyman 740.597.1460 or twyman@ohio.edu.

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:

Oct. 30 — [Pills to Dope, a Slippery Slope: What You Need to Know About Our Heroin Epidemic](#)

Nov. 8 — [The Role of the Prescriber in Prescription Drug Abuse](#)

Nov. 19-20 — [IDDT Intensive Training Module 3](#)

March 27-28, 2015 — [12th All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry](#)

Marijuana Advocacy and Policy Summit — April 1-2, 2015

Drug Free Action Alliance will host the 2015 Marijuana Advocacy and Policy Summit April 1-2 in Columbus. The conference, which drew attendees from 27 states this past year, will provide an opportunity to learn from other states and communities about their efforts to combat further legalization and explores progress in advancing sound policies related to marijuana at the local, regional and national levels. For more information, contact Derek Longmeier at 614.540.9985 ext. 16 or DLongmeier@DrugFreeActionAlliance.org.

Save the Date! NAMI Ohio State Conference — April 14-15, 2015

NAMI Ohio will host its 2015 State Conference April 14-15 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus. The conference will feature a special tribute to mental health advocate Dorothea Dix.

Save the Date! Second Annual Ohio Suicide Prevention Conference — May 1, 2015

OhioMHAS will partner with OSU Harding Behavioral Health’s Stress, Trauma and Resilience (STAR) program to host “From Surviving to Thriving: Building Resilience and Preventing Suicide in Ohio” on May 1 at the Ohio Union Performance Hall on the campus of The Ohio State University. The conference will feature internationally recognized suicidologist David S. Jobes, Ph.D., ABPP, professor and associate director of Clinical Training at Catholic University of America. For more information, click [HERE](#) or contact Caitlin Willet at Caitlyn.Willet@osumc.edu or 614.688.7976.