



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy Plouck, Director

May 14, 2015

>>> State Agencies Partner to Launch Statewide Survey of Middle, High-School Students



The Ohio Departments of Education, Health and Mental Health and Addiction Services are joining with the Ohio National Guard and representatives of educational and youth serving organizations to roll out the [Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey](#) (OHYES!), a free, voluntary, web-based survey to collect information that schools and communities can use to access resources to reduce risk behaviors and create healthy and safe community, school and family environments. OHYES! is a statewide survey of Ohio school students in 7th and 11th grades to be conducted in fall of 2015. Schools may elect to also survey other grades to gain a more complete picture of the strengths and needs of youth in their communities. Participation is voluntary for both school districts and students. School districts that participate will have access to district, county, state, (and for some items even national) level data to help Ohio schools, community leaders, and parents identify important areas of need and track improvements in health and safety over time. The survey includes 110 questions about health, safety and behavioral health factors. School districts may choose to remove questions that could be sensitive to some communities (sexual behavior and suicide) or add up to 10 questions that are important to their community. OHYES! state and county-level data will be publicly available on the Ohio Network of Care website along with other indicators of community health allowing schools, community coalitions, and community public health and safety networks to make data-informed decisions on how best to support school and community programs and policies. Student participation in the OHYES! is completely voluntary and anonymous. An introductory letter was shared with school superintendents across the state this week. For more information, email info@ohyes.ohio.gov or call 1.866.563.6904.

[See the OHYES! questionnaire](#)

[Read FAQ Document](#)

>>> Director Plouck Provides Budget Testimony Before Senate Medicaid Committee

OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck provided testimony on Gov. John R. Kasich's SFY 2016-17 Executive Budget Proposal (House Bill 64) today before members of the [Ohio Senate Medicaid Committee](#). 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 Dr. Rhodes' testimony](#)

[Blueprint for A New Ohio website](#)

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

In the News

(5.13.15) *Huffington Post* [A Prescription for Mental Health in America](#)

(5.13.15) *Lorain Morning-Journal* [Lorain County Community College opens new CARE Center for students, families struggling with addiction](#)

(5.13.15) *New England Public Radio* [In Heroin Crisis, Grandparents Seek Allies Raising Grandchildren](#)

(5.12.15) *WMFD-TV* [Richland Co. Commissioners Proclaim May Mental Health Month](#)

(5.12.15) *Massillon Independent* [First of four heroin symposiums put focus on crisis in Stark County](#)

(5.12.15) *Portsmouth Daily Times* [Counseling Center opens new program](#)

(5.11.15) *Cleveland Plain Dealer* [Walk to raise awareness for heroin addiction steps off May 17](#)

(5.11.15) *WKBN-TV 27* [Focus on treating heroin addiction after dozens arrested in Trumbull County](#)

(5.11.15) *Today* [Fashion brand aims to get people talking about mental health](#)

(5.10.15) *Toledo Blade (Editorial)* [Criminal negligence](#)

(5.9.15) *Lorain Morning Journal* [Communities that Care of Lorain County talk teen drug abuse, award City of Elyria for updating underage drinking ordinance](#)

(5.8.15) *Lima News* [Schools encourage positive decisions, lifestyles](#)

(5.8.15) *Hamilton Journal-News* [Forum delves into complexities of mental health](#)

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