

OHIO ATR HIGHLIGHTS

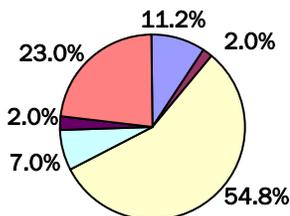
SUMMER 2009

www.ada.ohio.gov



Department of Alcohol & Addiction Services

ATR Service Distribution, Client Numbers



- Clinical Treatment
- Medical Services
- Case Mngt. Recovery Support Services
- Aftercare Recovery Support Services
- Education Recovery Support Services
- Peer-to-Peer Recovery Support Services

Ohio Delivers 90% Recovery Support Services, Exceeds Client Target Again

Ohio's ATR program targets adults who are involved with the criminal justice population and have an alcohol or other drug diagnosis that is either current or in remission. The program serves Cuyahoga Stark, Summit and Mahoning counties. This quarter, Ohio's ATR program continued to deliver mostly recovery support services (RSS). A full array of RSS, including case management (54.8%), peer-to-peer services (23.0%), after care (7.0%), and education support (2.0%), accounted for nearly 90% of total services. Clinical treatment (11.2%) and medical services (2.0%) both exhibited a modest increase over the previous quarter.

Ohio's ATR awareness campaign, radio public service announcements and live script reads, has fueled another quarter of successful client intake numbers. Ohio's ATR project has served a cumulative total of 3,853 clients, exceeding its target of 3,057 by 796 and sustaining its strong upward trend this quarter.

The project also has shown it is having a positive impact on the clients it serves. A comparison of the intake versus discharge data for Ohio's ATR clients shows a 19.8% increase in the abstinence rate.

Successful ATR Radio Campaign

New radio ads aired in June throughout Northeast Ohio for the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services' federal Access to Recovery (ATR)-Ohio's Choice for Recovery grant.

Ohio's Choice for Recovery currently serves individuals living in Cuyahoga, Mahoning, Stark and Summit Counties. WMMS-FM/Clear Channel Radio and Radio-One in the Cleveland, Youngstown, Akron, Canton media markets aired radio spots informing the general public about the initiative throughout the month of June.

Here's a sample of a few of the radio scripts that were aired: "Falling back into drinking and using drugs again? Tired of not being able to break your cycle of addiction? There's an Ohio program that can provide some relief. Give Ohio's Choice for Recovery a call. The number is 614-466-3445. That's 614-466-3445. Follow the road to recovery." "My son got right back into drinking and using drugs after coming out of prison. He was destroying our lives. I didn't know where to turn for help for him. Then someone told me about Ohio's Choice for Recovery. Now my son is choosing his own path for recovery from addiction and living a life free from drugs. Call 614-466-3445. That's 614-466-3445. This program can help your loved one follow the road to recovery."

The intent of the ads was to inform potential clients and their loved ones about available services. The ads are funded through the federal grant.

The services offered with this grant include substance abuse treatment, housing, literacy courses, transportation and childcare. The program also allows consumers to choose faith based recovery support providers.



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Provider Highlight: Harvest Consulting

Harvest Consulting is a Cleveland-based for-profit training and development organization that provides services to recovering and re-entry adult clients. Harvest develops and delivers culturally specific, high-energy workshops on the topics of life skills, money management, and housing. Founded by Alisa Smedley in 2001, the organization grew out of private contracts with various agencies in northeast Ohio.

Team members schedule appointments with clients at libraries, churches, and centers near their home. "We meet clients where they are at... literally," Smedley shares. "We remove the barrier of transportation while also helping clients become involved in the community, their community. We teach them to connect with community supports that may make the difference between staying out or returning to incarceration."

Harvest serves approximately 250 – 300 clients annually; and through partnership agreements usually partner with between 5 to 10 non-profits each year. Staff hours are flexible with many working from home. Appointments are scheduled during non-traditional hours including evenings and weekends.

Harvest heard about ATR through a Healthy Fathering Collaborative meeting, and became an approved provider in March 2008. "We've learned about improving our program design, tracking outcomes, and fiscal responsibility. I was very excited by the fact that Ohio allowed smaller organizations to participate in the program. Grass roots organizations often operate with an efficiency and commitment that is hard to maintain within larger systems. We're lean and mean and committed to making a difference," she says.

One particular ATR success story Smedley likes to share involves a client who was incarcerated for over 10 years. Shortly after signing up with Harvest, the client was approached and asked to

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participate in a criminal activity. Faced with a choice, and despite the fact that the client really needed the money, the client chose to decline the offer, only to hear later that all involved had been killed or injured. The client has said that the support and hope provided by Harvest made the choice an easy one.

A word of "warning" to any client considering signing up for services with Harvest – you need to be serious about the program. Excuses, manipulation, selfishness are things that are not tolerated at Harvest. "We maintain a culture of accountability, support, and love. We can spot game, and we don't accept it. We believe in tough love," says Smedley, "with an emphasis on love."

September is Recovery Month

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month is just around the corner. This September will mark the 20th anniversary of the nationally recognized month by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT).

The purpose is to recognize the importance of access to treatment and recovery support for a substance abuse disorder and the impact it has on the millions of families, friends and colleagues and others who suffer when a loved one is plagued with the disease. Ohio Governor Ted Strickland has issued a resolution designating September as Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in Ohio. In addition, there are numerous events planned throughout state that will promote the benefits of recovery from addiction.



Included in Ohio's 2009 Recovery Month festivities are the Cuyahoga and Summit County ADAMHS Board/Northern Ohio Recovery Association celebration, picnic and recovery ride on September 26.

If you would like more information about Ohio's Access to Recovery program, please contact Alisia Clark at 614-466-8036 or AClark@ada.ohio.gov.