

Ohio Makes Cut for BBC Documentary about Forensic Mental Health Services



PICTURED: BBC Host Louis Theroux (second from right) interviews Lynne Dickerson, director of the Timothy B. Moritz Forensic Unit for a documentary showcasing Ohio's forensic mental health system. Also pictured are (l-r) Sound Recordist Freddie Claire and Director/Producer Jamie Pickup. Not pictured: Assistant Producer Jemma Chisnall.

After visiting psychiatric hospitals in Ohio, Washington, D.C., and Oregon this summer, a crew from the BBC selected Ohio to be featured in a documentary about forensic mental health services.

The four-member crew spent the past several weeks filming at Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare – including the Timothy B. Moritz Forensic Unit – in Columbus, and Summit Behavioral Healthcare in Cincinnati. During their stay, the crew interviewed clinical staff and patients who agreed to share their stories, and shadowed patients through the various activities that are part of their daily treatment plans.

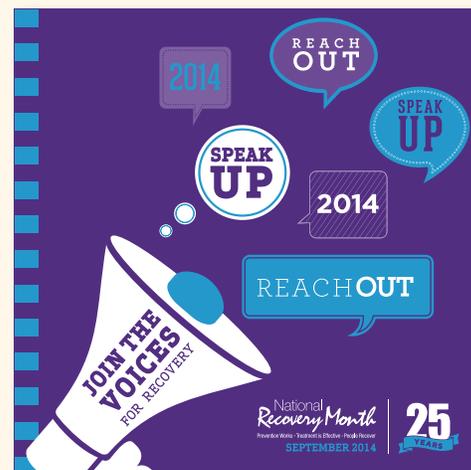
Douglas Lehrer, M.D., chief clinical officer at SBH, was complimentary of the crew's time at the hospital: "I am impressed by the BBC team's respect, sensitivity and dedication."

The crew captured footage of Moritz's inaugural *Couch to 5K* event, during which about 20 patients walked or ran the distance of a 5K in the courtyard to encourage healthy lifestyles.

BBC Assistant Producer Jemma Chisnall remarked in an email to OhioMHAS Public Affairs staff that the state-run psychiatric hospitals are top-notch.

"We can't thank you enough for all your help during our time in Ohio," Chisnall said. "As I'm sure you'll agree, the department, hospitals and community support network are very special places, indeed, and we were so impressed by all that we saw. We are looking forward to our return."

The crew will return in September for a second round of filming. The documentary will air in the United Kingdom early next year.



September is Recovery Month!

September is National Recovery Month in Ohio and across the nation. The 2014 theme, *Join the Voices for Recovery: Speak Up, Reach Out*, encourages people to openly discuss substance use disorders and the reality of recovery. It also aims to foster public understanding and acceptance of behavioral health conditions, including ways recovering individuals and advocates can speak up in their communities and reach out to offer support.

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services is proud to partner with *Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery*. The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center — *Talbot Hall* and *The Woods at Parkside* to co-host the 2014 Ohio Rally for Recovery at the Statehouse, West Lawn Sept. 16 from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Activities include recovery speakers, the annual "recovery countdown," a video testimonial booth, vendors, food, entertainment and presentation of the Sister Ignatia Advocacy Award. Learn more about the Rally [here](#).

To learn more about Recovery Month, including tips on how to engage the media and/or host an event in your community, download the free *Recovery Month toolkit* available from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



PREVENTING YOUTH SUICIDE: OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck speaks at an Aug. 19 press conference hosted by Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills), standing at right.

Lawmakers Call on Colleges to Help Prevent Suicide

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 24, but not all Ohio colleges and universities make suicide prevention resources available to students.

On Aug. 19, State Reps. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills) and Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) held a press conference to introduce new legislation that would require public two- and four-year institutions of higher education to maintain

loss of a student to suicide.

"It is my intention to bring awareness to the 'silent epidemic' that is affecting our most precious gifts — our children," said Rep. Anielski. "For many students, college is the first time they have been away from their family, friends and childhood home. This new life stage can be stressful and unsettling. Students need to know all the programs and help that are available to them and their friends should they ever find themselves struggling."

In its 2011 Youth Risk Behavioral Report for Ohio, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) reported that one in seven Ohio students said they had "seriously considered suicide" in the past 12 months. Slightly more than one in seven had actually "made

a plan to commit suicide" in that time. In addition, one in 11 Ohio students reported "attempting suicide one or more times in the past 12 months," nearly 50 percent higher than the national average. During the press event, OhioMHAS Dir. Tracy Plouck said one Ohioan dies by suicide every six hours. Suicide prevention, like other mental illness issues, is hindered by stigma, she said, adding it's important to continue outreach on a regular basis — not just in the days following a high-profile death such as Robin Williams'.

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— State Rep. Marlene Anielski
(R-Walton Hills)

support suicide prevention programs on and off campus.

According to [House Bill 609](#), colleges and universities would be required to promote programming that offers access to crisis intervention, such as a hotline, access to mental health programs, including student health services, multimedia applications that include hotline information and suicide warning signs, a plan for informing students of prevention activities and a plan for how to communicate with students, staff and parents after the

Former Franklin County Speciality Docket Worker Joins Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team

On Aug. 6, OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck welcomed Andrea Boxill to the Department as the new project manager for the Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team (GCOAT). Boxill previously served nearly a decade as the Specialty Docket Coordinator for the Franklin County Municipal Court. As project manager, Boxill will work closely with GCOAT Director Orman Hall, as well as OhioMHAS Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst and others to support GCOAT initiatives.



Andrea Boxill

FASD Awareness Day

Please join us in observing Sept. 9 as International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness Day. This day was chosen so that on the ninth day of the ninth month of each year, the world will remember that during the nine months of pregnancy, a woman should abstain from alcohol. The first awareness day was celebrated on Sept. 9, 1999.

This past July, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its partners released a promotional [toolkit](#) to help communities raise awareness about the leading cause of preventable birth defects. The kit contains: a sample proclamation, news release, social media messages and information about how to access materials from the CDC on alcohol use during pregnancy and [FASD](#).





Pilot Project Offers New Hope for Ohioans Addicted to Heroin, Other Opiates

Ohio Attorney General Mike Dewine this month **announced** the development of a new pilot program aimed at helping people suffering from heroin addiction get the assistance they need to move towards recovery. At an Aug. 12 press conference, DeWine announced that he is awarding Lucas County a \$650,000 grant to fund a holistic pilot program that will utilize partnerships and resources throughout the area to assist those suffering from an addiction to heroin. "We conducted more than a dozen community drug forums across Ohio over the past year," Dewine said. "In each community it was apparent there were gaps in assistance for survivors directly following a heroin overdose, as well as gaps in assistance directly following treatment, which is when a person is most likely to relapse."

Through the program, local authorities will have resources to build on the groundwork they have already established to help tear down existing barriers to recovery. Specifically, the funds will be used to provide assistance to survivors immediately after a heroin overdose occurs. The grant will also assist in creating recovery housing for those who have completed treatment but still need support to remain drug free.

"The heroin epidemic that is spreading throughout this country cannot be stopped by one agency," said Lucas County Sheriff John Tharp. "We need to all pull together to fight this fight."

The program will be evaluated and a list of best practices will be established for use by other communities struggling as a result of the heroin epidemic.

The grant is funded as part of The Ohio Attorney General's Office Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

OSU Talbot Hall Attracts 800 for Annual Conference

OhioMHAS Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst presents at the **2014 Addiction Studies Institute**, held Aug. 6-8 in Columbus. About 800 professionals attended the conference, designed for those in the medical, behavioral health and criminal justice fields. Sponsored by The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center — Talbot Hall, ASI is the largest conference of its kind held in the Midwest.

Youngstown Children's Program Included in National Registry

Project KIND (Keys to Improvement Necessary for Development) — a life-skills curriculum to help young students succeed in school developed by Community Solutions, a program of Compass Family & Community Services of Youngstown — has earned inclusion in the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) **National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices** (NREPP).

Project KIND was designed for kindergarten students to increase their school success by promoting social, emotional, and behavioral skills. The curriculum addresses core areas of social and emotional learning, such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making.

After rigorous research and testing for positive outcomes, the curriculum was submitted to SAMHSA for review. The program was assessed and rated for quality of research and readiness for dissemination. Because of Project KIND's proven ef-

fectiveness, the program was selected to be included on the NREPP website, which now introduces the program to a national audience.

Since its launch in 2003, Project KIND has been delivered

to an estimated 5,750 students in Warren, Youngstown, Girard and Campbell. Project KIND has been evaluated in more than 20 separate research studies.

Compass Family & Community Service's programs care for people from infancy through their senior years in Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana and Jefferson Counties.



>>> Regional Psychiatric Hospital Spotlight



Summit Behavioral Healthcare Floral Therapy Program Helps Patients Blossom

When Micki L. Cole, MRC Workshop Program Evaluator Specialist, acquired the floral therapy program at *Summit Behavioral Healthcare* (SBH), she was unacquainted with botany and knew little of gardening beyond “flowers were pretty.” But, through hard work and the assistance of the brave members of the patient vocational program, floral therapy has blossomed at the Cincinnati psychiatric hospital. Cole and her patient “workers” diligently dig, plant, fertilize and water a wide variety of flowers and vegetables. Their gardens yield several types of flowers and vegetables distributed throughout the hospital. The patient workers enthusiastically participate in the project and maintain all gardens, raising plants from seed to harvest. SBH CEO Liz Banks said the process “reinforces patients’ therapy while teaching them a skill transferrable to the community.” Meanwhile, Banks said the patient workers become more emotionally, psychologically and financially self-reliant.

Ohio Tapped to Receive \$4.8 Million Supported Employment Grant from SAMHSA

OhioMHAS was recently awarded a five-year, \$4.8 million *Transforming Lives through Supported Employment* grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to modernize, enhance and increase both the availability and quality of *Individual Placement and Support* (IPS) services to better meet the needs of Ohioans with a severe and persistent mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.

The Department will work with a coalition of sister state agencies, training, technical assistance and evaluation partners and two community behavioral health agencies — Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services and Daybreak, Inc. — during implementation of the grant. The resulting collaboration will pave the way for the establishment of two robust Individualized Placement and Support Supported Employment programs within the state, secure sustainable funding, establish a permanent training program using in person and virtual platforms, collect and analyze program data to make necessary changes to improve service provision.

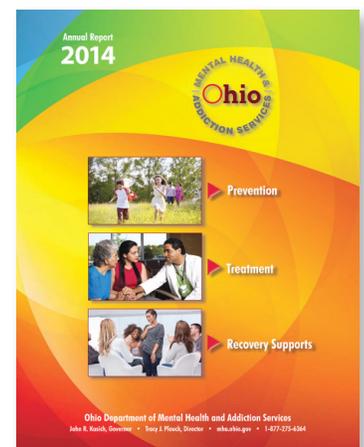
A minimum of 50 individuals will be served in the first year, with an anticipated total of 450 individuals enrolled over the life of the grant.

[Learn more](#) about Supported Employment.

OhioMHAS SFY 2014 Annual Report Available

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services was created as of July 1, 2013, by consolidating the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS). In the agency’s first annual report covering State Fiscal Year 2014, you will find information on new and continued initiatives related to prevention, treatment and recovery supports.

The report also includes fiscal charts showing how appropriated funds were spent by the agency. The work of staff to make this transition and build upon strengths of both former agencies to integrate services at OhioMHAS has been phenomenal. The support from the Governor’s office, the General Assembly, our stakeholders and our state and local human services partners has helped tremendously. Click [here](#) to view/download/print an electronic version of the report. A limited quantity of print copies will be available later this fall.



Ohio Women's Network Seeking to Revamp Website, Expand Membership

Now in its 14th year, The Ohio Women's Network, Inc., (OWN) is rapidly becoming recognized as a leader in building, expanding and sustaining services for women and women with children in need of prevention and treatment services for substance abuse and the issues surrounding it. There has been a core group of members who have worked tirelessly to create and bring attention to the need for sustainability and successful recovery including a complete continuum of care, residential care and safe, affordable housing. The network provides an opportunity to share ideas, problem solve, support mutual goals and receive free trainings.

The [OWN website](#) originally listed every women's program funded by the former Ohio Department of Alcohol and

Drug Addiction Services, regardless of whether the programs were members. The website is in process of being updated and current program information from providers is needed. Please visit the site and review the county-by-county provider listings and email jeanecole777@aol.com with changes or additions.

OWN membership is open to all gender-specific women's programs in Ohio and also certain affiliates. Dues are \$100 annually, and several free trainings are offered with CEUs for all staff. State leaders often attend meetings to provide updates and guidance. Monthly meetings are centralized in Columbus where current issues are addressed. For more complete information or a membership form, please email jeanecole777@aol.com.



Enhancing the integrity of women's alcohol, tobacco, and other drug treatment, intervention, prevention, and recovery programs

News & Research Roundup

"KnowBullying" App Helps Parents and Others Prevent Bullying

The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's free "KnowBullying" smartphone app provides parents, caretakers, educators and others with information and communication support to help prevent bullying and build resilience in children. The [KnowBullying app](#) was unveiled Aug. 15 at the [Federal Bullying Prevention Summit](#). It is designed to address the various needs of children ages 3-6, 7-13 and teens. Developed in collaboration with the [StopBullying.gov](#) federal partnership, KnowBullying is available for iPhone® and Android™ smartphones.

Researchers: Frequent Marijuana Use in Teens Can Affect the Brain

Using marijuana at least once a week can lead to cognitive decline, poor attention, and memory and decreased IQ in teens and young adults, according to researchers at the American Psychological Association annual meeting. Krista Lisdahl, Director of the Brain Imaging and Neuropsychology Lab at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, noted that 6.5 percent of high school seniors reported smoking marijuana daily, up from 2.4 percent in 1993. Among young adults ages 18 to 25, almost one-third said they had used marijuana in the past month, Lisdahl noted in a [news release](#). She said a [2012 study](#) found people who have become addicted to marijuana can lose an average of six IQ points by adulthood. Lisdahl noted that brain imaging studies of regular marijuana users have shown significant changes in their brain structure, especially among teenagers. She noted abnormalities in the brain's gray matter, which is associated with intelligence, have been found in 16- to 19-year-olds who increased their marijuana use in the past year.

Senator to Introduce Bill to Ban Powdered Alcohol

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer of New York said he will introduce a bill that would ban powdered alcohol and is urging retailers to boycott the product which could hit store shelves as early as September. In May, Schumer urged the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prevent federal approval of the powdered alcohol product called Palcohol. He said it could become "the Kool-Aid of teen binge drinking." Schumer noted the product can be mixed with water, sprinkled on food or snorted. He asked the FDA to investigate the potential harmful effects of the product. In a [news release](#), Schumer said the FDA has refused to investigate the health risks of Palcohol. The company that makes Palcohol, Lipsmark, [says](#) it plans to offer powdered alcohol in six varieties, including rum, vodka, Cosmopolitan, Mojito, Powderita and Lemon Drop. According to the company, a package of Palcohol weighs about an ounce and can fit into a pocket. It will be sold under the same restrictions as liquid alcohol.

News & Research Roundup, cont.

CADCA Releases New Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Toolkit

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America ([CADCA](#)) recently released a new [Online Rx Abuse Prevention Toolkit](#) that contains facts, strategies and resources to prevent and reduce teen prescription drug abuse. This updated toolkit is based on CADCA's [Seven Strategies for Effective Community Change](#). Incorporating these strategies will help users formulate, modify and implement community-based prevention and intervention strategies.

SAMHSA Tip 57: Improving Trauma and Behavioral Health Services

People who have experienced trauma — especially chronic or repeated trauma — are at an elevated risk for substance use disorders, mental illness, and physical disorders and conditions. SAMHSA's Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) 57, [Trauma-Informed Care in Behavioral Health Services](#), provides evidence-based and best practice information for behavioral health practitioners and administrators working with people who have experienced trauma. Using key trauma-informed principles, TIP 57 addresses trauma-related prevention, screening, assessment, intervention and treatment issues and strategies. It includes key information to help practitioners and administrators become trauma aware and informed, and implement science-informed intervention strategies across settings and modalities in behavioral health services.

Order Now — Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools

SAMHSA has re-stocked its supply of its popular publication [Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for High Schools](#). The toolkit assists in designing and implementing strategies to prevent suicide and promote behavioral health. It includes tools to develop a multifaceted suicide prevention program that responds to students' needs and their cultures. Specifically, the toolkit will help schools: assess the ability to prevent suicide among students and to respond to suicides that may occur; understand strategies that can help students who are at risk for suicide; know how to respond to the suicide of a student or other member of the school community and integrate suicide prevention into activities that fulfill other aspects of the school's mission, such as preventing the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

SAMHSA: Emergency Department Visits for Drug-Related Suicide Attempts Rise

Two new reports by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) highlight the rise in drug-related suicide attempt visits to hospital emergency departments especially among certain age groups. The reports show that overall there was a 51 percent increase for these types of visits among people 12 and older — from 151,477 visits in 2005 to 228,277 visits in 2011. [Read more.](#)

New Approach Heading Off Psychosis and Early-Onset Schizophrenia

A new approach is successfully finding and treating teens and young adults with very early signs of schizophrenia, according to [The Washington Post](#). The program involves an intensive two-year course of socialization, family therapy, job and school assistance, and, in some cases, antipsychotic medication. The program focuses on family relationships, and occurs early in the disease, often before a diagnosis. In Portland, Maine, where the treatment was pioneered, the rate of hospitalizations for first psychotic episodes fell by 34 percent over a six-year period, according to a study. Last month, a peer-reviewed study published in the journal *Schizophrenia Bulletin* found that young people undergoing the treatment at six sites throughout the country were more likely to be in school or working than adolescents who were not in the program. Proponents do not claim to be preventing schizophrenia, but they say the treatment helps patients remain functioning members of society and avoid chronic disability.

Family History of Untreated Mental Health Conditions Discourages Some From Seeking Help

African-Americans with a family history of untreated mental health conditions are less likely to seek treatment a [new study finds](#). Researchers, whose findings are reported in the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, examined data from more than 3,000 randomly selected African-Americans participating in the *2003 National Survey of American Life*. Participants answered questions about their own mental health, use of mental health services, family mental health history, family interactions and socio-economic and demographic factors. The researchers found that fewer than 10 percent of those surveyed accessed any mental health service over the past year. Those individuals who said that their family members were less supportive, more demanding and more critical were more likely to have accessed mental health care than those who had more positive family interactions. Similarly, those who rated their own mental health as poor, had a diagnosed mental health disorder or had symptoms indicative of a mental health disorder were more likely to have seen some sort of professional for mental health care. However, those with a family history of untreated mental disorders were less likely to have sought help.



News & Research Roundup, cont.

Mental Health Coaching Improves Outcomes for People with Depression and Diabetes

Mental health coaching could help people with type 2 diabetes better control their blood sugar levels while reducing depression symptoms, [according to new a new study](#). Researchers focused on a rural, low-income area in central North Carolina where roughly 16 percent of the population has type 2 diabetes. This rate is higher than the national rate of diabetes, which is currently 10 percent. The researchers reported that 30 percent of the diabetic individuals suffered from depression and 65 percent were poor. The researchers referred 182 people who were newly diagnosed with diabetes and had depression to a mental health coach and a diabetes educator. These experts helped them find the best ways to deal with their new levels of stress. They also taught the patients how to handle new challenges that come with managing diabetes. The patients averaged three visits with the mental health coach. The researchers found that after three months, the participants experienced improvements in their anxiety and depression scores, which fell by an average of 49 percent. The patients' A1C levels, which measure average blood sugar levels during the span of a couple of months, also fell from an average of 8.8 percent to 7.7 percent. Ideally, A1C levels should fall below seven percent.

Latest OSAM-O-GRAM Focuses on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Barriers to Treatment

Check out the Ohio Substance Abuse Monitoring (OSAM) Network's latest OSAM-O-Gram [Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Barriers to Treatment](#) to learn more about NAS prevention and treatment barriers and recommendations.

Training Opportunities

Participation Sought: Problem Gambling Provider Survey

OhioMHAS is currently conducting a survey to gather information related to problem gambling training, prevention, screening, treatment and public awareness/prevention education efforts. The Department greatly appreciates participation from any agencies that provide problem gambling prevention, treatment and recovery support services. To access the survey click [HERE](#). Questions? Please contact Nick Martt at Nicholas.Martt@mha.ohio.gov.

MACC 2014 Training Conference — Sept. 4-5

Multicultural Advocates for Cultural Competence (MACC) will host its 2014 Training Conference "Heading Downstream: ACA Meets Cultural Competence" Sept. 4-5 at the Quest Conference Center, 8405 Pulsar Place, Columbus. The conference will focus on health and behavioral health integration and eliminating disparities across communities and systems. Behavioral health and social services providers and administrators, advocates, consumers and family members are encouraged to attend. Register online at www.maccinc.net.

National Loss Team Conference — Sept. 9-10

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, in partnership with the National Loss Team Committee, will host the [2014 National Loss Team Conference](#) "Postvention, It's About Time!" Sept. 9-10 at the Embassy Suites Hotel — Columbus Airport. Frank Campbell, Ph.D., will serve as keynote. Click the link for online registration. For more details, contact Carolyn Givens at 614.429.1528 or carolyngivens@ohiospf.org.

Mental Health America Annual Conference — Sept. 10-12

Mental Health America (MHA) will host its 2014 Annual Conference at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel in Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 10-12. This year's conference, [Parity and the Affordable Care Act: Bridging Gaps to Advance Mental Health](#), will examine progress in implanting these two important pieces of legislation, assess gaps and challenges related to behavioral health, and identify the programs and policies needed to fill them.

Second Annual Adolescent Healthy Symposium — Sept. 15

The Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Public Health Association will partner to host the Second Annual Adolescent Healthy Symposium Sept. 15 at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Columbus. The Symposium will bring together multidisciplinary experts in adolescent medicine and health to address issues that impact the ability of adolescents to live healthy, safe and productive lives. The Partnership will also introduce newly developed strategies that support the implementation of the Ohio Adolescent Health Strategic Plan. Investing time, attention and resources in the health and wellness of adolescents is essential



to helping them maintain optimal health and lay a foundation for a healthy and successful adulthood. Healthy adolescents engage more in their communities, perform better in school, and go on to see better health status, higher educational achievement and more success in their lives as adults. [Registration](#) is free. For questions, contact Laura Rooney laura.rooney@odh.ohio.gov or Lois Hall lhall@ohiopa.org.

Adopting a Housing-First Approach Webinar — Sept. 16

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) will host a free “Adopting a Housing-First Approach” webinar from 10 a.m. to noon on Sept. 16. The webinar will cover topics such as: Why adopt a Housing-First approach?; agency and program self-assessment determination; assessment and planning for a Housing-First Approach; developing a Housing-First Approach and preparing for implementation. [Register today](#). For more information, please email jondaclemings@cohio.org.

12th Annual State of Ohio IDD/MI Conference — Sept. 16-17

The National Association for Dual Diagnosis (NADD), Northeast Ohio Medical University and OhioMHAS, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio Coordinating Center of Excellence in MI/DD and the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, will present the 12th annual State of Ohio IDD/MI Conference “Mental Health Aspects: Treatment and Support” Sept. 16-17 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North hotel. Click [here](#) for more information.

2014 Coalition Academy — Sept. 23

The Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati, Butler County Alcoholism Council and OhioMHAS will host the 2014 Coalition Academy “Empowering Prevention” on Sept. 23 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. Kevin Sabet will provide keynote remarks. Cost is \$60; \$35 for member coalitions of CDFGC. Lunch is included with [registration](#).

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Evidence-Based Practices Summit — Sept. 25-26

OhioMHAS will partner with the Ohio Department of Education to co-sponsor “Back to School for Science: The Safe Schools/Healthy Students Evidence-Based Practices Summit Sept. 25-26 at the OCLC Conference Center in Dublin, Ohio. This conference will be useful to communities working on elements similar to the those addressed by the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative: early childhood social and emotional learning; mental, emotional and behavioral health; youth and family engagement; substance abuse prevention; and safe school environments. The conference will provide resources and information to help communities create nurturing environments to impact population-level change. The conference will use the Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (PBIS) Framework to help communities select evidence-based strategic approaches based on a data-driven strategic planning process. A registration link and agenda are forthcoming. Click [here](#) for more information.

NAADAC 2014 Annual Conference and 40th Anniversary Celebration — Sept. 26-Oct. 1

NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, will host its [2014 Annual Conference and 40th Anniversary Celebration](#) Sept. 26-Oct. 1 in Seattle, Wash. NAADAC will celebrate 40 years of advocacy, education and service to the addiction field with six days of presentations, two days of exhibits, a new two-day gambling track and a 40th anniversary celebration. [Register online](#).

Register Now: Ohio Council 2014 Annual Conference & Exhibit Hall – Oct. 2-3

The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers will hold its Annual Conference & Exhibit Hall Oct. 2-3 at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris. Plenary presenters include: Dr. Marci Nielsen, CEO, Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative; Erwin McEwen, senior director of the Technical Assistance Unit, Casey Family Programs; David C. Guth, Jr., CEO and co-founder, Centerstone of America; Dr. Mary Applegate, medical director, Ohio Department of Medicaid and Tracy Plouck, director, OhioMHAS. Please visit the [Ohio Council's website](#) or call 614/228-0747 for more information.

Columbus State Community College Mental Health & Wellness Fair — Oct. 8

Columbus State Community College Counseling Services will host its annual Mental Health & Wellness Fair on Oct. 8 from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the Nestor Hall Lounge. If interested in exhibiting at the event, please contact Tracy Thornton at 614/287-2818 or email tthornt1@csc.edu.



Implementing and Evaluating a Housing-First Approach Webinar — Oct. 14

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) will host a free “Implementing and Evaluating a Housing-First Approach” webinar from 10 a.m.-noon on Oct. 14. The webinar will cover topics such as: implementation steps and timeline; dealing with program change; program evaluation and utilizing the Housing-First approach. [Register](#) today. For more information, please email jondaclemings@cohhio.org.

Fall Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Triumph Series

The Lorain County General Health District and Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities will host a free fall training series: *Triumph Through the Challenges of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder*. The series begins Sept. 9, 2014. For more information and a list of training dates, locations and presenters, visit the [Lorain County General Health District website](#).

CWRU Center for Evidence-Based Practices Trainings

The Case Western Reserve University Center for Evidence-Based Practices has released its schedule of upcoming trainings. Click the links below for more information:

Sept. 8 — [Veterans Affairs \(VA\) Behavioral Health Summit \(Cleveland\)](#)

Sept. 11 — [Veterans Affairs \(VA\) Behavioral Health Summit \(Columbus\)](#)

Sept. 11 — [A Breath of Fresh Air: Promoting Health-Behavior Change Among People with SPMI \(Akron\)](#)

Oct. 8 — [Regional Meeting for Integrated SAMI Treatment \(Columbus\)](#)

Oct. 14-15 — [2014 Evidence-Based Practices Conference](#)

Maryhaven: Free Prevention Foundations Trainings

Maryhaven Gambling Intervention Program is sponsoring a series of free alcohol and drug prevention classes for prevention specialists, social workers, nurses and addiction counselors. Presenter Jim Ryan, OCPS II, will provide five trainings covering Prevention Foundations One and Two, along with all six domains. The courses, which include continuing education credits, will help those who are interested in working in the field and taking the test for the prevention credential. The maximum number per class is 40. Please email Jenny Campbell-Roux at jcampbell-roux@maryhaven.com or call 937/681-9477 to reserve a seat. Remaining classes are planned for Sept. 12, Oct. 17 and Nov. 7. All classes are from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



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