



NAMI Ohio, the State's Voice for Mental Illness is absolutely elated at the level of support that Governor DeWine has provide to families and people impacted by mental illness. His proposal to expand mental health prevention and treatment services to children and adults in this budget is unprecedented. The funding that he is providing to local communities will help save millions of tax payer dollars and untold amounts of pain and suffering by people with mental illness. If these proposals are made into a reality, the mental health system will now have the capacity to respond to mental health crises for children and adults, and to provide sub –acute care, housing supports, prevention, and community education to every Ohioan no matter who they are or where they live. NAMI Ohio thanks Governor DeWine for his leadership in mental health, the likes of which the State of Ohio has never seen before.

We also want to thank the new leadership at the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS), and the leadership of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM). ODM and OMHAS' proposals are practical and bold and will ensure that the redesign of the Behavioral Health System in Ohio is not only repaired, but is wildly successful for our most vulnerable citizens with mental illness, including children.

-Terry Russell
Executive Director
NAMI Ohio

