



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy Plouck, Director

December 16, 2016

>>> Community Transition Program Newsletter Available

Want to learn more about [Ohio's Community Transition Program](#) (CTP) and follow its progress? CareSource, the Dayton-based nonprofit health plan selected to manage the project for OhioMHAS, just released the [Fall/Winter 2016 CTP program newsletter](#). CTP will provide improved access to housing resources, vocational services, drug and alcohol counseling, peer support and other recovery services for citizens with histories of substance abuse disorders who are re-entering the community from Ohio prisons. As many as 6,000 individuals will be eligible for the program as they leave Ohio prisons. The program will support the successful re-entry and coordination of care for those who voluntarily enroll by partnering with other Medicaid Managed Care Organizations to holistically treat substance abuse disorders and behavioral health problems.

>>> Governor Kasich Signs Bill Designating Saturday Before Thanksgiving as "Ohio Survivors of Suicide Day"

This week, Gov. John R. Kasich signed [House Bill 440](#) into law, which designates the Saturday before Thanksgiving as "Ohio Survivors of Suicide Loss Day" to promote awareness for suicide loss and all who are affected by the tragedy. H.B. 440 was sponsored by Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills) who commented on its passage, "This legislation is a step to acknowledge and to assist those families, friends and loved ones who have been affected by suicide in their lives. The silent epidemic that is plaguing our nation knows no age, geographical area or socioeconomic limit. I hope this day will serve as a time of healing and comfort for so many across our state." According to testimony offered in committee, 1,500 Ohioans die by suicide each year, and countless more are negatively impacted by these losses and suffer from the grief of losing a loved one. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Ohio's efforts to prevention suicide.

>>> Reminder: Ohio's 2017 Behavioral Health Conference – Jan. 10-11, 2017

The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities, in partnership with OhioMHAS, will host Ohio's 2017 Behavioral Health Conference: Moving Forward in Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care Jan. 10-11 at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus. Keynote speakers include: Nancy Lublin, founder and CEO of the Crisis Text Line; Dr. Michael Flaherty, a nationally-known expert on Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care; Rick Kellar, president of the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation and delfin bautista, director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Center at Ohio University. Click [HERE](#) for the registration packet and [HERE](#) to register online today.

>>> Free Holiday Mental Health Messages from MedlinePlus

MedLine offers free text message support to help individuals manage mental health during the busy holiday season. Subscribers receive three *Holiday Mental Health Messages* per week offering tips and resources to manage anxiety, stress and depression that may result from

holiday activities. Click [HERE](#) to subscribe, or send a text with the message "MP Health" to 468311.

In the News

12.15.16 | *Cincinnati Enquirer* [Ohioans see drug use as urgent health problem, poll shows](#)

12.15.16 | *The Wall Street Journal* [The Children of the Opioid Crisis](#)

12.15.16 | *Medical Daily* [6 Simple and Natural Ways to Improve Your Mental Health in 2017 Without Medication](#)

12.15.16 | *Clermont Sun* [Mercy Health's Behavioral Health Institute earns commendations from professional associations](#)

12.14.16 | *WSYX-TV* [Good Day Columbus: Carpool Caroling with Ohio's First Lady Karen Kasich feat. Start Talking!](#)

12.14.16 | *North Ridgeville Press* [Area advocates come together for holiday drive](#)

12.14.16 | *MedicalXpress* [One-sixth of adolescent smokers report harder drug use, followed by higher rates of depression](#)

12.12.16 | *STAT* [Seeing surge in drugs from China, Sen. Portman urges restrictions on mail-order opioids](#)

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