



News Now

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



Oct. 16, 2020

>>> Controlling Board Approves \$10M in CARES Funding for COVID-19 Response

The Ohio Controlling Board recently approved \$10M of funding made available from the CARES Act to help respond to the behavioral health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) will use the CARES funding to strengthen the continuum of care and support COVID-19 response efforts in three primary areas: 1) visibility and access to services, 2) psychiatric inpatient and crisis care, and 3) supports for those in recovery. Click [HERE](#) for more information on how this money will be allocated.



>>> CARES Act: Community Outreach and Education Initiative Funding Guidance and Application

The [Community Education & Outreach initiative](#) seeks to decrease stigma and connect Ohioans to support for emotional distress, mental health conditions, or substance use challenges that are brought on or exacerbated by COVID-19. The goal is for local partners to reach Ohioans of all ages with this information in communities throughout the state. Through this initiative educational materials and information will be distributed to Ohioans to help them understand the signs and symptoms of emotional distress, mental health promotion strategies to manage emotional distress, and pathways to get help when needed. Implementing organizations will engage with local partners for distribution of information and educational resources focused on managing emotional distress for children/youth/adults/older adults/families, signs and symptoms of mental illness, and where to call/text to connect to help or services and supports including local resources and the Ohio Care Line and Crisis Text Line. OhioMHAS will provide templates for print materials and for the Care Line and Text Line. This information may be supplemented. Information should be disseminated in the community at locations where people are already safely interacting, including but not limited to Job and Family Services, food pantries, Grab & Go meal pick-up, produce distribution sites, churches/temples/mosques, COVID testing sites, and other locations culturally relevant to a variety of citizens in the community.

A total of \$2 million is available with individual awards capped at \$25,000 per organization. Questions must be submitted to communityoutreach@mha.ohio.gov by 5 p.m. on Oct. 21. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Oct. 27. Awards will be made on Nov. 3 for project completion by Dec. 20, 2020. Click [HERE](#) to view the funding guidance and application.

>>> RFA: SOR 2.0 Application for Funding to Perform Evaluation, Training, Data Collection, and Reporting

As a part of Ohio's State Opioid Response (SOR) initiatives, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) seeks to partner with a college or university, medical organization or other organization with experience in grant evaluation and experience in achieving the required Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) survey data collection and reporting for Ohio's two SOR grants. The selected applicant will evaluate the grant performance, outcomes and impact to the State of Ohio and provide training and support to the SOR providers in collecting required GPRA data; monitor and interpret data collected to determine whether an adequate number of GPRA are completed and evaluate data integrity; identify and provide services and supports to stakeholders that will promote the use of the GPRA; frequently interpret and report GPRA data, trends and highlights to OhioMHAS, ADMAHS Boards and providers. Questions must be submitted to SORTreatment@mha.ohio.gov by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 6. Responses to frequently asked questions will be posted on the [OhioMHAS Funding Opportunities web page](#). Applications must be submitted to SORTreatment@mha.ohio.gov by 11:59 p.m., Nov. 29. Project implementation is expected to begin no later than Dec. 4.

[View RFA \(MHA-FY21-SOR-EvalDataRT-CommPL-10\)](#)

>>> Application Deadline Extended to Oct. 30 for Coronavirus Relief Funding

The Ohio Office of Budget and Management **has extended the deadline to Oct. 30** for Medicaid provider agencies to apply for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) funding. These federal funds were allocated by the U.S. Treasury to Ohio to provide critically needed economic support to a variety of health care providers, including behavioral health agencies. To apply, visit the state of Ohio grant opportunities internet page [HERE](#). If your agency has more than one Medicaid ID number (e.g. one for mental health and one for SUD lines of business) please submit a separate application for each Medicaid ID number. For more information on the CARES Act, visit the [U.S. Treasury website](#). Inquiries can be sent to CRFProvider@obm.ohio.gov.

>>> OhioMHAS on Pinterest

OhioMHAS today launched a Pinterest profile to enhance its social media presence. The agency is using the [ABCs of Mental Health campaign](#) to kick-off its Pinterest entry, with the goal of reaching educators and school employees. Check out the account today and start pinning! Find us at: <https://www.pinterest.com/ohiomhas/>.



>>> Updated Telehealth Resources Web Page

OhioMHAS strives to make telehealth services for behavioral health care understandable and accessible to Ohioans. To support this goal, we have updated the [telehealth web page](#) on OhioMHAS' website. Now, patients and providers can find helpful resources, like preparation checklists and provider toolkits, as they navigate telehealth together.

>>> Ohio's Virtual Recovery Series Kickoff – Oct. 27



The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) will host its first Virtual Recovery Series, in place of its annual Recovery Conference, beginning Oct. 27. Sponsored by OhioMHAS and The Cardinal Health Foundation, the series will highlight important issues related to recovery from both mental illness and substance use disorder and provide opportunities for learning and connection for those in recovery, their loved ones, and behavioral health professionals. The [Oct. 27 webinar](#) will feature Wendy Adamson, a woman in recovery with more two decades of experience in the field of mental health and substance abuse treatment. Currently, Wendy works with adolescents who have mental health issues, at an inpatient treatment facility in Los Angeles. In her recent memoir, *Mother Load*, Wendy recounts her own struggles with addiction and the long arduous journey of healing and repair within her family as a result of her getting sober. The event will also feature an Ohioan in recovery, who has offered to share personal recovery story. This webinar has been approved for continuing education credits for Ohio Certified Peer Recovery Supporters. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion following the event. CEs for other disciplines will not be provided.

>>> SAMHSA Brief: The Opioid Crisis and the Hispanic/Latino Population: An Urgent Issue

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration today issued The Opioid Crisis and the Hispanic/Latino Population: An Urgent Issue brief. The brief presents recent data on prevalence of opioid misuse and opioid overdose death rates in the Hispanic/Latino population; contextual factors and challenges to prevention and treatment; innovative outreach and engagement strategies to connect people to evidence-based treatment; and the importance of community voice. The issue brief is available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

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 SAMHA COVID-19 training and technical assistance resources.

In the News

10.16.20 | *New Philadelphia Times-Reporter* [Brandon Novak brings message of hope to those suffering from addiction](#)

10.15.20 | *Columbus Business First* [Working from home: building relationships and healthy habits](#)
10.15.20 | *Akron Leader* [Urban Ounce of Prevention receives grant](#)
10.15.20 | *Psychology Today* [Resilience: How it can help improve your mental health](#)
10.14.20 | *WSYX-TV* [Columbus organization puts a major focus on mental health](#)
10.14.20 | *Columbus Monthly* [“This is Ohio” Excerpt: A new way of thinking about addiction](#)
10.14.20 | *Wooster Daily Record* [‘Artists Among Us’ Creative expression aids in mental health recovery](#)
10.13.20 | *WDTN-TV* [Mall at Fairfield Commons works to educate people on children’s mental health](#)
10.12.20 | *WLWT-TV* [Cincinnati musician using talent to bring awareness to depression during COVID-19](#)

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