OhioMHAS Announces $1.5 M in SFY 2015 Community Innovations Funding

RAVENNA – Utilizing administrative savings achieved from last summer’s consolidation of state-funded agencies for mental health and addiction services under a single umbrella, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) today announced the second round of funding for its Community Innovations initiative.

The Department outlined plans to invest $1.5 million in SFY 2015 toward 17 projects, serving 31 counties, which help link non-violent offenders with community-based behavioral healthcare services during today’s kickoff event at Coleman Professional Services in Ravenna. All told, the state has invested $3 million over the biennium with projects serving 53 of Ohio’s 88 counties.

“County jails are not the proper treatment facilities for individuals who have behavioral health issues,” said OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck. “Providing linkages upon release from jail to community-based treatment and improves the likelihood of successful reentry and contributes to the welfare and safety of the communities at large.”

The Community Innovations initiative encourages communities to forge collaborative relationships between the behavioral health and criminal justice systems so that individuals with mental illness and/or alcohol and other drug addiction receive the care they need. This, in turn, helps to reduce recidivism, increase public safety and minimize harm to those who come in contact with law enforcement.

“This grant comes at a critical time for Portage County,” said Joel Mowrey, Ph.D., executive director of the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County, one of the counties which received funding. “We appreciate that the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services gave us flexibility to address some of the needs we have, particularly an increase in jail overcrowding and an increase in drug overdose deaths. We know that a high percentage of our jail population has experienced serious trauma leading to their addiction or mental illness. With this grant, we are building a team of professionals trained in trauma-informed care principles to support their recovery.”

In Portage County, the grant funds trauma-informed care training, a mental health case manager, and an addiction counselor to help inmates with identified mental illness and addictions make the difficult transition from jail back to the community. The issues facing the community concerning -more-
addiction are adding pressure in many areas, especially the county jail. Local officials see the grant as another way to reduce overdose deaths; the 24 deaths reported so far in 2014 have exceeded last year’s total of 22.

Trauma-informed care brings an awareness incorporated into the training of mental health and addiction treatment professionals and agency support staff that an individual’s past traumatic experiences may have impacted them and resulted in issues of substance abuse and mental illness. The trauma may include physical or sexual abuse; witnessing family violence; homelessness; illness; separation from family; or being involved in a horrific incident.

The Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County is partnering with the Portage County Sheriff’s Office, Coleman Professional Services, Townhall II and Summa’s Center for Traumatic Stress for the local grant.

By diverting appropriate individuals from county jails and prisons to treatment and preventing recidivism, communities could see a significant reduction in spending, Plouck said. In Ohio, the average cost of addiction treatment in the community is $1,600 (without medication-assisted treatment), and the average cost of mental health treatment including two medications is $7,500 per year; whereas, it costs $25,269 a year to incarcerate an adult in prison. On a daily basis, the cost of incarcerating an offender in prison is $69.23; a day in jail is about $75, while the cost of parole for one day is only $11.54.

According to the National Institute of Corrections, 17 percent of the jail population in the United States has a serious mental illness and 68 percent has a substance use disorder. An estimated 72 percent of the jail population has a co-occurring substance use disorder when serious mental illness is diagnosed.

See the attached documents for a map of all project locations and descriptions.

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**SFY 2015 Community Innovations Project Overviews**

**Athens Hocking Vinton**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. TASC of Southeast Ohio
2. Hopewell Health Centers
3. Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board Serving Athens, Hocking and Vinton Counties (317 Board)

**Project Summary:**
The Athens, Hocking and Vinton Counties (AHV) Linkages Project will target approximately 50 individuals with mental health and/or addictions issues who are involved in the criminal justice system. The AHV Linkages Project will ensure that individuals returning to their communities receive a holistic approach of treatment and case management services through TASC of Southeast Ohio and mental health treatment services through Hopewell Health Centers, to better ensure recovery and reduce recidivism.

**Project Outcomes:**
- 90% of participants will obtain health care coverage, including Medicaid.
- 70% of participants shall remain abstinent from un-prescribed mind and mood altering substances for a period of four months prior to discharge.
- 70% of participants will incur no new criminal charges while in the program.
- 75% of participants will remain stable on their medications four months prior to discharge.
- 70% of participants will have a stable living environment at discharge.
- Reduce jail transfer hospital admissions to Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare.

**Gallia-Jackson-Meigs**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Gallia-Jackson-Meigs Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services
2. Gallipolis Municipal Court
3. Family Addiction Community Treatment Services, Inc.
4. Spectrum Outreach Services, Inc.
5. TASC of Southeast Ohio
6. Woodland Centers, Inc.
7. Health Recovery Services, Inc.

**Project Summary:**
This project will enhance and improve the drug/mental health court-to-treatment process resulting in reduced recidivism through the use of best practices. The collaborative agencies will provide staff to attend drug/mental health court on a weekly basis, and provide treatment to court ordered individuals.

**Proposed Outcomes:**
- 60% of participants will not reoffend within the next year.
- 60% of participants will reduce their high risk behavior.
- 80% of participants will demonstrate successful completion of the program.
- All collaborative staff will be trained in Moral Reconation Therapy.
**Trumbull**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Coleman Professional Services
2. Compass Family and Community Services
3. Homes for Kids/Child and Family Solutions
4. Trumbull County Adult Justice Center
5. Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board
6. Valley Counseling Services
7. Warren Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Abuse Outreach Prevention

**Project Summary:**
This project will further expand and enhance the capacity to provide psychiatric care during and following incarceration in the Trumbull County Adult Justice Center by creating a telemedicine connection between the jail and Coleman Access Center. In addition, this project will cover the costs of medication for inmates and use post release best practices to provide community linkage.

**Project Outcomes:**
- Fewer individuals with SPMI will be transferred to state psychiatric hospitals.
- Inmates with SPMI will be connected with community services prior to release.
- Fewer individuals with SPMI will be re-arrested and re-incarcerated in the AJC.

**Cuyahoga**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board
2. Cuyahoga County Corrections Center
3. Cuyahoga TASC
4. MetroHealth

**Project summary:**
This project will use funds to hire two additional clinicians that will provide AOD and mental health assessments to individuals incarcerated in the jail. This will enable the timely identification, coordination and linkage of offenders to appropriate community care. In addition, funds will be used to provide medications to individuals being released and linked to services in the community.

**Proposed outcomes:**
- Increased number of assessments of jail inmates. This will cut the time in jail pending assessments by nearly 25%.
- The provision of medications will further expedite the ability of community providers to commence treatment.
- The CJ/BH Group will formalize its structure through developing written agreements to improve behavioral health related practices that are consistent with the goals of the project.

**Stark**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Stark County Jail
2. Canton, Massillon and Alliance Municipal Court
3. Court of Common Pleas
4. Quest Recovery and Prevention
5. Stark County TASC
6. Coleman Professional Services
7. Community Services of Stark County and Crisis Intervention and Recovery Services
8. Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Stark County

Project summary:
This project will create a Community Linkage team that would serve adults returning from prison with mental illness and transitional age youth and young adults incarcerated at the Stark County jail. The community linkage team will be responsible for outreach, tracking and monitoring these clients to ensure that they are engaged with services in the community.

Proposed outcomes:
- A decrease in participant recidivism.
- A decrease in participant homelessness.
- An increase in participant employment or educational opportunities.

Lorain
Collaborative Partners include:
1. Lorain County Board of Mental Health
2. Lorain County Board of Alcohol and Drug Addiction
3. Lorain County Juvenile Court

Project Summary:
This project will assess youth with behavioral health needs who are in the detention facility and connect them to services and/or resources to assist them in being successful in the community. In addition, this project will work with the families of the youth to develop a plan based on the youth’s strengths and needs.

Project Outcomes:
- Reduce youth recidivism (detention or DYS) by 20%.
- Youth with behavioral health needs involved in juvenile court will be diverted from higher cost alternatives and provided with appropriate treatment.

Portage
Collaborative Partners include:
1. Mental Health and Recovery Board of Portage County
2. Coleman Professional Services
3. Townhall II
4. Summa Center for Traumatic Stress

Project Summary:
This project will decrease recidivism and reduce correction costs by enhancing a system of care to assess and treat trauma, assess and treat substance use disorders and encourage social learning. It will serve 50 participants during incarceration and provide brief treatment in the community.

Project Outcomes:
- 50 participants will receive mental health services by staff trained in trauma-informed care. For individuals who require more specific trauma therapy, 80% will successfully complete treatment.
- 35 participants will receive substance abuse services; 55% will successfully complete services and will have maintained abstinence for at least 30 days prior to completion.
- 40 participants will not be re-incarcerated for 1 year post-release.
Columbiana

Collaborative Partners include:
1. Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Columbiana County
2. Family Recovery Center
3. The Counseling Center
4. East Liverpool Municipal Court
5. Columbiana County Municipal Court
6. The Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas Probation Departments
7. The Adult Parole Authority
8. Community Action Agency Rural Transportation Service

Project summary:
This project strengthens linkage between criminal justice and behavioral health services through increased communication between these systems. The project supports implementation of a cognitive behavioral, evidence-informed, manualized approach that is based on gender and criminogenic risk level. Supported Employment and housing assistance will also be available to participants.

Proposed Outcomes:
- 52% of offenders will successfully complete probation.
- 60% of persons referred for addiction treatment will successfully complete treatment.
- 40% of offenders who are unemployed will secure stable employment prior to the completion of probation.

Six County

Collaborative Partners include:
1. Muskingum Area Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
2. The Guernsey County Criminal Justice Collaborative

Project summary:
This project will develop a mechanism for a specialized court docket for individuals with mental illness and/or addiction disorders who may benefit from intensive court-monitored behavioral health treatment. Treatment professionals will provide timely assessments and counseling for inmates in the Guernsey County Jail to maintain stability, support and safety using Integrated Dual-Diagnosis Treatment. In addition the treatment professionals will provide, ongoing outpatient, clinical services once participants are released. Lastly, the jail will consult with Six County's Psychiatric nurse practitioner in regards to prescribing psychotropic medications.

Proposed outcomes:
- Improved access to mental health and alcohol and drug treatment resulting in increased stability for participants.
- Substance abuse counseling throughout duration in program. Random urinalysis testing will be used to support treatment approaches.
- Improve community linkage and access to resources (housing, medical, food, employment, etc.).
- Decrease participant recidivism.
- Improve consumer functioning (symptom management) as evidenced by clinical treatment team, case management observations and client report.
**Warren Clinton**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Talbert House
2. Clinton County Jail
3. Solutions Community Counseling and Recovery Center
4. Mental Health and Recovery Services of Warren & Clinton Counties

**Project Summary:**
This project will provide assessment and short term intervention services to individuals in jail. Participants will be assessed for behavioral health needs, receive brief treatment, and then linked to appropriate services in the community. These individuals will have a “warm handoff” upon release to community services.

**Project Outcomes:**
- 100% of jail admissions will receive a Brief Jail Screen.
- Complete assessment of 100% of those individuals presenting with behavioral health concerns based on information at booking as well as ongoing observation.
- Link those individuals who participate in behavioral health interventions in the jail to local community providers 75% of the time.
- Reduce the recidivism of those identified individuals by 15%.

**Ashland**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Mental Health and Recovery Services of Ashland County
2. Ashland County Jail
3. Community Correction Act Program
4. Ashland County Probation
5. Municipal Court

**Project Summary:**
This project will work directly with incarcerated individuals in preparation for their release and post-release to ensure their behavioral health, criminal justice and basic needs are successfully met. Services include linkage to the county Job and Family Services, mental health services, primary health services, drug/alcohol services, intensive probation, etc. Assistance while the person is incarcerated can also include more formal assessment, individual counseling and case management.

**Project Outcomes:**
- Mental Health, Drug/Alcohol, Probation/Intensive Probation, Municipal Court and Job and Family Services will be trained in the Linkage program.
- Rates of “Successful Completions” from CCA will increase from a 68% baseline in SFY 13 by 25%.
- Ohio Risk Assessment: Community Supervision Tool (ORAS-CST) scores will decrease from initial administration.
- Rates of persons released from Jail following up with Mental Health and Drug/Alcohol will increase from baseline by 25%.
Logan and Champaign

Collaborative Partners include:
1. Logan County and Champaign County Common Pleas Court
2. Bellefontaine and Champaign Municipal Court
3. Logan County Family Court
4. Logan County Sheriff’s Office
5. Champaign County Domestic Relations Court
6. Champaign County Sheriff’s Office
7. Tri-County Jail
8. Consolidated Care, Inc.
9. Wellspring
10. Local ODRC Probation & Parole Staff
11. MHDAS Board of Logan & Champaign Counties

Project Summary:
This Project will focus on the adult jail population—specifically those with a minimum sentence of 30 days. It will provide services in jail while an individual is incarcerated and follow them through reentry to the community. Integrating the person successfully back into the community will include various recovery supports such as; housing, peer supports, supported employment services, healthcare and nutrition, transportation, family reunification, child care, relapse prevention, and spiritual support.

Project Outcomes:
- Provide at least 300 screenings to those with a 30-day or more sentence, assessments to 200 individuals and ongoing services with 100 individuals in the year.
- Interventions should result in increased individuals achieving successful recovery and reduced recidivism back into the criminal justice system.

Clermont

Collaborative Partners include:
1. Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board
2. Clermont County Jail
3. Child Focus, Inc.
4. LifePoint Solutions

Project Summary:
This project will expand the existing Mobile Crisis Team by adding an additional position for mobile crisis contacts with law enforcement, as well as provide assessments and linkage at the jail and the courts. The MCT would take responsibility for identifying individuals in the jail who are exhibiting symptoms of a mental health disorder at booking, assessing the individuals, collaborating with any current service providers and the courts, and assisting with hospitalization if needed. The MCT team will also work with the courts to identify individuals that are in need of mental health treatment prior to sentencing in order to divert individuals to treatment.

Proposed outcomes:
- The baseline number of individuals identified with a mental illness in the county jail will decrease by 50% at the end of the first year of the project.
- Individuals served by the project will not re-offend within one year of criminal justice involvement.
- 90% of the individuals identified for the project will engage with recommended services and 85% will participate and be involved in treatment.
• Decreased local correction costs.

**Putnam**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. The Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol Addiction Recovery Board of Putnam County
2. Putnam County Municipal Court
3. Putnam County Common Pleas Court
4. Putnam County Parole
5. Putnam County Probation
6. Putnam County Sheriff’s Office

**Project summary:**
This project will provide both group and individual counseling sessions at the Putnam County Jail and at Pathways Counseling Center. Following release from incarceration some clients would be directed to continue their treatment at Pathways. Outpatient counseling and case management will also be used for those on parole and probation. Pathways Counseling Center will also provide local law enforcement personnel with Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) refresher courses.

**Proposed outcomes:**
- Self-Improvement: Using a pretest/posttest outcomes measure, 60% of participants will record higher scores on the posttest measure in areas such as health, anxiety, emotional stability, and outlook on future.
- Sustaining Achieved Goals: 60% of participants will continue receiving services after release from incarceration and will remain out of custody for at least 6 months.
- Employment: of those who qualify to meet with an OOD coordinator 40% will find employment within 6 months of receiving services.

**Franklin**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. TBI Network
2. Franklin County ADAMH Board
3. Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Probation Department
4. Franklin County Municipal Court Probation Department
5. Franklin County Community Based Correctional Facility

**Project summary:**
This project will serve persons with brain injuries and co-existing substance use disorders that are attempting to enter or re-enter the community. Staff will be trained to screen for a lifetime history of traumatic brain injury. They will provide integrated substance abuse treatment and vocational rehabilitation to the criminal justice referrals that may have a desire to enter the workforce.

**Proposed outcomes:**
- Increase abstinence from alcohol and other drugs.
- Decrease involvement in the criminal justice system.

**Fairfield**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. The Fairfield County ADAMH Board
2. Fairfield County Common Pleas and Municipal
3. Fairfield County Jail  
4. Citizen’s Circle  
5. Southeastern Correctional Campus  
6. Mid-Ohio Psychological Services, Inc.

**Project summary:**
This project will provide linkage and short-term case management services to inmates released from the Fairfield County Jail. Mental health staff will provide psychoeducational classes within the jail setting to educate inmates on the local treatment system; improve identification of individuals that may benefit from mental health or addiction treatment services; and enhance inmates’ motivation to engage in treatment services upon their release from incarceration.

**Proposed outcomes:**
- 75% of individuals on special precautions in jail (“suicide watch”) will meet with grant funded case manager to develop a “re-entry plan” for outpatient treatment and community needs.
- Individuals will attend psycho-educational class presented in jail facility.
- A resource brochure will be provided to every inmate upon release from jail.

**Clark Green Madison**

**Collaborative Partners include:**
1. Greene County Common Pleas Adult Probation Department
2. Greene County Jail
3. Mental health and Recovery Board of Clark, Greene and Madison Counties

**Project summary:**
This project will address the gap in services for individuals at-risk for poor outcomes and recidivism by funding a part-time licensed behavioral health liaison housed within the probation department. The liaison will screen individuals and provide case management services. This vital position would expedite assessments and increase access to treatment for undiagnosed individuals.

**Proposed outcomes:**
- Decrease the number of offenders in local jails by screening individuals and establishing linkage with other county treatment providers.
- Screen and establish treatment for out of county offenders during pre-trial.