Dec. 2, 2020

>>> Connect Now to Community Schools and Campuses
Over the past 18 months, Governor Mike DeWine’s infusion of Student Wellness and Success funding and K-12 Prevention Initiative funding has flowed to support students at every grade level in Ohio’s schools. More recently, federal funding has been flowing to higher education to ensure mental health service access for college students and staff. All of these funds are resulting in an array of new and enhanced programs to help students maintain health and school success, including a laser focus on behavioral health. Is your agency connected to K-12 schools and higher education in the area you serve? If the relationships aren’t there it’s time to build or refresh them. These cross-systems connections are key to everyone’s resiliency during challenging times. Reach out to superintendents, college presidents, student wellness administrators to let them know that your organization is there to offer services and supports for prevention and clinical care of students and staff. Make sure they have your number and know how you can help!

>>> REMINDER: CARES Act Continuum of Care Relief Funding Application Deadline is Friday, Dec. 4
Prevention, Peer Support, Adult Care Facility, and Recovery Housing operators have until Friday, Dec. 4 to request funds for COVID-19 eligible expenses and economic relief. Interested providers should go to https://grants.ohio.gov/fundingopportunities.aspx#funding-opportunities and select the funding opportunity “CARES Act – Coronavirus Relief Fund – MHAS Continuum of Care Relief Funds” to see the funding guidance document detailing eligible costs and lost revenue that may be reimbursed. OhioMHAS is partnering with Ohio Recovery Housing, NAMI, Ohio Citizen Advocates, and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities to help ensure that every eligible entity has an opportunity to apply for these funds. Questions may be sent to COVID19BH@mha.ohio.gov. A summary document of CARES Funding can be found on the OhioMHAS website.

>>> OSPF Launches New Interprofessional Suicide Prevention College Course
The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation has released an Interprofessional Suicide Prevention Higher Education Course Curriculum. The semester long course is available free to any institution of higher education in Ohio. The course covers a range of topics, including: foundational competencies in suicide prevention; clinical/individual competencies (tertiary prevention); social/inter-personal and at-risk group competencies (secondary prevention); and community-based competencies (primary prevention and postvention). Click HERE to watch an informational video about the course from researchers at The University of Cincinnati. To implement the course, please email austin.lucas@ohiospf.org.

>>> Spanish Language Virtual Adolescent Town Hall – Dec. 9
The Hispanic Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program (UMADAOP), in partnership with the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, will host a virtual, Spanish language Adolescent Town Hall (Ayuntamiento de Adolescentes) on Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. The town hall will feature remarks from Dr. Lisa Ramírez-Shah, Ph.D., ABPP, Dr. Brittany R. Myers, Ph.D., Dr. Haner Hernández, Ph.D., CPS, CADCII, LADCI and Dr. Marie Balotta, who has more than 33 years of service in the field of counseling and education. The panel will address rising rates of depression among
Hispanic/Latino youth, especially amid the global COVID-19 pandemic. To join the conversation, use Zoom Meeting ID: 878 7061 7640, Passcode: 546493. For more information, please email miperez@hispanicumadaop.org or call 216.459.1222.

>>> Second Annual Human Trafficking Summit – Jan. 14
Registration is now open for the second annual Virtual Human Trafficking Summit hosted by Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost. The Jan. 14 Summit will include a welcome message from Yost, a presentation from the Renee Jones Empowerment Center, and 15 workshop options with information and resources for health care providers, law enforcement, court personnel, advocates, survivors, and community members. Cost is $10. Continuing education credits have been applied for through the Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board and the Supreme Court of Ohio.

For information on Ohio’s response to COVID-19, visit 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. For COVID-19-related OTP questions, email OTP_COVID19@mha.ohio.gov, for Housing questions, email COVID19Housing@mha.ohio.gov and for Telehealth questions, email COVID19BHTelehealth@mha.ohio.gov. COVID Careline 1-800-720-9616. Click HERE for a list of pop-up COVID-19 Testing Sites and HERE for the latest SAMHSA COVID-19 training and technical assistance resources.

In the News
12.2.20 | WKYC-TV The Head, The Heart and The Holidays: Tackling Substance Abuse
12.1.20 | The Washington Post How to talk to loved ones when you’re worried about their mental health
12.1.20 | Cleveland.com Ohio residents dying younger than they did 10 years ago
11.30.20 | Columbus Dispatch Ohio Veterans Outdoors brings healing, camaraderie to veterans through nature
11.30.20 | Canton Repository Stark nearing grim overdose mark
11.30.20 | New Philadelphia Times Reporter Take advantage of holiday breaks and open the gift of conversation with your kids
11.30.20 | Healio Telehealth eliminates barriers to mental health care
11.29.20 | The Post NAMI Athens provides help to those affected by mental illness

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