



# News Now

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

**November 19, 2019**

**>>> New Online Licensure and Certification Application and Renewal Process**

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is soon introducing an online licensing and certification application process to replace the current paper applications. Providers will submit applications directly into the Licensure and Certification Tracking System, known as LACTS. After applying in the new, online system, providers will receive an email confirmation and up-to-date communication on the status of their licensure or certification, giving them confidence that their application was successfully received. The system will also offer providers 24-hour access to their licensure or certification information. Additional information will be posted as it becomes available at [mha.ohio.gov/LACTS](http://mha.ohio.gov/LACTS).

**>>> Medical Director Issues Winter Weather Alert**

Winter is coming. With that in mind, OhioMHAS Medical Director Justin Trevino, M.D. has issued a *Winter Weather Alert* to help prevent cold-related injuries like hypothermia and frostbite, and other complications. Click [HERE](#) to view/download/print this resource.

**>>> Governor DeWine Announces Additional Foster Care Forums**

Governor Mike DeWine today announced that the Children Services Transformation Advisory Council will be hosting foster care forums in Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus. These are in addition to the seven foster care forums Governor DeWine [announced at the beginning of November](#).

[Regional Forums](#) will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the following dates and locations (additional locations in **bold**):

- Nov. 13 – Athens Community Center, Athens
- Nov. 18 – Auglaize County Educational Service Center, Wapakoneta
- Nov. 21 – Central Ohio Technical College, Pataskala Campus
- Dec. 9 – Wood County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services/Visitor Entrance, Bowling Green
- Dec. 11 – Medina County University Center (University of Akron), Medina
- Dec. 17 – Lebanon Conference and Banquet Center, Lebanon
- **Dec. 19 – United Way of Greater Stark County, Canton**
- **Jan. 6 – Columbus State Community College, Columbus**
- **Jan. 8 – Cincinnati Public Schools, Cincinnati**
- **Jan. 13 – Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland, Cleveland**

To register for the forums or provide written testimony for the advisory council, please visit:

<https://governor.ohio.gov/fostercareforums>.

**>>> Southwest Ohio Regional FASD Training – Dec. 3**

Ohio's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Steering Committee will host a free training on Dec. 3 at the Great Oaks Career Campus in Cincinnati. "The Invisible Disability: FASD Behaviors and Interventions" will focus on FASD identification and interventions. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**>>> Call for Entries: Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Foundation Research Awards**

The Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Foundation (OPPF) has released a [call for entries](#) for its 2019 *Research Awards*. This is an opportunity for those interested in psychiatry to get recognition for their hard work and to showcase the contributions they are making to further the understanding of mental illnesses. All entries must be received by Dec. 31, 2019. Awards for winner and runner-up will be presented at the OPFA Annual Psychiatric Update on March 14-15, 2020, at the Marriott University in Columbus.



**In the News**

- 11.18.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Fentanyl arriving in knockoff blue pills](#)
- 11.18.19 | *The New York Times* [When mental illness is severe](#)
- 11.18.19 | *WTOV-TV* [Olympian breaks the stigma, inspires local students](#)
- 11.18.19 | *WHIO-TV* [Resurgence in meth concerning law enforcement, addiction specialists](#)
- 11.17.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Help coming for the helpers: First responders summit teaches cops, firefighters how to deal with stress](#)
- 11.17.19 | *Norwalk Reflector* [Local driving into the future of recovery](#)
- 11.17.19 | *The Plain Dealer* [‘We still have an epidemic; there are just different drugs involved’](#)
- 11.17.19 | *Warren Tribune-Chronicle* [Loved ones remembered on National Suicide Awareness Day](#)
- 11.17.19 | *Cincinnati Enquirer* [Why does the jail release inmates when drug dealers work and treatment centers are closed?](#)
- 11.16.19 | *Bellefontaine Examiner* [Advocacy, education, support keys to effective treatment of mental illness](#)
- 11.15.19 | *WOSU 89.7* [Homelessness among Ohio veterans dropped 10% this year](#)
- 11.15.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Weaning off nicotine and quitting vaping can be challenging](#)
- 11.15.19 | *WKBN-TV* [Trumbull County Lowe’s teams up with recovery home in Warren to give back](#)
- 11.14.19 | *Canton Repository* [Overdose deaths in Stark County rise, again](#)
- 11.14.19 | *Cincinnati Enquirer* [Suicide rate up 45% in Ohio in last 11 years, with a sharper spike among the young](#)
- 11.14.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Suicide rates among Ohio’s youth and elderly jumped over last decade, report shows](#)

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