



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy Plouck, Director

May 22, 2015

>>> Nominations Sought: Howard H. Sokolov Forensic Mental Health Leadership Award

The OhioMHAS Forensic Services Bureau is accepting nominations for the [2015 Howard H. Sokolov Mental Health Leadership Award](#). Given in memory of Dr. Howard Sokolov, a pioneering psychiatrist and scholar who passed away in 2014, the award recognizes an individual or program that consistently demonstrates a commitment to excellence, recognition of dignity and worth of the consumer, security and safety of the community and dedication to providing quality forensic mental health services. Dr. Sokolov served as commissioner of the former Ohio Department of Mental Health in the 1970s and was instrumental in the development of Ohio's present-day forensic mental health system, including the establishment of community-based forensic evaluation centers and the creation of policies and procedures that govern the work in Ohio's six regional psychiatric hospitals. [Nominations](#) must be received by **Oct. 1**. The recipient will be announced in November at the annual OhioMHAS Forensic Conference. Questions? Please email Bob.Baker@mha.ohio.gov.

>>> SAMHSA Addressing Serious Mental Illness Webinars

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has announced four new webinar series, jointly entitled, [Addressing Serious Mental Illness: Effective Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Strategies](#). The free programs will be delivered May-August 2015 by partners in the Mental Health Block Grant Coalition.

- The [Peer Webinar Series](#) will focus on peer related issues such as a recovery oriented workforce, strategies for effective supervision, crisis service providers, and the varying roles of peers.
- The [Home and Community-Based Services \(HCBS\) Webinar Series](#) will focus on how the mental health community can help with transition plans for the new HCBS regulations and implementing self-directed care.
- The [Children's Webinar Series](#) will focus on children's related issues such as evidence-based practices and early interventions for children with SMI, expanding first episode psychosis programs and organizational approaches to effective trauma-informed services.

The [Criminal Justice Webinar Series](#) will focus on issues including forensic assertive community treatment, addressing the needs of people with SMI, and strengthening partnerships with county jails and community service providers.

In the News

(5.21.15) *WKBN-TV* [Man who lost son to heroin aims to help others](#)

(5.21.15) *WKBN-TV* [Mahoning County Drug Court offers chance for clean slate](#)

(5.20.15) *Forbes* [May is Mental Health Month – Here’s Why Companies Should Care](#)

(5.20.15) *WHIZ-TV* [Recovery House to Open in Muskingum County](#)

(5.20.15) *Massillon Independent* [New center for opiate treatment opens in Massillon](#)

(5.19.15) *WHIZ-TV* [Bucking the Image of Mental Illness](#)

(5.18.15) *Columbus Dispatch* [Portman finds support for military mental-health screening](#)

(5.18.15) *WVXU-91.7* [Some new approaches to the tragic problem of heroin addiction in \(Cincinnati\)](#)

(5.18.15) *Toledo Blade (Editorial)* [Medicaid for mothers](#)

(5.18.15) *Massillon Independent* [Andre’s House prepares to open its doors](#)

(5.17.15) *Akron Beacon Journal* [Kenmore residents fight against gun violence, heroin use](#)

(5.17.15) *New Philadelphia Times Reporter* [Mentors help at-risk youth avoid addiction](#)

(5.16.15) *Marion Star* [Addicts try to help addicts in fight against heroin](#)

(5.15.15) *Huffington Post* [Children’s Mental Health Awareness Month: No One is Untouched by Mental Illness](#)

(5.15.15) *Cleveland Plain Dealer* [The stigma of mental illness ends with us](#)

(5.15.15) *Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* [Sandy Hook parent speaks](#)

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***START TALKING!** First Lady of Ohio Karen W. Kasich sat down with WBGU-TV Producer Marcus Harrison today at the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden in Bexley to discuss the Start Talking! statewide youth drug prevention initiative. The interview, which also features comments from Start Talking! Program Director Sarah Smith, will*

air in mid-June as part of the third installment of a series of programs examining Ohio's efforts to stem the tide of opiate addiction. Click the links below to view the first two installments.

[**ADDICTION: Heroin and Pills | The Introduction**](#)

[**ADDICTION: Heroin and Pills | The Social and Economic Tsunami**](#)