



# News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Tracy Plouck, Director

Oct. 20, 2017

## >>> Ohio Opiate Project ECHO Videoconference Schedule Released



As part of Ohio's 21<sup>st</sup> Century CURES Act initiative, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) will sponsor several services to help mentor and provide continuing education for physicians through [Project ECHO](#) (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes). Videoconferences will be hosted by Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) through two distinct ECHOS.

A **mentorship ECHO** will be offered by physician experts for up to 30 waived physicians every two months that will help them gain the experience they need to be comfortable prescribing buprenorphine. The mentorship program will hold teleconferences/webinars once a week and cover topics such as documentation, difficult cases, patient retention and patient referral. At the end of the two-month mentorship program, a new cohort of physicians will be recruited and taken through the same process.

A **continuing education ECHO** will also be hosted by NEOMED that will be open to all buprenorphine prescribers in every Ohio community. This ECHO's teleconference/ webinar schedule will rotate topics each week of the month. Half of each teleconference/webinar will be dedicated to a didactic presentation (e.g., motivational interviewing in emergency department settings), and half of the session will be dedicated to case review with a panel of experts.

Videoconferencing sessions begin Nov. 3. Click [HERE](#) for the complete schedule. To register for an ECHO or to request more information, please email [OPIATEECHO@NEOMED.EDU](mailto:OPIATEECHO@NEOMED.EDU).

## >>> National Red Ribbon Week is Oct. 23-31

The 32<sup>nd</sup> National Red Ribbon Week will be observed throughout the nation on Oct. 23-31. This year's theme, developed by Ohio middle school student Iris Yu, is "Your Future is Key, So Stay Drug Free." Download a [free planning guide](#) and other materials from the National Family Partnership. Sign this year's [Red Ribbon pledge](#). Since 1985, the Red Ribbon has touched the lives of millions of people around the world. In response to the murder of DEA Agent Enrique Camarena, parents and youth throughout the nation started wearing red ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the destruction caused by drugs.





*OhioMHAS Dir. Tracy Plouck discussed Ohio's comprehensive response to the opioid epidemic as part of her opening remarks at today's Private Psychiatric Inpatient Provider Conference.*

#### **In the News**

10.19.17 | *WKBN-TV* [New Ohio prescription tracking tool scores patient's risk of overdose and addiction](#)

10.19.17 | *Port Clinton News-Herald* [Officials describe front-line efforts in opiate epidemic](#)

10.19.17 | *Dayton Daily News* [Ohio upgrading its drug tracking database system](#)

10.19.17 | *West Side Leader* [Summit ADM Board recognizes Trailblazers](#)

10.18.17 | *OSU Lantern* [1,100 backpacks displayed on The Oval to create mental health awareness](#)

10.18.17 | *Akron Beacon Journal* [Interagency teamwork saves Akron transitional home for drug-addicted men](#)

10.18.17 | *Cleveland Plain Dealer* [Percentage of problem gamblers in Ohio remains small, survey shows](#)

10.16.17 | *Modern Healthcare* [Hospitals team up with lawyers to aid healing](#)

10.2.17 | *Chillicothe Gazette* [Mental health center to get workforce boost](#)

**Please share widely and encourage your colleagues to subscribe to *OhioMHAS eNews* on our [website](#). Also, be sure to join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#)!**