



News Now

Mike DeWine, Governor
Lori Criss, Director



April 8, 2021

>>> 'Life Is Better With You Here' Pop-up Event in Cleveland – April 10

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation this weekend will host a pop-up event in Cleveland to highlight the *Life is Better With You Here* campaign. The activity will be on Saturday (April 10) from 1-3 p.m. at Concession Stand, 13006 Larchmere Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44120. According to the *Ring the Alarm: the Crisis of Black Youth Suicide in America* [report](#), self-reported suicide attempts rose by 73 percent between 1991-2017 for Black high school students who took the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey, while injuries by attempt rose 122 percent for Black adolescent males. The [Life Is Better With You Here campaign](#) urges strong meaningful, positive relationships with others to protect and prevent against suicidal thoughts and behaviors. For questions, contact keiko.talley@ohiospf.org.



>>> DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Set for April 24



The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will host its next *National Prescription Drug Take Back Day* on Saturday, April 24 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. This semi-annual event provides an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths by properly disposing unwanted, unused, or expired prescription medications. Click [HERE](#) for a list of participating collection sites in Ohio and [HERE](#) for a list of permanent drop-box locations. Click [HERE](#) for more information about Take Back Day, including promotional resources, collection statistics, PSAs ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)) and sample social media messages.

>>> Virtual “We Are The Majority Rally” to Raise Awareness that Mindset Matters – May 7



Prevention Action Alliance will host the 10th annual [We Are The Majority Rally](#) on May 7 at 5 p.m. to celebrate its commitment to making healthy choices and strengthening mental health and wellness despite the upheavals caused by COVID-19. The We Are The Majority Rally has empowered thousands of teens from throughout Ohio to celebrate and raise awareness about the fact that the majority of youth do not use drugs or alcohol. This year, the Ohio Youth-Led

Prevention Network (OYLPN) at Prevention Action Alliance has made the event virtual once again to combat the spread of COVID-19 while still celebrating its theme of “Mindset Matters.” Special guests this year include: Governor Mike DeWine, OhioMHAS Director Lori Criss, and Bobby Berk, design expert and host of Netflix’s *Queer Eye*. Once again, Miss Ohio High School America 2020 and OYLPN Youth Council member Jade Eilers will be the emcee of the rally.



>>> Ohio's 2021 Opiate and Other Drug Conference: Exploring Better Pathways for Care – May 11-13

The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities in partnership with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, will host *Ohio's 2021 Opiate and Other Drugs Conference: Exploring Better Pathways for Care* on May 11-13. This virtual event will bring behavioral health professionals together for three full days of education related to the opiate and addiction epidemic. Ohio's 2021 Opiate and Other Drugs Conference will focus on treatment, prevention, recovery supports, medication-assisted treatment,

criminal justice, and more. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about breakout session options and keynote addresses, and register today.

>>> 2021 Mental Health Month Toolkits Available for Download

To help promote May as Mental Health Month, Mental Health America (MHA) and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) have developed toolkits to help communities generate awareness and understanding about mental health, while working to reduce stigma. MHA's [Tools to Thrive kit](#) provides practical tools that everyone can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency regardless of their personal situation. The toolkit includes sample materials for communications and social media, as well as printable handouts on a variety of topics, including: adapting after trauma and stress; dealing with anger and frustration; getting out of thinking traps; processing big changes; taking time for yourself; and radical acceptance. NAMI's [toolkit](#), which includes [images and graphics](#), continues to amplify the message "You Are Not Alone." NAMI's resources emphasize the healing value of connecting in safe ways, prioritizing mental health and acknowledging that it's okay to not be okay through NAMI's blog, personal stories, videos, digital toolkits, social media engagements and national events.



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

- 4.7.21 | *Youngstown Business Journal* [New Flying High Employment Center Aims to Eliminate Barriers](#)
- 4.7.21 | *CNN* [A third of COVID-19 survivors suffer 'brain disease,' study shows](#)
- 4.7.21 | *Scientific American* [The pandemic doesn't mean we have to choose between physical and mental health](#)
- 4.7.21 | *Norwalk Reflector* [Project DAWN site opens in Norwalk](#)
- 4.7.21 | *The Washington Post* [The Health 202: Overdose deaths may have topped 90,000 in 2020](#)
- 4.6.21 | *WEWS-TV* [NE Ohio mother issues warning after Cuyahoga County reports surge in overdose deaths](#)
- 4.6.21 | *WDTN-TV* [Ohio Medicaid program to expand access to behavioral health services for children](#)
- 4.6.21 | *Statehouse News Bureau* [State program created to coordinate multi-system care for children, young adults](#)
- 4.6.21 | *WKRC-TV* [Depression and retirement – why many become depressed when they stop working](#)
- 4.5.21 | *Columbus Dispatch* [DeWine plan keeps Ohio children with complex behavioral issues in parents' custody](#)
- 3.19.21 | *WTOL-TV* [New program in Tiffin looks to address students experiencing trauma at home](#)

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