



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy Plouck, Director

Nov. 25, 2014

>>> Family Week – Nov. 23-29

Families are an essential part of the cultural, social spiritual and economic fabric that helps shape Ohio. In recognition of the key role they play, Gov. John R. Kasich has designated Thanksgiving Week (Nov. 23-29) as “Family Week” in Ohio. OhioMHAS is proud to join with the Kasich Administration, the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers and others in celebrating Ohio families. (see attached resolution) We’re also pleased to share the following Council resources:

[Family Impact Checklist](#) (*Tool for the Analysis of Policies & Services*)

[Fast Facts: Families](#) (*Facts & Policy Implications*)

>>> SURVEY REMINDER: OhioMHAS Public Affairs Team Needs Your Feedback!

Your opinion matters! The OhioMHAS Office of Public Affairs is committed to providing timely, accurate news updates and training information to Ohio’s behavioral health field. As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure we are meeting the needs of our various stakeholders, we are asking for your assistance in completing a [brief survey](#) to help us assess the effectiveness of our various communications vehicles. Here’s your opportunity to tell us how we’re doing, and how we might evolve our communications efforts (*NewsNow, e-Update, social media, website*) to better meet your needs. Deadline to complete the online survey is **5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12.**

>>> Behavioral Health System Transformation

OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck recently testified before the Joint Medicaid Oversight Commission on the Kasich Administration’s overall effort at transforming the behavioral health system. Director Plouck also provided early observations around the impact of extending Medicaid coverage with preliminary data suggesting a high-level of pent-up demand for services from individuals never before able to access the behavioral health system.

[Read the testimony](#)

In the News

(11/24/14) *Akron Beacon Journal* [Seasonal 'blues' can develop into anxiety, depression, survey finds](#)

(11/23/14) *Toledo Blade (Editorial)* [Medicaid Matters](#)

(11/22/14) *Akron Beacon Journal* [Three recall horror of watching their brothers die of heroin use](#)

(11/21/14) *Athens Messenger* [Youth summit brings anti-drug message to Meigs County students](#)

(11/19/14) *Cleveland Plain Dealer* [Nearly 9 of 10 readers in survey say Ohio should keep expanded Medicaid](#)

(11/16/14) *Ironton Tribune* [Tackling Addiction: Spectrum Outreach plans recovery housing for addicts](#)

(11/14/14) *Canton Repository (Editorial)* [State makes addicts' recovery a top priority](#)

(11/14/14) *Logan Daily News* [Vivitrol recovery house to be new addition in Logan](#)

(11/14/14) *Youngstown Vindicator* [Mahoning commissioners approve merger of mental health, drug boards](#)

(11/8/14) *Richland Source* [Richland County deputies graduate from Crisis Intervention Training](#)

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