



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy Plouck, Director

June 24, 2015



Photo courtesy of The Columbus Dispatch

>>> ODADAS Founding Director Luceille Fleming Dies at Age 91

Ohio's alcohol and other drug addiction prevention, treatment and recovery support services system lost a giant today with the death of life-long recovery advocate and former Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Director Luceille Fleming. Dir. Fleming built a legacy of second chances for hundreds of thousands of men, women and families living with addiction. Fleming led Pennsylvania's and then Ohio's systems for alcohol and other drug addiction services, working for six Governors in the two states to spearhead innovative programs. Fleming's forward-thinking, laser-focused and political acumen created sustainable networks that saved lives. She demonstrated vigorous and forthright leadership as an advocate, public servant and mentor throughout her lifetime. Under her watch, Ohio established and expanded programs for women and juveniles, created therapeutic communities in prisons, advocated for drug courts and secured millions in federal grants for Ohio's addiction services system.

Most recently splitting time between Grandview Heights, OH and Pompano Beach, FL, Fleming retired as the 14-year director of the former Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services in 2003. She was awarded many state and national honors for her work, including the National Governor's Distinguished Service Award and induction into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. Fleming was a graduate of Chatham College and Harvard University's Senior Executives Program.

In a tribute story posted this evening, *Columbus Dispatch* writer Alan Johnson wrote, "Official awards and accolades meant less to Fleming than what she heard from people in recovery." Johnson recalled a 2003 interview with Fleming where she told him, "A young woman came up to me and said, 'You saved my life.' You can't have a job better than that." Read the [full story](#).

A memorial service is being planned. The family suggests donations can be made to Fleming House in Lisbon, Ohio, or the House of Hope and First Village in Columbus.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Do you have a favorite memory of Director Fleming? If so, please send your thoughts to: eric.wandersleben@mha.ohio.gov. Your comments may be used in a future *e-Update* story.

In the News

6.24.15 | *Cincinnati Enquirer* [Special Report: Heroin is bad. We're making it worse.](#)

6.24.15 | *Sandusky Register* [Erie County Health Department to Offer Drug, Mental Health Care](#)

6.24.15 | *WBNS-TV* [Maryhaven Plans \\$2 Million Expansion for Addiction Treatment](#)

6.23.15 | *Lancaster Eagle-Gazette* [Ohio working to reduce pain of addiction on families](#)

6.23.15 | *PR Newswire* [Partnership for Drug-Free Kids Unveils New Online Store for "Above the Influence" Teen Program](#)

6.22.15 | *Reuters* [Mentally ill teens struggle with school and work as adults](#)

6.18.15 | *WXIX-TV* [Morning Show feat. Start Talking!](#)

6.18.15 | *WBGU-TV* [Addiction: Heroin and Pills, Education and Prevention](#)

6.18.15 | *Toledo Blade (Editorial)* [Full-court press: Lucas County's new adult drug court will help break costly cycle of addiction, crime, incarceration](#)

6.17.15 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Report Highlights Ohio's overdose-related deaths](#)

6.17.15 | *Lima News* [Removing the stigma](#)

6.16.15 | *Youngstown Vindicator* [12-bed recovery housing project to open in November](#)

6.14.15 | *Columbus Dispatch* ['Anniversary Exhibition' assembles works of past clients of recovery program](#)

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