



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy Plouck, Director

March 22, 2017

>>> Attorney General DeWine Announces Pilot Program for Families Harmed by Parental Opioid Abuse

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced today the creation of a new pilot program that will serve families harmed by parental opioid abuse in more than a dozen southern Ohio counties. Ohio START (Sobriety, Treatment, and Reducing Trauma) is an intervention program that will provide specialized victim services, such as intensive trauma counseling, to children who have suffered victimization due to parental drug use. The program will also provide drug treatment for parents of children referred to the program. According to the Public Children Services Association of Ohio, 50 percent of children placed in foster care in 2015 were placed due to abuse and neglect associated with parental drug use. The program will primarily be funded through a \$3.5 million Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant from the Ohio Attorney General's Office which will be shared among the counties over two and a half years. These grant funds will be specifically spent to help county child welfare agencies identify children who have been victimized due to parental drug use and provide them with specialized treatment for any resulting behavioral or emotional trauma. The grant will also fund victim services for parents with underlying victimization that may be contributing to their addiction. Casey Family Programs, which partnered with the Ohio Attorney General's Office to develop the Ohio START program, is providing an additional \$75,000 for the pilot program. Both grants will be administered by the Public Children Services Association of Ohio. The effectiveness of Ohio START will be studied by partners with Ohio State University's College of Social Work and the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University. If the program is found to be a success, it may expand to other counties.

>>> Planning Council Seeking New Members

The Ohio Community Recovery Support Planning Council is seeking new members to fill vacancies. The Council serves as an advisory board to the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and meets federal requirements for Ohio to receive Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Block Grant and CURES funding. Vacancies are open for parents of children or youth with mental illness, and parents of youth and/or young adults with substance use disorders. The Council also has a vacancy for youth and young adults ages 16 -25 who have lived experience with mental illness. The Council meets six times a year on Fridays and Saturdays in Columbus. A stipend and travel reimbursement is available for those who qualify. To download an application and read the Council's Welcome Letter, see "Prospective Members" at <http://mha.ohio.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=645> . For more information, please contact Liz at Elizabeth.Gitter@mha.ohio.gov or 614-466-9963 or Lynette at Lynette.Cashaw-Davis@mha.ohio.gov at 614-466-1984.

>>> OSAM Network Releases New OSAM-O-Gram

The Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring (OSAM) Network has released its most recent OSAM-O-Gram: [Fentanyl, and the Deadlier Carfentanil, Now Outpacing Heroin Sales in Many Areas](#). Click [HERE](#) to learn more about OSAM.

In the News

3.21.17 | *Huffington Post* [All Mental Health, All the Time...The Story of a Mental Health Media Co.](#)

3.21.17 | *Marion Star* [Marion rallies against heroin scourge](#)

3.20.17 | *Morrow County Sentinel* [Morrow County Drug and Alcohol Awareness and Prevention receives grant](#)

3.20.17 | *WDTN-TV* [Every 45 minutes children are poisoned by opioids](#)

3.19.17 | *Warren Tribune Chronicle* [Prevention must be the cure for youth drug addiction](#)

3.18.17 | *Canton Repository (Letter)* [Treatment options available for problem gamblers](#)

3.18.17 | *Dayton Daily News* [Opioid crisis persists despite funding burst](#)

3.18.17 | *Akron Beacon Journal* [Data suggest poor, uneducated neighborhoods in Summit are the most ravaged by drugs](#)

3.18.17 | *WBCO-1540AM* [Mural painting project to help end mental illness stigma](#)

3.17.17 | *Cleveland Plain Dealer* [Gov. John Kasich among 4 GOP governors who propose Medicaid fix for GOP health care reform](#)

3.17.17 | *Hamilton Journal-News* [Scavenger hunt will benefit drug prevention efforts in Fairfield](#)

3.17.17 | *Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* [March, rally against heroin Saturday in Vermilion](#)

3.15.17 | *Logan Daily News* [Prevention and education is a key first step in the war against drugs](#)

3.11.17 | *News-Herald* [Lake-Geauga recovery houses offer supportive, family environment for those overcoming addiction](#)

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