



# News Now

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Lori Criss, Director



May 8, 2020

## >>> State Opioid Response (SOR) Recovery Housing Funding

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is making \$3 million in State Opioid Response (SOR) funding available to assist recovery housing operators who are experiencing additional challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. \$1.5 million will be available specifically to operators that have not previously been connected by contract to the ADAMH board system, and a separate \$1.5 million will go toward existing ADAMH board programs that demonstrate spending of all available recovery housing funds, including SOR recovery housing and Recovery Housing Initiative funds. Individual, operational recovery houses may be eligible for up to five months of funding to assist with operational costs. The application and checklist for both funding sources are available [HERE](#). OhioMHAS will host two technical assistance calls to assist applicants in understanding the SOR funding and application process.



- May 14 | 12:30-1:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- May 14 | 2-3 p.m. | [Register](#)

In addition, the Department has made funds available through Ohio Recovery Housing to assist recovery housing operators with additional items and costs incurred during the crisis. ORH has developed a process to provide the funding to ORH-certified operators and those funded through ADAMH Boards for these additional needs above and beyond normal operational needs. Eligible operators have been contacted by ORH, OhioMHAS or the ADAMH Board to complete the application process.

## >>> OSAM Network Targeted Response Initiative Report Focuses on Ohio's 21<sup>st</sup> Century CURES Programming

The Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring (OSAM) Network announces the release of its most recent targeted response initiative (TRI) report: *Follow-up Assessment - Ohio's Response to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act in Addressing the Opioid Crisis: A Targeted Response Initiative, November 2017 – April 2019*. Click [HERE](#) to view the report. Click [HERE](#) for more OSAM Network resources.

## >>> Virtual Peer Supporter Trainings

The OhioMHAS Bureau of Recovery Supports is pleased to announce that it has developed a new process to deliver the 40-hour peer support certification training virtually. Initially, the team will be working with the counties that experienced interrupted trainings (Stark and Fairfield) due to COVID-19. The team will work with counties that have set aside funding for peer certification trainings once the interrupted trainings have been completed. For more information, email [Zandia.Lawson@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:Zandia.Lawson@mha.ohio.gov).

## >>> Former OhioMHAS Director Mark Hurst, M.D. Announces Retirement from Public Service

Former Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) Director and Medical Director Mark Hurst, M.D., has announced his retirement from state service, effective June 5. Dr. Hurst, who currently serves as medical director for the Ohio Department of Health, has been an integral part of Ohio's public health system for decades. A general psychiatrist and addiction psychiatrist, Dr. Hurst has also served in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health system and at The Ohio State University. In announcing his retirement, ODH Director Amy Acton said of her



colleague, “Dr. Hurst is a remarkable leader whose knowledge, compassion, and commitment have benefitted Ohioans for decades.” She added, “In the last few months, as we have banded together to protect Ohioans from COVID-19, I have seen even more clearly how Dr. Hurst is able to inspire, reassure, and offer a rare combination of experience, expertise, and empathy – even in the midst of a major crisis.”

OhioMHAS joins with Dr. Acton and our partners at ODH in extending our congratulations and sincere thanks to our friend and colleague for all he has done to advance health and wellness for the citizens of Ohio. Best wishes Dr. Hurst!

### >>> Latino Mental Health Webinar Series

The Ohio Latino Affairs Commission is partnering with the National Hispanic and Latino Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network (MHTTC) and Universidad Central del Caribe to host a series of webinars focused on the impact of trauma on the Latino community. All webinars will be hosted from 1-2:30 p.m. ET. Click the links below for more information and to register:

May 26 | [Coping with stress during the pandemic](#)

June 3 | [Considering culture in the diagnosis of mental health disorders among Guatemalan children, youths, and families](#)

### >>> Switching Gears & Changing Minds | Adapting Mental Health & BH Services for COVID-19 Webinar

The Center for Innovative Practices (CIP) offers a timely webinar on how mental health and behavioral health specialists and clinicians can meet the evolving needs of young clients and their families during the COVID-19 crisis and the necessary distancing involved. The session explores strategies, tools, and lessons learned in ways to offer connection and continuity to those in recovery. Hosted by the CIP’s Senior Research Associate, Bobbi Beale, Psy.D., as part of the CIP’s continuing mission to help clinicians, organizations, clients, families and communities adjust to new ways of connecting in recovery, especially with high fidelity intensive home-base treatment and Wraparound Systems of Care approaches to youth mental health and substance use recovery. Click [HERE](#) to view the session.

### >>> Upcoming Problem Gambling Trainings from Across the Continuum of Care



The Problem Gambling Network of Ohio is sponsoring a number of upcoming training sessions with continuing education hours for prevention and chemical dependency professionals, social workers, and clinical counselors. The sessions are all virtual and at no cost to participants. Click the links below for more information and to register.

May 14 | [Recovery Advocates: The many roles they play and their value](#)

May 26 | [Looking Ahead: Ohio’s Gambling Survey in a Brave New World](#)

June 5 | [Gambling Counselor Case Presentations](#)

June 10 | [Cracking the Code: A blueprint to distorted thinking](#)

June 19 | [Collegiate Problem Gambling Awareness: Strategies for student collaboration and engagement](#)

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

5.7.20 | *Canton Repository* [Wish lists wish to meet needs of state psychiatric patients](#)

5.7.20 | *Clermont Sun* [Virtual ‘We Are the Majority Rally’ to raise awareness about youth resiliency, healthy choices](#)

5.7.20 | *Xenia Daily Gazette* [MHRB: Resources available to support children’s mental health](#)

5.7.20 | *Highland County Press (Column)* [U.S. Sen Rob Portman: We Can’t Take Our Eyes Of the Addiction Crisis](#)

5.7.20 | *WDTN-TV* [National Depression and Anxiety Week](#)

5.7.20 | *EurekAlert!* [Emergency drug overdose visits associated with increased risk for later suicide](#)

5.6.20 | *Dayton Daily News* [National Nurses Week begins today...‘Our nurses are truly heroes’](#)

5.6.20 | *WSYX-TV* [The health benefits of having an ‘attitude of gratitude’](#)

5.5.20 | *WKEF-TV* [Wright State Psychiatry Department responds to pandemic with virtual efforts](#)

5.5.20 | *WBNS-TV* [‘Check on each other:’ Pandemic presents additional challenges for those battling addiction](#)  
5.5.20 | *WTOV-TV* [Coronavirus has caused uptick in mental health issues](#)  
5.4.20 | *Toledo Blade* [Public health officials urge compassion during coronavirus outbreak](#)  
4.30.20 | *Yellow Springs News* [Pandemic stressors affect mental health](#)  
4.29.20 | *Newswise* [Case Western Reserve team studying ‘unprecedented’ levels of trauma caused by COVID-19 pandemic](#)

**Please share widely and encourage your colleagues to subscribe to *OhioMHAS eNews* on our [website](#).  
Also, be sure to join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Flickr](#) and [LinkedIn](#)!**