



# News Now

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

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## >>> Governor DeWine Announces \$7.5M in Grant Funding for Specialized Docket Programs

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced today that Ohio is now offering \$7.5 million in grant funding to support the expansion of specialized court programs that focus on recovery from substance use or mental health disorders. Governor DeWine proposed the grants in March as part of his [RecoveryOhio](#) initiative. Specialized court dockets give judges the flexibility to place defendants with mental health or substance use disorders into treatment rather than sentencing them to jail. The grants will be awarded through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) and are funded through Ohio's 2020-2021 operating budget. Any court that is not currently receiving specialized docket or drug court grant funding can apply. The grant funding can be used for payroll costs, clinical services provided by state-certified addiction and/or mental health providers, medication-assisted treatment (MAT) medications, urinalysis, and recovery supports.

Applications will be accepted in two categories:

- Specialty courts receiving final certification after July 1, 2019, and not previously certified.
- Specialty courts that received final certification before July 1, 2019, or operational specialized dockets seeking re-certification.

More information, including application documents, is available on the [OhioMHAS Funding Opportunities web page](#).

## >>> RecoveryOhio Launches Website, Encourages Visitors to Take Pledge to End Stigma

RecoveryOhio has launched a new website where visitors can take a pledge to end stigma. The stigma that surrounds individuals struggling with substance use and mental health disorders can be debilitating. If we are all more aware of our actions and the words we use, we can make a difference in someone's life. Please click the link to take the Pledge to End Stigma! [RecoveryOhio.gov](#)



## >>> Star Behavioral Health Providers Trainings

Service members and their families have made sacrifices for all of us. You can return the favor by helping them. Star Behavioral Health Providers is a training program that will you better understand and serve veterans, service members and their families as clients. You can also join an online registry of providers that will help them find your organization. Trainings and CEUs are free. Upcoming Tier I trainings will be held in Mt. Orab (11/13), Columbus (12/4), Marion (1/14), Athens (2/12), Ironton (3/11), Toledo (5/14) and Dayton (6/24). Upcoming Tier II and III trainings have been planned for Mansfield (10/23-24), Akron (11/14-15), Chillicothe (1/29-30) and Dayton (2/26-27). Click [HERE](#) for more information.

## >>> Red Ribbon Week – Oct. 23-31

Red Ribbon Week, which is celebrated annually Oct. 23-31, is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program. [Red Ribbon Week](#) was started after the death of Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who in 1985 was brutally tortured and murdered by drug traffickers he was investigating in Mexico. In 1988, the National Family Partnership coordinated the first National Red Ribbon Week with President and Mrs. Reagan serving as honorary chairpersons. Since then, the Red Ribbon campaign has taken on national significance, and NFP



continues to coordinate the campaign for families, schools and communities across the nation each year. Wearing red ribbons during the month of October continues to represent our pledge to live drug free and honors the sacrifice of all who have lost their lives in the fight against drugs. Celebrate Red Ribbon Week in your community or your child's school, and raise awareness of living a drug free life. Take the opportunity to talk to your kids about drugs. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts can earn a patch. Learn more at the [DEA Red Ribbon Patch Program](#). Check out the [DEA Red Ribbon Toolkit](#) with fact sheets, promotion ideas, a sample Red Ribbon press release, Red Ribbon Graphics, and Red Ribbon video, all available to download.



**>>> REMINDER: DEA National Rx Drug Take Back Day is Saturday (10/26)**

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will host its next [National Prescription Drug Take Back Day](#) this Saturday, Oct. 26, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Take Back Day provides a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. Click [HERE](#) to find a participating collection site near you.

**In the News**

- 10.22.19 | *CBS News* [Families fight insurers for life-saving care for loved ones with mental health conditions](#)
- 10.21.19 | *WTOL-TV* [Properly dispose of medication on 'Drug Take Back Day' this Saturday](#)
- 10.21.19 | *The Wall Street Journal* [Four drug companies reach last-minute settlement in opioid litigation](#)
- 10.21.19 | *Sandusky Register* [Ohio Bridges connects at-risk youth with life skills](#)
- 10.21.19 | *Ashtabula Star Beacon* [Educational seminar deals with changing substance abuse issues](#)
- 10.21.19 | *Lima News* [House of Grace partnering to bring medical services on site](#)
- 10.20.19 | *The Associated Press* [Schools ask lawmakers to ban betting on collegiate sports](#)
- 10.19.19 | *WTOV-TV* [Local community gathers to raise awareness for mental illness](#)
- 10.19.19 | *WFMJ-TV* [Ohio to provide drug disposal kits to injured workers](#)
- 10.18.19 | *WKEF-TV* [Local leaders look to combat veteran suicide rates](#)
- 10.18.19 | *WBNS-TV* [Graduates of Marion County Drug Court celebrate new chapters of hope and health](#)
- 10.18.19 | *WCPO-TV* [Resilience Project: How a local program is helping kids and young adults heal from trauma](#)
- 10.17.19 | *WSYX-TV* [Marysville school hopes to lower number of youth suicides with prevention program](#)
- 10.17.19 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Survey: 'Don't Live in Denial, Ohio' ad having impact, but many remain in denial on opioid abuse](#)
- 10.17.19 | *WBNS-TV* [Newark artwork showcases mental health recovery](#)

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