



News Now

Mike DeWine, *Governor*
Lori Criss, *Director*

August 21, 2019

>>> Governor Mike DeWine Announces Creation of Ohio School Safety Center

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued an [executive order](#) today creating a specialized division of Ohio Homeland Security (OHS) devoted exclusively to the safety of Ohio's students and schools. As the new comprehensive, statewide office in Ohio focused exclusively on enhancing the safety of our schools, the **Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC)**, will assist local schools and law enforcement in preventing, preparing for, and responding to threats and acts of violence, including self-harm, through a holistic, solutions-based approach to improving school safety. The OSSC will be headquartered at the OHS offices within the Ohio Department of Public Safety in Columbus and will continue the current work of OHS staff to annually review approximately 5,500 school emergency management plans and offer free risk and threat assessments to schools throughout the state. OSSC staff will also: promote and expand use of the SaferOH Tip Line (1.844.723.3764); proactively scan social media and websites for threats to schools; review emergency management plans and implement threat assessment team trainings; consolidate school safety resources via an enhanced website, saferschools.ohio.gov; and host an annual school safety summit. Click [HERE](#) to read the full announcement and [HERE](#) to watch the Governor's announcement on the Ohio Channel.

>>> Registration Open | Building Resiliency: A Pediatric Mental Health Summit – Sept. 26

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine today announced that [registration](#) for **Building Resiliency: A Pediatric Mental Health Summit** is open at governor.ohio.gov/summit. The summit will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at the Sinclair Conference Center in Dayton. As a result of Dayton's tornadoes in the spring and the recent tragic shooting in the Oregon District, Governor DeWine, in conjunction with the Ohio Children's Hospital Association, will hold the summit as a way to give members of the community tools they need as they work with children dealing with trauma. The hope is that having these tools will give kids the opportunity for a healthy and bright future. The Summit is open to adults across the state who touch the lives of children, such as parents, coaches, school personnel, counselors, and health care professionals. Attendees will learn how to spot the signs and symptoms of trauma in children and tangible strategies to address it from experts in mental health, health care, education, and other fields. Questions? Please contact conference@governor.ohio.gov.

>>> 2019 Back to School Toolkit

Mental Health America is gearing up to release its [2019 Back to School Toolkit](#) (available Aug. 23) which provides information and resources for adults and young people about the issues of stress and loneliness, which may lead to symptoms of mental health conditions if not addressed early. The toolkit includes: fact sheets and infographics, sample social media posts, drop-in articles for school newsletters, key messages and statistics, posters, and a sample press release.

>>> Ottawa County Drug-Free Collaborative to Observe International Overdose Awareness Day – Aug. 30

The Ottawa County Drug-Free Collaborative will recognize "[Overdose Awareness Day](#)" on Aug. 30 at 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Ottawa County Courthouse. The ceremony, which is open to the public, will include the presentation of the "2018



**International Overdose
Awareness Day**

Silent Silhouettes" which represent individuals lost to the opioid epidemic, and speakers who are passionate about prevention. After the ceremony, participants will take part in a remembrance and awareness walk, which will commence at Light House Sober Living. The facility will be open to the public for tours and will have information on resources available within Ottawa County. For more information, contact Margaret Osborne at 567.262.3142.

In the News

8.21.19 | *The Plain Dealer* [Gov. Mike DeWine announces Ohio School Safety Center to combat violence, mass shootings](#)

8.21.19 | *Ohio's Country Journal* [Stress Task Force Offering to Help Struggling Ohio Farmers](#)

8.20.19 | *Dayton Daily News* [First responders get help after Oregon District shooting](#)

8.20.19 | *WHIZ-TV* [Perry Behavioral Health Choices, Inc. opens new Youth & Family Services building](#)

8.20.19 | *The Plain Dealer* [Opioid makers agree to \\$15M in settlements with Cuyahoga, Summit counties in advance of October trial](#)

8.20.19 | *Lima News* [Fighting stigmas, one conversation at a time](#)

8.20.19 | *Youngstown Business Journal* [As deadline nears for YDC project, more time needed](#)

8.19.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Documentary celebrates success, struggles of addiction recovery](#)

8.19.19 | *WOIO-TV* [New QPR suicide training in Northeast Ohio could help you save a life](#)

8.19.19 | *WOSU 89.7* [Advocates propose changes to Ohio's addiction recovery system](#)

8.19.19 | *Findlay Courier* [Struggling? Mental health help available](#)

8.19.19 | *The Washington Post* [How on campus mental health counseling can make a big difference](#)

8.19.19 | *The Plain Dealer* [Screening of documentary featuring Medina County drug court participants is Aug. 27](#)

8.19.19 | *Columbus Dispatch (Column)* [Organizations unite to tackle opioid crisis in Franklin County](#)

8.17.19 | *Pomeroy Daily Sentinel* [Prevention Day held at Meigs Fair](#)

8.17.19 | *Marion Star* ['Harder than dying:' Drug court documentary profiles Marion native in recovery](#)

8.17.19 | *KXAN-TV* [School suicide screening program in Ohio leading to fewer deaths](#)

8.17.19 | *KXAN-TV* [Uplifting words shaping teens' mental health at Ohio school](#)

8.16.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Vaping joins cellphones as recurring problem for school districts](#)

8.16.19 | *Crain's Cleveland Business* [CWRU researchers awarded \\$1.1M federal grant to train practitioners to treat opioid use disorders](#)

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