



# News Now

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



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## >>> HHS Extends CARES Act Provider Relief Funding Application Deadline to Sept. 13

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has extended the deadline for health care providers to apply for [CARES Act Provider Relief Funding](#) to Sept. 13. HHS set aside \$175 billion in relief funds, including to hospitals and other healthcare providers on the front lines of the coronavirus response as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act. This funding, along with additional relief funding outside of the CARES Act, supports healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19 and ensures uninsured Americans can get treatment for COVID-19. The opportunity is open to all providers who want to apply for a Provider Relief Fund payment, regardless of network affiliation or payer contract. HHS is contracting with UnitedHealth Group to facilitate delivery of the funds.

To help interested applicants navigate the [HHS portal application process](#), the National Council for Behavioral Health has updated its step-by-step “[Rules of the Road](#)” guide to include processes for all eligible providers. In addition, HHS has shared a [step-by-step resource](#) to help with this process.



## >>> RFP: FY21 SOR Continuum Grant for Behavioral Health Equity and Racial Disparity Plan - Solicitation for Technical Assistance and Plan Development

As part of Ohio’s State Opioid Response grant initiative, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is seeking a national expert to engage OhioMHAS leadership and stakeholders in a process to better understand the complex social conditions and the systemic problem of racism and bias that implicitly impact policies and practices and results in inequities in access to behavioral health care, quality of behavioral health care, treatment and recovery support of opioid use disorders, and ultimately health outcomes for minority communities. To address racism and bias, OhioMHAS will use a multi-phased approach. The goal of Phase One, a solicitation for technical assistance (TA) and plan development, is to help OhioMHAS leadership and stakeholders better understand how to identify complex social conditions and the systemic problems of racism and bias, and to form recommendations for improvements in the behavioral health service delivery system to address inequities that result from these conditions and problems. The respondent is to describe in their proposal their competency and experience relevant to the issues, the processes they will employ to identify the complex social conditions and the systemic problem of racism and bias, engage leadership and stakeholders to inform the development of a plan of action for OhioMHAS and stakeholders, and the development of a plan that defines the opportunities for improvement and a framework to reduce racism and bias. The SOR Project has made available up to \$150,000 to an organization(s) to provide Technical Assistance in addressing Health Equity and Racial Disparity relating to MAT. Services under this solicitation and plan development are to be provided from Sept. 1-28, 2020.

Questions must be submitted to [SORTreatment@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:SORTreatment@mha.ohio.gov) by **5:30 p.m. on Sept. 2**. Responses to frequently asked questions will be posted to the [OhioMHAS Funding webpage](#). Applications must be submitted to [SORTreatment@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:SORTreatment@mha.ohio.gov) by **5:30 p.m. on Sept. 6**.

[View RFP \(MH-FY21-CPC-SOR-BHER-020\)](#)  
[SOR Funding Restrictions](#)

**>>> Mental Health America 2020 Annual Conference – Sept. 3-4**

Mental Health America will host its 2020 Annual Conference, ***COVID-19, Mental Health and the Need for Equity*** on Sept. 3-4. U.S. Surgeon General, Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H., is among the featured speakers. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.



**>>> Youth Perspectives on the Changing Landscape of Legalized Recreational Marijuana Webinar – Sept. 8**

The National Clinical Training Center for Family Planning is hosting a “Youth Perspectives on the Changing Landscape of Legalized Recreational Marijuana: Reframing Risk and Harm Reduction” webinar on Sept. 8 from 2-3 p.m. ET. This webinar will include an opening activity for participants to consider their personal biases about adolescents, marijuana, and substance use disorder. A short lecture will be followed by case scenarios and engaging video and audio clips, ending with discussion and reflection. The video and audio clips center the voices and experiences of adolescents and young adults. Featuring guest speaker Jenni Lane, M.A., of the University of Michigan Adolescent Health Initiative. Continuing Education is available for CNE and CHES. CME is pending. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**>>> Office of Minority Health Virtual Symposium on COVID-19 – Sept. 17**

The HHS Office of Minority Health is hosting a virtual symposium on Sept. 17 to highlight state, tribal, territorial, and community-based efforts to address COVID-19 among racial and ethnic minority populations. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register for the ***Advancing the Response to COVID-19: Sharing Promising Programs and Practices for Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities*** virtual symposium on Sept. 17 from noon-6 p.m.



**>>> NIMH Virtual Workshop on Social Disconnection and Late-Life Suicide – Sept. 17-18**

The National Institute of Mental Health is hosting a virtual workshop on *Social Disconnection and Late-Life Suicide* on Sept. 17-18. Participants will discuss: current science on social disconnection and suicide; the mechanisms by which social disconnection confers risk for suicide in older adulthood; potential treatment targets for future intervention development; and opportunities for and obstacles to effective implementation of interventions to address and prevent late-life suicide. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**>>> MHTTC Announces Two-Part Grief Sensitivity Virtual Learning Institute**

The Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network has announced a two-part Grief Sensitivity Virtual Learning Institute, featuring leading national grief experts. The series is geared towards providing front-line workers with tools and strategies that can be used when addressing the needs of individuals experiencing grief and loss during COVID-19 and beyond. [Part I](#) will be presented on Sept. 10-11. [Part II](#) will be presented Nov. 12-13. Click the links for more information and to register.



For more information on Ohio's response to COVID-19, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov) or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634). For behavioral health-specific information, visit: <https://mha.ohio.gov/coronavirus>. For behavioral health-related questions, email [covid19BH@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:covid19BH@mha.ohio.gov). For COVID-19-related OTP questions, email [OTP\\_COVID19@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:OTP_COVID19@mha.ohio.gov), for Housing questions, email [COVID19Housing@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:COVID19Housing@mha.ohio.gov) and for Telehealth questions, email [COVID19BHTelehealth@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:COVID19BHTelehealth@mha.ohio.gov). COVID Careline 1-800-720-9616. Click [HERE](#) for a list of pop-up COVID-19 Testing Sites.

**In the News**

8.26.20 | *Ashtabula Star Beacon* [It's not a hotline it's a 'warmline' to give mental health support before a crisis heats up](#)

8.26.20 | *Forbes* [Employees three times more likely to experience poor mental health now](#)

8.25.20 | *WEWS-TV* [Ohio hosting summit for first responders dealing with profound effects of trauma](#)

8.25.20 | *WDTN-TV* [Sheriff Streck Developing Crisis Intervention Team for Montgomery County](#)

8.25.20 | *The New York Times* [The extra stigma of mental illness for African-Americans](#)



**#MasksOn**

- 8.24.20 | *WSYX-TV* [Students open up about struggles, mental health during remote learning](#)
- 8.24.20 | *Warren Tribune Chronicle* [Akron doctor discusses teen blues, depression](#)
- 8.24.20 | *PRNewswire* [New remote learning program to prevent drug abuse](#)
- 8.24.20 | *The New York Times* [Young adults' pandemic mental health risks](#)
- 8.24.20 | *WHIZ-TV* [Naomi House Partners with Foodworks Alliance](#)
- 8.22.20 | *WKEF-TV* ["Everything will be alright, we got you" COVID-19 impacts those in recovery](#)
- 8.22.20 | *Newark Advocate* [Licking County to remember lives lost on International Overdose Awareness Day](#)
- 8.21.20 | *WKEF-TV* [Families of Addicts "Rally 4 Recovery" going virtual](#)
- 8.21.20 | *WSYX-TV* [Virtual training aims to teach educator how to help kids in mental health distress](#)

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