



# News Now

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Lori Criss, Director



Feb. 9, 2021

## >>> Budget Testimony Begins

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) Director Lori Criss will join colleagues from other Health and Human Services agencies on Wednesday (2/10) to provide testimony on Governor Mike DeWine's executive budget proposal before members of the [House Finance Committee](#). The hearing, which begins at 9:30 a.m.\*, will be carried live on [The Ohio Channel](#). A PDF version of the Director's testimony will be made available on the [OhioMHAS Budget webpage](#) tomorrow.



*\*Note – Due to the nature of the hearing, we are unable to provide a specific start time for Director Criss' testimony. Sessions are recorded and archived on [The Ohio Channel website](#).*

## >>> New COVID-19 Weekly Fact Sheet for BH Providers Available

The latest *COVID-19 Fact Sheet for Behavioral Health Providers* is now available. Click [HERE](#) to view this week's edition.

## >>> Save these Dates! Ohio COVID-19 Vaccine Virtual Townhalls

The Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, in partnership with Ohio Department of Health, OhioMHAS, and [CAS](#), are partnering to host a [series of virtual town hall events](#) to discuss the COVID-19 vaccine as it relates to special populations in Ohio. Hear from medical experts, community leaders, and public health professionals. More information on how to join the following live steam events will be shared on [coronavirus.ohio.gov](#) in the near future .



**Feb. 22** | 6:30 p.m. – African American Ohioans

**Feb. 23** | 6:30 p.m. – Hispanic/Latino Ohioans

**March 1** | 6:30 p.m. – Asian American and Pacific Islander Ohioans

**March 2** | 6:30 p.m. – Rural Ohioans

## >>> Ohio Statewide Healthcare System Suicide Prevention Activities Inventory Survey

OhioMHAS and the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, in partnership with stakeholders, have developed a [new survey](#) to help gauge how Ohio's healthcare system currently aligns with goals outlined in the [Suicide Prevention Plan for Ohio](#). Specifically, responses will be used to generate an inventory of how Ohio's healthcare organizations are incorporating suicide prevention education, advocacy, and promotion into their work. Responses are requested by **March 12**. Questions? Please email Austin Lucas at [austin.lucas@ohiospf.org](mailto:austin.lucas@ohiospf.org).

## >>> Reducing Stigma, Gaining Faith in Prevention Forum – Feb. 24

PreventionFIRST! will host a virtual Reducing Stigma, Gaining Faith in Prevention Forum on Feb. 24 from 1-3 p.m. for members of Ohio's faith and prevention communities. The goal for this event is to increase the skills of congregations on how to implement substance use prevention and advocate to reduce stigma associated with substance use disorders. Participants will hear from Michelle Reynolds, Director, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and Stacey Frohnafel-Hasson, Chief, Office of Prevention Services, OhioMHAS. Click [HERE](#) to register and [HERE](#) to complete a brief, pre-event survey which will help guide the discussion.



## >>> Virtual LOSS Team Trainings

[LOSS Community Services](#), with support from OhioMHAS and the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, will host two upcoming virtual trainings. Click the links for more information and to register.

March 23 | [How to Launch a LOSS Team: A Training for Counties in Ohio](#)

April 17 | [Volunteer Training for LOSS Teams throughout Ohio](#)

# Pop-Up Testing Sites

## WANT TO GET TESTED FOR COVID-19?

ANYONE CAN GET A NO-COST TEST AT THESE LOCATIONS WEEK OF FEB. 8 – FEB. 13

<b>FEB. 8</b>	<b>Cincinnati*</b> Richard E. Lindner YMCA 2039 Sherman Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45212 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b>FEB. 9</b>	<b>Cincinnati*</b> Richard E. Lindner YMCA 2039 Sherman Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45212 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<b>FEB. 13</b>	<b>Columbus</b> Clinton Township Hall PrimaryOne Health 3820 Cleveland Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43224 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
		<b>FEB. 12</b>	<b>Warren</b> Trumbull Plaza 2485 Parkman Rd., NW Warren, Ohio 44485 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.		

#IN THIS TOGETHER  #RESPONSIBLE RESTART 

\* Hamilton County residents, employees and students only.

[coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

For 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), for Telehealth questions, email [COVID19BHTelehealth@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:COVID19BHTelehealth@mha.ohio.gov), and for Vaccine questions email [BHCOVID19vaccine@mha.ohio.gov](mailto: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

- 2.9.21 | *Columbus Dispatch* [Artist finds second chance illustrating books for kids with moms in prison](#)
- 2.8.21 | *Lisbon Morning Journal* [Mental health help also offered with vaccinations](#)
- 2.8.21 | *Lorain Morning Journal* [Lorain County COVID Care teams to assist residents](#)
- 2.8.21 | *Madison Messenger* [Free mental health care for frontline workers, including educators](#)
- 2.8.21 | *Ohio Valley ReSource* [Addiction in the Pandemic: An interview with White House leader on drug control policy](#)
- 2.7.21 | *Tiffin Advertiser Tribune* [Tiffin University awarded mental health, wellness grant](#)
- 2.6.21 | *WSYX-TV* [Good Day Columbus: Super Bowl Gambling](#)
- 2.6.21 | *The New York Times* [How to help when adolescents have suicidal thoughts](#)
- 2.5.21 | *WLWT-TV* [Ohio creates new training so that teachers, police officers can support children dealing with trauma](#)
- 2.5.21 | *Ohio Valley ReSource* [Addiction in the Pandemic: Staying in treatment while staying COVID safe](#)
- 2.5.21 | *Dayton.com* ['Healing unscripted' offers resources to those struggling with mental illness](#)
- 2.5.21 | *WCH Record-Herald* [Local providers can help with recovery](#)
- 2.5.21 | *WTAP-TV* [Life and Purpose Behavioral Health podcast discusses mental health](#)

- 2.5.21 | *WDTN-TV* [Portman, Brown announce \\$35M for mental health in Ohio](#)
- 2.5.21 | *WTRF-TV* [Buckeye Local students take part in QPR training to help those on the verge of suicide](#)
- 2.4.21 | *Forbes* [How mental health crisis centers have tried to weather the COVID-19 storm](#)
- 2.4.21 | *Sandusky Register* [Drug court coming to Erie County](#)
- 2.4.21 | *WTAP-TV* [Monroe County students gain greater access to mental health services through broadband telehealth pilot project](#)
- 2.4.21 | *The New York Times* [America's mothers are in crisis](#)
- 2.2.21 | *Springfield News-Sun* [Clark, Greene Mental Health Board: free resources available to educators](#)
- 1.28.21 | *The Hub* [MHRB, Mercy Health committed to providing help for the helpers as the pandemic continues](#)
- 1.27.21 | *Fairborn Daily Herald* [GCPH, MHRB give vaccine resources for older adults](#)



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