



News Now

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mark Hurst, M.D., Director

Jan. 10, 2019

>>> Lori Criss Nominated for OhioMHAS Director

Governor-elect Mike DeWine today announced the nomination of **Lori Criss** to serve as the new director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS). Criss, who currently serves as chief executive officer of the Ohio Council of Behavioral Health and Family Services Providers, brings more than 20 years of operations and leadership experience with addiction and trauma treatment. She has extensive experience in policy related to recovery housing, opiate addiction and integrated physical and behavioral health care. She is an active member of the recovery community, including sitting on the National Alliance of Recovery Residences (NARR), an organization dedicated to supporting individuals in recovery from substance use disorders. Prior to her work with the Ohio Council, Criss worked for many years in women's treatment at Amethyst, Inc., and before that, as a program specialist with the Ohio Commission on Minority Health. She holds a Master's Degree from The Ohio State University College of Social Work. Current director Mark Hurst, M.D., will remain with the agency and take on a clinical services leadership role.



>>> **Regional PAX Tools Facilitator Trainings** As part of Ohio's 21st Century CURES Act project, OhioMHAS and the PAXIS Institute will partner to provide five regional PAX Tools Facilitator Trainings this spring. PAX Tools is a collection of trauma-informed, evidence-based behavioral strategies for families and communities to promote the development of self-regulation of the children in their lives. Caregivers who participate in the PAX Tools trainings will receive materials they need, including the PAX Tools App, to effectively use PAX Tools with children. Community-level prevention awareness/education professionals, mental health and recovery providers, community health educators, faith-based volunteers and addictions professionals are encouraged to attend. The application process is open through Jan. 15. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and to apply for the training. For more information, email paxohio@paxis.org.

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- 1.9.19 | [Dayton Daily News Gaming or gambling? FTC investigates lucrative video game feature](#)
- 1.9.19 | [WDTN-TV Mobile Crisis Response Team tackles mental health, addiction](#)
- 1.9.19 | [WTOL-TV Suicide leading cause of death among police officers](#)
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