



# News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Tracy Plouck, Director

March 4, 2015

## >>> SFY 2016-17 Budget Testimony Begins



BLUEPRINT FOR  
**A NEW OHIO**  
GOV. JOHN R. KASICH'S FISCAL YEARS 2016-2017 BUDGET

OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck provided testimony on Gov. John R. Kasich's SFY 2016-17 Executive Budget Proposal today before members of the Ohio House Health and Human Services Subcommittee. She was

joined by Angel Rhodes, Ph.D., Early Education and Development Officer with the Office of the Governor.

[Read Director Plouck's testimony](#)

[Read Angel Rhodes' testimony](#)

[Blueprint for A New Ohio website](#)

[Office of Health Transformation \(OHT\) Budget website](#)

## >>> State of Ohio Receives \$11.9M Grant to Expand Affordable Housing Options

In an effort to provide more affordable housing choices and prevent Ohioans with disabilities from being institutionalized or facing homelessness, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) \$11.9 million of new federal funding to support a five-year rental assistance program. OHFA, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), will administer rental assistance contracts for 508 housing units and coordinate supportive services for households which earn 30 percent less than the area median income, and have at least one person who suffers from physical disabilities, intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or chronic mental illness. ODM, with assistance from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), will create and maintain a referral network to match persons in need with available housing units throughout the state.

[Read the media release.](#)

### >>> **Have the Conversation -- March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month**

Gov. John R. Kasich and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor have declared March as [Ohio Problem Gambling Awareness Month](#). OhioMHAS and Ohio for Responsible Gambling are pleased to join the Governor, the National Council on Problem Gambling ([NCPG](#)) and other statewide partners to raise public awareness about problem gambling throughout the month of March. The goal is to educate the general public and health care professionals about the warning signs of problem gambling and to promote the availability of help and hope, both locally and nationally. Have the conversation in your community. Click [here](#) for an easy-to-use guide to making the most of PG Awareness Month, and for a customizable op/ed, press release, blog or news article. Click [here](#) to learn more about responsible gambling. For help in your community, call **1-800-589-9966**.

### >>> **Ohio Trauma Experts Invited to Present at 2015 Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference**

Patrick Canary and Dr. Jeff Kretschmar from the Begun Center for Violence Prevention Education and Research at Case Western Reserve University and Kim Kehl, OhioMHAS' Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) coordinator, have been invited to deliver a workshop on "Building Trauma-Informed System of Care" at the [2015 Coalition on Juvenile Justice Conference](#) in Washington D.C. June 10-13. The team will present an overview of current literature and knowledge regarding trauma and adolescent behavioral health development, particularly for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. To effectively divert, intervene and reduce contact with the juvenile justice system, the compelling behavioral health and trauma-related conditions of these youth must be addressed. The workshop will use examples from a number of Ohio initiatives addressing these issues at the clinical, systems and policy levels. Ohio's Behavioral Health Juvenile Justice Projects and results from a longitudinal study will be key highlights of the workshop.

"The more we understand the life experiences of the whole youth, including their trauma, the better we will be able to determine what types of responses and interventions are most effective," said Canary, the lead presenter. "We have come to understand the complex role that trauma plays in the bio-psychological development of young people. The more we can orient our systems and practices to be 'trauma-informed' the better the outcomes will be for everyone."

[Learn more about Ohio's TIC initiative](#)

#### **In the News**

(3/3/15) Columbus Dispatch [Leonardo DiCaprio to play Billy Milligan in film](#)

(3/2/15) *Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune* [BG couple credits health to Medicaid expansion](#)

(3/1/15) *Toledo Blade (Editorial)* [Prison Recovery: Expanding inmate drug treatment and starting it earlier will mean fewer people returning to prison](#)

(3/1/15) *Youngstown Vindicator* [Overdose antidote drug makes its way to masses](#)

(2/27/15) *Sidney Daily News* [Workshop shares information among agencies](#)

(2/26/15) *Cleveland Plain Dealer (Opinion)* [Improving health care outcomes at an affordable cost](#)

(2/26/15) *TIME* [Ohio steps up fight against heroin deaths](#)

(2/25/15) *Norwalk Reflector* [‘Addiction: Heroin and Pills’ addresses epidemic that claims five lives a day in Ohio](#)

(2/25/15) *WKSU 89.7* [Ohio’s GOP governor highlights Medicaid expansion in his State of the State](#)

(2/25/15) *Athens Messenger* [Integrated Services awarded funding for apartment project](#)

(2/25/15) *Associated Press* [Ohio bill would expand access to drug overdose antidote](#)

(2/24/15) *Lima News* [Speakers: Start Talking about drugs](#)

(2/24/15) *Dayton Daily News* [Ohio Supreme Court certifies local veterans’ court](#)

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