

Feb. 9, 2016



(l-r) State Rep. Robert Sprague (R-Findlay), Mental health and Recovery Services Board of Allen, Auglaize and Hardin Counties Executive Director Mike Schoenhofer, OhioMHAS Director

Tracy Plouck, The Hon. Scott Barrett, Judge, Hardin County Common Pleas Court and Nathan G., a graduate of the Hardin County program, participate in a press event in Kenton on Feb. 8.

>>> Hardin County Press Event Highlights Ohio's "Addiction Treatment Program"

State and local officials gathered at the Hardin County Courthouse Monday afternoon to highlight how community-based addiction treatment providers and specialty docket court programs are partnering to reduce substance abuse and recidivism. Launched in 2014 as part of Ohio's multi-pronged strategy to fight prescription painkiller and heroin abuse, the [Addiction Treatment Program](#) (ATP) has contributed to a decrease in drug use and criminal activity, and an increase in stable housing and employment among program participants. State Rep. Robert Sprague joined OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck, Hardin County Common Pleas Court Judge Scott Barrett and Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Allen, Auglaize and Hardin Counties Executive Director Mike Schoenhofer to provide an update on program investments and outcomes, including an [evaluation](#) completed by researchers from Case Western Reserve University. They were joined by drug court graduate Nathan G. who said the program helped him achieve sobriety, find work and purchase a home. To date, the program has reached 410 men and women, two-thirds of whom also had a co-occurring mental health disorder. According to a Case Western Reserve University evaluation of the program, past-month drug use among program participants decreased 69.4 percent, while crimes committed decreased 86 percent to 3.7 percent. At the same time, employment increased 114 percent, while stable housing increased by nearly 29 percent. Among participants, 60 percent had a job and 91 percent had stable housing upon completion of the program, compared to 27 percent and 70 percent, respectively, before enrolling in the program. Read the [media release](#).

[Coverage](#) from *The Lima News*

[Coverage](#) from *WKTN-FM 95.3*

>>> Latest OARRS Report Shows Opioid Doses, Prescriptions Declined in 2015

Opioid prescribing in Ohio continued to decline in 2015, according to a [newly released report](#) from the State Board of Pharmacy's Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS). In 2015, the total doses of opioids dispensed to Ohio patients decreased to 701 million from a high of 793 million in 2012, a drop of 11.6 percent. The number of opioid prescriptions provided to Ohio patients decreased by 1.4 million during the same time period. OARRS data also showed a 71 percent decrease in the amount of people engaged in the practice of doctor shopping since 2010.

In the News

2.9.16 | *Youngstown Vindicator* [State grant funds additional early childhood professionals](#)

2.8.16 | *The Associated Press* [State says painkiller prescriptions continue to fall in Ohio](#)

2.8.16 | *WMFD-TV 68* [Health Dept. Will Distribute Naloxone to First Responders](#)

2.8.16 | *ABC News* [Duchess Kate Champions Mental Health in New PSA](#)

2.7.16 | *The Associated Press* [Heroin scourge changes role of police in hard-hit areas](#)

2.6.16 | *Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune* [Wood County to get recovery housing](#)

2.6.16 | *Akron Beacon-Journal* [Music and mental illness: Exploring the line between genius and insanity](#)

2.5.16 | *Hamilton Journal-News* [New program seeks to curb addiction through education](#)

2.5.16 | *Huffington Post* [Mental Illness: Talk About It More, Not Less](#)

2.5.16 | *Athens Messenger* [Students Participate in "Five Minutes for Life" Drug Prevention Program](#)

2.4.16 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Treatment centers cheer more fed money to fight drug addiction](#)

2.4.16 | *WDTN-TV 2* [Health officials react to easy access of heroin antidote](#)

2.3.16 | *Newswise* [Study: Addressing trauma in juvenile offenders should be larger focus of rehabilitation](#)

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