



News Now

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

March 9, 2020

>>> COVID-19 Update & Information for Providers

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is committed to doing everything we can to address concerns about and the potential prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). We are grateful for the leadership of Governor Mike DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health for their efforts in guiding Ohio's coordinated response.

Today, OhioMHAS Director Lori Criss [released a memo](#) with important updates for community partners. OhioMHAS has also created a designated web page with information for providers: <https://mha.ohio.gov/Health-Professionals/About-Mental-Health-and-Addiction-Treatment/Emergency-Preparedness/Coronavirus> and designated an email box for behavioral health-specific questions related to the outbreak: COVID19BH@mha.ohio.gov. Please share this information and share with your staff.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

coronavirus.ohio.gov

Ohio Department of Health Call Center: 1.833.4.ASK.ODH (1.833.427.5634)

>>> DeWine, Husted Announce Steps to Expand Access to School Mental Health Counselors

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted today announced a telehealth pilot project to connect K12 students with mental health counselors in the rural Switzerland School District in Monroe County, located in southeast Ohio along the Ohio river. The technology could avert 60-minute commutes to offer on-demand access to mental health counseling in crises. Once results are received from the pilot, the goal is to expand the project to other schools in Ohio. By connecting schools with mental health providers through telehealth, the project takes another step toward implementing InnovateOhio's recently released [Ohio Broadband Strategy](#), which seeks to bring high-speed internet connectivity to the approximately one million Ohioans who do not have access. Click [HERE](#) to read the full media release.

In the News

3.9.20 | *OSU News* [Gratitude interventions don't help with depression, anxiety](#)

3.9.20 | *Mother Jones* [Mental health professionals are preparing for an epidemic of anxiety around the coronavirus](#)

3.9.20 | *Wooster Daily Record* [CDC says Ohio on a binge, but colleges combat alcohol abuse](#)

3.8.20 | *Chillicothe Gazette* [School screenings seek to save lives](#)

3.7.20 | *WKYC-TV* [Ohio woman using personal story of addiction recovery to help others](#)

3.7.20 | *Newark Advocate* [Newark mental health conference gives first responders tools for addressing mental health](#)

3.6.20 | *Tiffin Advertiser-Tribune* [NAMI introduces Navigation Program](#)

3.5.20 | *WEWS-TV* [Chagrin Valley educators meet to talk mental health](#)

Governor Mike DeWine's [Week in Review video](#)

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