



News Now

Mike DeWine, Governor
Lori Criss, Director



Dec. 23, 2020

>>> Nearly \$14M in Relief Funds Awarded to Providers to Assist With Pandemic-Related Expenses

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) today announced funding awards totaling just under \$13.8 million to help mental health and addiction prevention and recovery support providers struggling with pandemic-related expenses and losses. Nearly 500 certified prevention providers, adult care facilities, peer-run organizations and recovery housing operators throughout Ohio will receive a portion of the state's CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funding Continuum of Care Relief Payments. The funds, which are part of the federal government's \$175 billion Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, can be used to cover a variety of unexpected expenses incurred between March 1-Dec. 30, 2020, as a direct result of the coronavirus pandemic. Qualified uses include, but are not limited to, the purchase of personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitation supplies, and measures that promote social distancing to mitigate spread. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of award recipients and [HERE](#) to view the full media announcement.



>>> NIMH Livestream Event: Managing Stress and Anxiety – Jan. 14



To kick-off the new year, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) will host a livestream event on managing stress and anxiety on Jan. 14, 2021, from 1-1:30 p.m. During this event, Krystal Lewis, Ph.D., a licensed clinical psychologist at NIMH, will discuss coping techniques on how to maintain your mental health

during the pandemic and when to get professional help. Watch event live on NIMH's [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) feeds. The livestream will be archived on [NIMH's website](#) so you can access it after the event is over.

>>> OhioMHAS Hospitals Begin COVID-19 Vaccinations in Earnest



As reported Tuesday, Ohio's six state-run regional psychiatric hospitals began receiving shipments of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine this week. The vaccines will be made available to all patients and staff who choose to participate. Several hospitals have already started to administer the first of the two-stage shots. Twin Valley Healthcare Therapeutic Program Worker Charles Shepard received his vaccine from Abby Hunter, R.N., live this afternoon as part of Governor Mike DeWine's [COVID-19 update press conference](#) (segment starts at 13:21).

Pictured at left: Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare (ABH) Pharmacist Mike Tenoglia was the first recipient of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine administered by Julia Long-Yahn, LPN. Located in Athens, ABH was the first hospital to receive its shipment of the vaccine from local health department officials.

Stay up-to-date with the latest vaccine news and resources on the [Ohio Department of Health website](#) and the [OhioMHAS COVID-19 Vaccine Resources page](#). Email questions to BHCOVID19vaccine@mha.ohio.gov.

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, for Telehealth questions, email COVID19BHTelehealth@mha.ohio.gov, and for Vaccine questions email BHCOVID19vaccine@mha.ohio.gov. Ohio 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

- 12.23.20 | *Public News Service* [Ohio START program takes intensive, team approach to substance abuse](#)
- 12.23.20 | *WTOL-TV* [Comedian's public struggle with relapse and rehab inspires others seeking treatment](#)
- 12.23.20 | *New Philadelphia Times-Reporter* [Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services receives grants](#)
- 12.22.20 | *WCMH-TV* [Daytime Columbus: Coping with stress and anxiety](#)
- 12.22.20 | *Sandusky Register* [Depression hits harder this year](#)
- 12.22.20 | *WTOL-TV* [Family Resource Center receives federal grant for expanded mental health services](#)
- 12.22.20 | *WBNS-TV* [From pain to passion and purpose: Columbus man shares addiction recovery story to help others](#)

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