



# News Now

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Lori Criss, Director



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## >>> YouthMOVE Ohio Gets Creative in Mental Health Month Awareness Celebrations

Mental Health Month and National Children's Mental Health Day recognitions looked a little different this year for the members and partners of NAMI Ohio's YouthMOVE program. For nearly 20 years, National Children's Mental Health Day has been symbolized in Ohio with the Resiliency Ring, a human circle formed by youth and families at the Ohio Statehouse to display the power of resiliency and peer support among those impacted by mental illness and other behavioral health challenges. This year, as activities have gone virtual and programs have essentially all moved online, the YouthMOVE Ohio program organizers along with the Parent Advocacy Connection and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services came up with a new way to engage local communities to participate.



Throughout the month of May, more than 2,000 Frisbees, 2,000 care cards, and 600 hula hoops were delivered to local YouthMOVE chapters and local partner organizations throughout Ohio to be distributed to youth and families in their local communities. Each of these items displayed a message of resiliency and led individuals back to more information about the program and recognitions online. In addition to being a way to reach out from a distance, this activity also provided the opportunity to inspire youth to get moving and active. "We want to inspire kids to get off their computers, since they're living inside, and get out and move, we're looking for anything to lift the spirits of children and youth", stated Angela Lariviere, YouthMOVE Ohio Program Director. To learn more about YouthMOVE Ohio the Parent Advocacy Connection or other programs of NAMI Ohio, visit [www.namiohio.org](http://www.namiohio.org).

## >>> Preventing and Addressing Relapse in Recovery Housing Webinar – June 5

One of the most challenging issues that recovery housing operators face is preventing and addressing potential relapse in recovery housing. Recovery housing operators must consider and respect the rights of residents while also maintaining a healthy and safe environment for all residents seeking long-term recovery. Ohio Recovery Housing, with support from Alkermes, will host a free webinar on June 5 from 1-3 p.m. Presenters will focus on the social model of recovery and best practices for preventing and addressing relapse in recovery home settings. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

## >>> Important Tips for Using Telehealth for Suicide Care

With social distancing recommendations in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many mental health clinicians are turning to telehealth to meet with clients. But while connecting virtually is better than not connecting at all, delivering essential mental health care this way poses specific challenges and risks, especially regarding clients at risk for suicide. Click [HERE](#) to read three important tips from Julie Goldstein Grumet, director of health and behavioral health initiatives for the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) at the Educational Development Center. SPRC's recent webinar on treating patients at risk for suicide during COVID-19 is now [archived online](#). Presenters discuss three best practices in suicide care that can be delivered easily and effectively via telehealth: safety planning, treatment that directly targets thoughts of suicide, and dialectical behavior therapy-based self-help skills and resources.



## >>> Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Program Offers Discounts for Phone and Broadband Service

The Federal Communications Commission Lifeline program provides monthly discounts on phone and broadband service to qualifying low-income consumers. Click [HERE](#) for more information. As a reminder, please review telehealth [resources available](#) on the Department's web site including the [COVID-19 telecom policies document](#).

### >>> Join SFY20 Problem Gambling Listening Sessions

Even though COVID-19 has turned our worlds upside down, problem gambling services remain critically important to the health and wellbeing of Ohioans. OhioMHAS and Ohio for Responsible Gambling will be conducting virtual listening sessions with stakeholders and partners. The listening sessions will provide an opportunity for input on the effects of COVID-19 on problem gambling services in your community; information for the next problem gambling strategic plan being developed now, and the 2022 Ohio Problem Gambling Survey. Organizers hope to host three, Zoom-based listening sessions during the month of June. The sessions will be hosted by Dr. Matthew Courser of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation. For those interested, please email Dr. Courser at [mcourser@pire.org](mailto:mcourser@pire.org) or call 614.746.5670. A Doodle poll will go out to everyone interested to facilitate scheduling of the listening sessions.

### >>> Ohio Officers Recognized for 20 Years of Crisis Intervention Team Service

Ohio is celebrating an important Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) milestone. Last week, 49 Ohio law enforcement personnel were recognized for 20 years of service as Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officers. Each officer received a certificate of appreciation signed by Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, a special commemorative 20-year CIT pin and a letter of gratitude from leadership of the partners that advance and support CIT in Ohio: the Ohio Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJ CCoE), the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio (NAMI Ohio) and OhioMHAS. Retired Akron Police Department Lt. Michael S. Woody and Mark Munetz, M.D., Northeast Ohio Medical University professor and chair emeritus of psychiatry, were the lead proponents of bringing CIT to Ohio in 2000. Today, all 88 Ohio counties have trained CIT officers. In addition, more than 16,000 professionals have been trained throughout Ohio, of which nearly 12,000 are sworn law enforcement officers.



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.

### In the News

- 5.26.20 | *Lorain Morning Journal* [Virtual We Are The Majority Rally Raises Awareness of Youth Resiliency, Healthy Choices](#)
- 5.26.20 | *Pomeroy Daily Sentinel* [Appalachian Children Coalition to fight for Southeast Ohio's kids](#)
- 5.26.20 | *WOSU 89.7* [As Ohio reopens, health advocates expect surging demand for addiction services](#)
- 5.25.20 | *Portsmouth Daily Times* [May is Mental Health Awareness Month](#)
- 5.25.20 | *The New York Times* [Fear of COVID leads other patients to decline critical treatment](#)
- 5.24.20 | *Springfield News-Sun* [Mental health board pushes resources for Clark County residents](#)
- 5.24.20 | *Spectrum News* [Pandemic could change trajectory of mental, behavioral health trends](#)
- 5.23.20 | *Lake County News-Herald* [Coronavirus pandemic creates additional challenges for those with substance abuse disorders](#)
- 5.22.20 | *WOUB 91.3* [Ohio to distribute \\$1 million to groups working to ease mental stress, addiction](#)
- 5.22.20 | *WSYX-TV* [Ohio Guidestone expands telehealth services during COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- 5.22.20 | *Xenia Gazette* [MHRB urges workers struggling with stress during COVID-19 to seek care](#)

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