



Nearly 2,000 middle and high-school students celebrated healthy, drug-free lifestyles outside the Ohio Statehouse on April 20.

Annual “We are the Majority” Drug-Free Youth Rally Draws Record Crowd

Clear skies and warm sunshine greeted a record-setting crowd of nearly 2,000 students and adult supporters gathered in downtown Columbus on April 20 for the annual “We are the Majority” drug-free youth rally and march. Some came from near. Some came from far. All came with a tremendous sense of pride in celebrating healthy lifestyles and taking back a day (4/20) traditionally associated in pop culture with glamorizing marijuana use.

The rally and march was hosted by the [Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network](#), an initiative supported by Drug-Free Action Alliance (DFAA) and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS). Participants started the day at Genoa Park where they heard from a variety of speakers, enjoyed entertainment and lunch before marching to the Ohio Statehouse.

“Today, we brought together youth from all parts of Ohio and all walks of life to share one vision with one voice,” said Harim C. Ellis, director of Youth-Led Programs at DFAA. “They told the world that the vast majority of youth are not drinking underage, smoking tobacco or using drugs, but are leading others to make healthy decisions every day.”

Ellis added that delivering that message at the Ohio Statehouse was the youths’ way of saying, “Look at me — I’m doing the right thing, and I need your support.”

“I look forward to this incredible event every year,” said OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck, who presented a proclamation from Gov. John R. Kasich. “It’s so inspiring to see thousands of young Ohio leaders who are focused on wellness and healthy choices.”

During the Statehouse rally, officials unveiled the winners of the [Start Recording & Start Talking video contest](#). More than 130 students from throughout the state in grades 6-12 participated in the contest and created videos that offer tips on how adults and other youth can have frequent and honest conversations about substance abuse. See [page 3](#) for the story. View [more photos](#).





A brief recap of some of Dir. Plouck's public activities this month:

- 4.4 Toured Firelands Counseling and Recovery, Erie Shore Network and Genesis-by-the-Lake women's recovery housing in Erie County as part of the State of the State activities.
- 4.6 Spoke at The Ohio State University's "The Opioid Crisis in Ohio: Seeking New Solutions from the Community" event at the Ohio Statehouse.
- 4.12 Spoke at unveiling of the Pugh, Cinelli, Wang & Gerberry Vision House in Youngstown.
- 4.13 Discussed Ohio's 21st Century Cures Act application and behavioral health redesign during a meeting of the Ohio Association of Recovery Providers.
- 4.17-19 Attended the Executive Committee meeting of the Council of State Governments Justice Center in Washington, D.C.
- 4.20 Provided opening remarks at the Early Childhood Mental Health "Skills to Action" Conference in Columbus. Presented a Governor's Proclamation and provided brief remarks at the 2017 We are the Majority drug-free youth rally at the Ohio Statehouse.
- 4.24 Provided remarks at the Workforce for the Future: Building Ohio's Addiction and Mental Health Systems of Care Conference.
- 4.26 Spoke at the 20th Annual Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies conference.



As of March, the number of people screened through OhioSBIRT since 2014 topped 50,000. The program celebrated the milestone on April 10 at OhioMHAS in Columbus. Pictured are (l-r) SBIRT Training Officer Lindsey Riemann; Jessica Clark, CDCA; Ophelia Ramirez-Mailloux, LISW-S, from Third Street Family Health Services in Mansfield; and Ohio SBIRT Project Director Ellen Augspurger.

More Than 50,000 Ohioans Screened for Substance Use Disorders and Depression

A program designed to reduce morbidity and mortality of alcohol and other drug use, as well as other behavioral health conditions, through early intervention and health integration approaches, has screened 50,000 Ohioans. Ohio SBIRT, housed at OhioMHAS, is in the fourth year of a five-year, \$10 million cooperative agreement from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to promote the screening and train providers in its use.

As of 2017, programs are operating within in primary care practices, hospitals and other health settings in Allen, Clark, Clermont, Cuyahoga, Erie, Hamilton, Hardin, Richland, Scioto, Williams and Wood counties.

"Our grantees have worked incredibly hard to provide an integrated public health approach to treating their patients and we want to celebrate their efforts," said Project Director Ellen Augspurger. "SBIRT is a chance for health care providers to open discussions with patients that can lead to better overall health."

Ohio SBIRT offers in-person training to assist organizations of all sizes in implementing this screening tool in their settings. Grant funding available to providers supports four areas: service delivery; infrastructure development; data collection and assessment; and program administration. Videos describing the benefits, implementation challenges and successes of SBIRT can be viewed at mha.ohio.gov/sbirt.

Contact OhioSBIRT at SBIRTTraining@mha.ohio.gov or call Ellen Augspurger at 614.644.8318.

Youth Drug Prevention Video Contest Winners Honored at Statehouse Rally

Contest Taps Student Creativity to Promote Start Talking! Mission

Start Recording & Start Talking

video contest

made possible by **verizon** **DFAA**
Drug Free Action Alliance

This spring, students from throughout Ohio were invited to exercise their creativity and earn cash toward college by competing in the Start Recording & Start Talking video contest. The top three videos and the students who produced them were announced and presented awards at the 6th annual "We are the Majority" rally on April 20 at the Ohio Statehouse.

More than 130 students in grades 6-12 participated in the Start Recording & Start Talking contest and created videos that offered tips about how adults and other youth can have frequent and honest conversations about substance abuse. The contest was made possible through a grant from Verizon Wireless to Drug-Free Action Alliance to engage students in activities to promote drug prevention initiatives among Ohio teens.

Five students from Genoa Area High School in Ottawa County claimed the top prize — a \$2,500 college saving award with College Advantage, Ohio's 529 Savings Program. Sky Marko, Emily Ankenbrandt, Adison Leichty, Shyane Peacemaker and Megan Gould collaborated on the production of the video titled ***It Starts With A Question.***



Sgt. James Phipps, Start Talking! Director Sarah Smith and Drug-Free Action Alliance Executive Director Marcie Seidel presented the first place award to Ottawa County students Sky Marko, Emily Ankenbrandt, Adison Leichty, Shyane Peacemaker and Megan Gould.

Two students from Marion L. Steele High School in Lorain County — Sydney Wood and Madison Snodgrass — produced the second-place video ***It Doesn't Have To Be You.*** As runners-up, the students split a \$1,500 award.

Delaney McQuown, a student at Upper Sandusky High School in Wyandot County finished third and received a \$1,000 college saving award for producing ***Start Talking.***

"As the primary goal of Start Talking! is to help parents, caregivers, teachers and students to start conversations with Ohio youth about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, we were very pleased to see so many students take the opportunity to display their talents and share how they think are the best ways to get

those conversations going," said Sarah Smith, director of Start Talking!

Research shows when parents and children have conversations about substance abuse, children are up to 50 percent less likely to start using drugs and alcohol. However, as scare tactics don't work, the students were tasked with creating videos that were cre-

ative, positive and offered specific tips to help adults and youth to start those conversations or demonstrate how an effective conversation could occur.

Drug-Free Action Alliance offers parents, caregivers and educators bi-monthly Know! tips to give them the tools, knowledge and confidence to speak with youth about the dangers of substance abuse. DFAA works in partnership with Ohio's Start Talking program to build awareness among adults and students throughout the state about resources available to help start the conversation.



Lorain County students Sydney Wood and Madison Snodgrass receive a check for \$1,500 for their second place entry.



Wyandot County student student Delaney McQuown receives a check for \$1,000 for her third place video.

Forum Focuses on Future of Ohio's Behavioral Health Workforce

On April 24, OhioMHAS partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Association of for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) to host *Building Ohio's Addiction and Mental Health Workforce for the Future*. The workforce development forum was held on the campus of Columbus State Community College and live-streamed to 10 other colleges and universities throughout the state.

NAADAC Executive Director Cynthia Moreno Touch promoted careers in addiction and the mental health fields, while OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck highlighted Ohio's efforts to address workforce shortages. Exhibitors were on hand to talk about employment and internship opportunities.

A provider panel comprised of representatives from Maryhaven, The Recovery Center, Inc., Access Ohio and the Deaf Services Center shared the perspectives on roles and needs in the workplace. A panel of students from the University of Akron and Ohio Christian University also shared their experiences.

The forum closed with a Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care training presented by Cheri Hunter, executive director of the Hunter Communications Group.

An estimated 250 professionals participated in the forum, including those watching from the following satellite



locations: Southern State Community College, Kent State University — Salem Campus, The Ohio State University — Mansfield, Ohio University — Chillicothe, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, Stark State Community College, Columbus State Community College — Delaware, Zane State, Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare and Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare.

"This was a great event," said Tom Payton of Southern State Community College, noting about 40 participants watched the live broadcast from his satellite location. "Please count us in next year."



OhioMHAS Medical Director Dr. Mark Hurst speaks at an April 27 panel presentation at the 2017 Global Brain Health and Performance Summit hosted by The Ohio State University. He was joined by J.D. Vance, author of "Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis" in discussing the roles of research and innovation in preventing and treating opioid addiction. Read more about the Summit [HERE](#).



Christina M. Delos Reyes, M.D., presents at the [13th All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry](#) "Behavioral Health Redesign: Focus on Recovery for Ohio's Consumers." Sponsored by Northeast Ohio Medical University, in partnership with University Hospitals and OhioMHAS, the multidisciplinary meeting focused on community mental health services, clinical practices, research and education. [More photos.](#)



May is Mental Health Month — a time to focus on promoting awareness and working to reduce stigma. To help spread the word that mental health is something everyone should care about, [Mental Health America](#) has released a [toolkit](#) containing traditional and digital media components, facts sheets, handouts and more.

This year, MHA is focusing on *Risky Business* as a theme to educate people about habits and behaviors that increase the risk of developing or exacerbating mental illnesses, or those that could be signs of mental health problems themselves. These include risk factors such as risky sex, prescription drug misuse, internet addiction, excessive spending, marijuana use and troublesome exercise patterns. The goal is to help people who may be struggling to detect early warning signs and seek help early, before Stage 4.

Since 1949, MHA and its local affiliates throughout the country have led the observance of Mental Health Month by reaching millions of people through the media, local events and [screenings](#). MHA will dive deeper into risky behaviors and how they affect mental health at its [2017 Annual Conference: Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll](#), June 14-16 in Washington, D.C.

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2017 is May 4

Since 2005, states have been celebrating SAMHSA's [National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day](#) to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health, and to show that positive mental health is essential to a



child's healthy development. This year, National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day will be observed on May 4.

The national focus in 2017 will emphasize the value of primary care and behavioral health integration to support children's mental, emotional and behavioral health. Communities, states, tribes and territories nationwide will conduct a variety of public health activities focused on addressing the needs of children, youth and young adults with mental and/or substance use disorders and their families.

[YouthMOVE Ohio](#) will host its first annual statewide meeting and Resiliency Ring on the West Lawn of the Ohio Statehouse at 10:30 a.m. on May 3. Attendees will hear from a variety of guest speakers starting at 11:15 a.m., including keynote presenter Mike Bartrum, a former National Football League long snapper and tight end. The Resiliency Ring will form at 11:45 a.m. For more information, contact Sasha Bowers at Sasha@ohioyouthmove.org or call 614.556.0354.

Cuyahoga County Launches Expansive Prescription Opioid Awareness Campaign

Cuyahoga County officials kicked off a public-private awareness campaign about the risks of prescription opioid abuse this month, touting it as a critical component in the fight against a heroin and fentanyl epidemic that has claimed thousands of lives in the Greater Cleveland area.

The [Know the Risks campaign](#) is a collaborative effort among local agencies and organizations, production companies, hospitals and media outlets, including [cleveland.com](#) and [The Plain Dealer](#). The campaign will include news coverage, public service announcements, commercials, print advertisements and social media outreach about the risks associated with prescription opioids.

"Know the Risks" began with a promotional blitz, but it is intended to be



an ongoing campaign. The Cuyahoga County Opioid Marketing Task Force, which organized "Know the Risks," is planning additional events and advertising campaigns that will be announced at a later date.

The campaign is intended to combat a heroin and fentanyl epidemic that is becoming deadlier each year. Cuyahoga County reported a record 610 overdose deaths in 2016, and is on pace to report nearly 850 in

2017, according to county Medical Examiner Dr. Thomas Gilson.

"If we don't create a population of people who are addicted to pain medication, they won't seek out illicit substances down the road," he said.

The Cuyahoga County Opioid Marketing Task Force is comprised of officials from Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland, the medical examiner's office, the U.S. Attorney's Office and local hospitals.

The Cleveland Cavaliers, the Downtown Cleveland Alliance, and the Greater Cleveland RTA are all participating in the campaign by donating advertising space. Hospitals including MetroHealth and St. Vincent Charity Medical Center are also joining the effort.

Learn more at knowtherx.org.

Columbiana County Sponsors Training to Promote Trauma-Informed Policing

The Columbiana County MHRS Board hosted a Trauma-Informed Police Training on April 7 to equip local law enforcement officers with knowledge and skills to handle encounters with individuals who are dealing with negative effects of trauma, and to help officers to cope with the impact of trauma they experience by performing police work. A total of 44 officers from five Columbiana County jurisdictions attended.

Featured in the photo at right are (l-r) Chief Panezott, Salem PD; Chief Devlin, Salineville PD; Chief Gladis, Columbiana PD; Trainers Kim Kehl, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Sgt. Mark Kandel, Canton PD; and Chief Faust, Washintonville PD.



MHAFC Volunteer Receives 2017 ServeOhio Award

Mental Health America — Franklin County (MHAFC) support group facilitator Darrell Herrmann was recognized for his service in Central Ohio with one of five statewide ServeOhio Awards for exemplary volunteerism. When Darrell was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1984, his life became a struggle. He retired from the army and resigned from a job he truly enjoyed due to his mental illness. In 2001, he was introduced to a Schizophrenics Anonymous (SA) group, which gave him support and fellowship with other people living with schizophrenia. He saw a need for additional SA group locations at inpatient psychiatric units, and during a 10 year period he founded SA groups at seven facilities in central Ohio. In 2016, Darrell volunteered more than 700 hours and impacted more than 3,700 individuals with mental illness. Darrell was presented the award April 28 at Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare, where he has provided weekly SA outreach since 2007. "The important part of receiving this award is that it spreads the word that people with mental illness can live relatively normal lives," Herrmann said.



Darrell Herrmann



Firelands Counseling & Recovery Services



Erie Shore Network



Genesis By The Lake

State of the State Activities Highlight Erie County Provider Network

OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck had an opportunity to visit with several Erie County mental health and addiction service providers as part of Gov. John R. Kasich's April 4 State of the State address in Sandusky. In the morning, Dir. Plouck met with staff and patients at [Firelands Counseling & Recovery Services](#). She was joined by Ohio Medicaid Dir. Barbara Sears, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Erie and Ottawa Counties (Acting) Executive Director Jodi Demo-Hodgins and Firelands Vice President of Counseling Marsha Mruk for a media event highlighting the positive impact of Medicaid expansion. In the afternoon, Dir. Plouck had an opportunity to enjoy lunch and chat with staff and several persons in recovery at [Erie Shore Network](#), a non-profit organization that provides peer support and advocacy services for adults with severe mental illness. She also visited staff and residents at [Genesis By The Lake](#) women's recovery condos. Click the links for more photos.

News & Research Roundup

Resources Available From the Behavioral Health Workforce Research Center

The *Behavioral Health Workforce Research Center* (BHWRC) aims to strengthen the workforce responsible for prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders by conducting studies to inform workforce development and planning. A joint initiative between SAMHSA and the Health Resources and Services Administration, the BHWRC works with a national consortium of experts in mental health, substance use disorders, and health workforce research. Current research projects include:

- **Integration of Primary Care and Behavioral Health:** A *recent study* by the BHWRC found that care integration tends to be implemented most effectively in organizations that create and cultivate a strong culture of collaboration; engage employees through orientation and training programs, including periodic “refresher” training; and utilize “warm hand-offs” for patient care, especially at the beginning of a patient’s treatment episode.
- **Development of a Diverse Behavioral Health Workforce:** Several organizational characteristics can affect the recruitment and retention of a diverse behavioral health workforce. Respondents to a *recent survey* conducted by the BHWRC identified “the opportunity to provide care for the population served by an organization” as a major factor in their decisions to join and stay with an organization. Other important factors cited by the respondents included organizational mission, work location, job security and flexible work schedules.

DM-ID-2 Available from NADD

The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD) has published the *Diagnostic Manual-Intellectual Disability (DM-ID) 2: A Textbook of Diagnosis of Mental Disorders in persons with Intellectual Disability*. This resource provides state-of-the-art information concerning mental disorders in persons with intellectual disabilities. Grounded in evidence-based methods and supported by the expert-consensus model, DM-ID-2 offers a broad examination of the issues involved in applying diagnostic criteria for psychiatric disorders to persons with intellectual disabilities. The DM-ID-2 is an essential resource for every clinician who works with individuals with a dual diagnosis (IDD/MI). [Download](#) Chapter 1 free. [Learn more.](#)

NIDA Drugs and the Brain Wallet Card

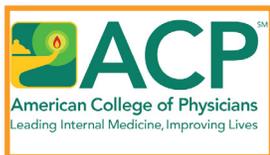
The National Institute on Drug Abuse is offering a free *Drugs & The Brain wallet card* designed for people who have stopped using drugs while in criminal justice detention or in treatment. It provides information about the nature of addiction, relapse triggers and overdose dangers in a convenient, discreet format. Counselors and clients can customize the card by listing relapse triggers and sources of help in spaces provided.



New Tool Allows Employers to Calculate Cost of Substance Use

A new “Real Cost of Substance Use to Employers” *tool* developed by the National Safety Council, in partnership with Shatterproof and NORC at the University of Chicago, allows employers to calculate the hidden costs of substance use (including prescription drug abuse and misuse, alcohol abuse and misuse, opioid and heroin addiction, as well as abuse of other illicit drugs and marijuana) in their workplace based on size of employee base, industry and state. The calculator combines research on employment costs with data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health to calculate how much substance misuse and abuse in the workforce costs employers.

Doctors’ Group Says Substance Use Disorders are Chronic Medical Conditions



The American College of Physicians (ACP) says substance use disorders are chronic medical conditions. The group called for greater access to care for people struggling with drug addiction. In a position paper published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, the group stated substance use disorders need ongoing treatment, and are not a “moral disorder or character defect.” ACP says it wants to see tighter controls for opioid prescriptions, more training for doctors to deal with substance abuse and more options for mental health treatment, according to a [media release](#).

Prevention Program Reduces Substance Use By Participants’ Friends

The Strengthening Families Program for Youth 10-14, an evidence-based intervention that reduces teen substance use, also reduced participants’ friends’ substance use. Two factors that accounted for the nonparticipants’ reductions were less time spent by nonparticipants with their participating friends without adult supervision and improvements in nonparticipants’ attitudes toward substance use. [Read more.](#)

Training Opportunities

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:

- May 1 — [*Evidence-Based Interventions for Tobacco Use Disorders \(Columbus\)*](#)
- May 2 — [*Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Considerations for Individuals with SPMI \(Columbus\)*](#)
- May 9 — [*Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Considerations for Individuals with SPMI \(Cincinnati\)*](#)
- May 16 — [*Evidence-Based Interventions for Tobacco Use Disorders \(Cleveland\)*](#)
- May 17 — [*Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Considerations for Individuals with SPMI \(Mentor\)*](#)
- May 31-June 1 [*ACT Team Leader Training \(Columbus\)*](#)
- June 6 — [*Foundations of Motivational Interviewing - Part 1 \(Moraine\)*](#)
- June 21 — [*Foundations of Motivational Interviewing - Part 2 \(Moraine\)*](#)
- June 28 — [*Motivational Interviewing: Clinical Supervision Tools \(Moraine\)*](#)

2017 Disparities and Cultural Competence (DACC) Learning Community Webinar Series

The Disparities and Cultural Competence (DACC) Advisory Committee has released its 2017 Learning Community Webinar Series. Upcoming trainings include (click the links to register):

- May 17 — 10-11:30 a.m. | [*Utilizing Interpreters in Health and Human Services*](#)
- June 21 — 10-11:30 a.m. | [*Chronic Co-Morbidity Implications of Treatment*](#)
- July 12 — 10-11:30 a.m. | [*The Ohio Systemic Approach to Reducing Infant Mortality*](#)

2017 NASW Brainy Practitioner Conferences

The Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) has announced its 2017 “Brainy Practitioner Conference line-up. The 2017 theme will focus on implicit bias. According to The Ohio State University Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, “implicit bias refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions and decisions in an unconscious manner. These biases, which encompass both favorable and unfavorable assessments, are activated involuntarily and without an individual’s awareness or intentional control. Residing deep in the subconscious, these biases are different from known biases that individuals may choose to conceal for the purposes of social and/or political correctness.” Implicit biases can cause differential health care treatment, disproportionate contact with the corrections system and community disparities. To understand implicit bias, the brain must be understood. Upcoming trainings are scheduled for the following dates and locations: May 5 (Akron), May 12 (Toledo) and May 19 (Dayton). Click [HERE](#) for more information.

NBH Annual Spring Conference — May 5

Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare will host its 2017 Spring Conference Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Dependence and Abuse on May 5 in Northfield. Muhammad Momen, M.D., NBH medical director, will serve as moderator. Watch eNews for registration information.

2017 ASAP Drug Summit: Building A Stronger Community — May 5

The [*ASAP Opiate Task Force*](#) of Trumbull County will host its [*3rd Annual ASAP Drug Summit: Building a Stronger Community*](#) on May 5 at Kent State University — Trumbull Campus. Cost is \$45. For more information, call 330.675.2765, ext. 119.

Focus on Friends Recovery Center to Host WRAP Training — May 5-6

The Focus on Friends Recovery Center, in partnership with the Hancock County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board and The Community Foundation of Findlay-Hancock County, is hosting a Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP) workshop May 5-6. Cost, which includes materials and a light lunch, is \$50. To register, contact 419.423.5071.

ADAPAO Conference — May 11

ADAPAO will host its annual conference “Expanding Our View: Taking a Comprehensive Approach to Prevention” on May 11 in Columbus. The conference will feature Dr. Kelly J. Kelleher, director of the Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, and several of Ohio’s other leading prevention experts. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



Training Opportunities, cont.

Summit Behavioral Healthcare Recovery & Wellness Fair — May 12

Summit Behavioral Healthcare in Cincinnati will host its 10th annual Recovery Fair “Partners in Recovery: Empowering People to Build Better Lives” on May 12 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Community mental health service providers, consumers, family members and hospital staff are invited to participate in the day’s activities which will include keynote speakers, lunch and several breakout sessions led by local community organizations. The Recovery Fair is designed to educate both mental health service providers and community members about achieving recovery while enabling a stronger connection to be made between hospital and community resources. Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton (Retired) will deliver a keynote presentation on “Stepping Up: Partnerships to Change How We Deal with Mental Illness and Jail.” Other topics include presentations on the ongoing heroin epidemic, suicide prevention, positive psychology, peer recovery support, LGBT issues in recovery and ECT. 6.5 hours of Continuing Education Units will be offered in the fields of social work, nursing, counseling, psychology and occupational therapy. 6.5 CMEs will be offered for psychiatrists. A \$30 registration fee will be charged for community members, \$9 for students and consumer family members and \$5 for consumers. Registration includes a boxed lunch. For more information, contact Rebecca Middleton at 513.948.3635 or email Rebecca.Middleton@mha.ohio.gov.

Ohio Women’s Network Trauma Focused Care Women’s Conference – May 12

The Ohio Women’s Network (OWN) will host its annual Women’s Conference, “*The Art and Soul of Trauma Focused Care*” on May 12 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North. Jamie Marich, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS, REAT, RMT, will provide keynote remarks. Cost is \$80.

OhioCAN Fourth Annual Steps of Change Event — May 20

[OhioCAN](http://ohiocan.org), a project of the Hub for Direct Community Action, is hosting its fourth annual **Steps of Change** event bringing awareness and education to reduce the stigma associated with substance use. Participating counties will host a variety of activities including walks, runs, guest speakers, health fairs and balloon releases. Each county’s program varies depending on needs and outreach. Most groups will stage “Walk a Mile in my Shoes,” in which shoes are displayed depicting those who continue to struggle or who have passed from the disease of addiction. Events are planned in Portage, Ashtabula, Columbiana, Portage, Sandusky, Stark and Summit counties. For more information, contact OhioCAN state director Cindy Koumoutzis at Cindyk@changeaddictionnow.org or 330.327.5911.

OYLPN Youth Leadership Summit — May 20-21

The Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network will host its annual Youth Leadership Summit May 20-21 at Great Wolf Lodge in Mason. Visit <https://www.drugfreeactionalliance.org/> for more information.

Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk — May 24

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, in partnership with the Lawrence and Scioto County Suicide Prevention Coalitions, are hosting an Assessing and Managing Risk Suicide (AMSR) Core Competencies training on May 24 at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth. Cost is \$30. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Operationalizing Your Strategic Business Plan for the Re-Design and Health Care Reform — May 24

This training day will be provided by Michael Flora, senior operations and management consultant of MTM Services, who will provide consultation for community behavioral health providers on how to operationalize the development of objective strategic business plan that addresses the re-design, managed care and other reforms underway in health care. The training aims to enhance provider readiness for contracts based in pay-for-performance, value-based, episode-based, case rates and upside/downside risk. It will address staffing models necessary to capture revenue under these new arrangements and will explore new workflows that could be implemented. Learn about what changes are necessary to your clinical and revenue cycle management approach as you adopt a greater understanding of the new health care environment. Sign up at www.oacca.org.

Training Opportunities, cont.

Advanced Disordered Gambling Trainings — May 24-25

Dr. Rory Reid of the UCLA Gambling Studies Program will be the featured speaker for two upcoming Advanced Disordered Gambling Trainings. The training on “Co-morbid Gambling Disorder & Adult ADHD” will provide 6 CEUs for social workers, counselors, and gambling counselors, as well as 6 RCHs for chemical dependency counselors. Prerequisite: Stages 1 and 2 or approved gambling counseling training. Cost is \$25 with breakfast and lunch included. Register using the links below.

[May 24 — Cleveland](#)

[May 25 — Columbus](#)

Medicaid Re-Design Coding and Documentation Training — June 1

Providers and stakeholders are invited to participate in Diane Zucker’s latest training on preparing for the coding and documentation changes required under the Medicaid Re-Design. Learn more at www.oacca.org.

Ohio Safe & Healthy Schools Summit — June 6

OhioMHAS, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Education and PreventionFIRST!, will host a [Safe and Healthy Schools Summit/Supporting Youth Through Evidence-Based Practices training](#) June 6 from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Quest Conference Center in Columbus. The Summit will provide school staff and behavioral health professionals with an opportunity to learn about the successes of the [Safe Schools & Healthy Students federal grant](#) that Ohio has been administering for the past four years. Questions? Contact Cathy Born at cborn@prevention-first.org or 513-751-8000 ext. 10.

NAMI Franklin County to Host Awareness Walk Fundraiser — June 10

The Franklin County Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness will host its annual 5K NAMI Walk on June 10 at Wolfe Park in Columbus. Check-in time is 9 a.m. The walk begins at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Hallie Israel at hallie@namifc.org or call 216.456.4826.

Ohio’s 2017 Opiate Conference — June 12-13

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 2017 Opiate Conference: Bridges to Recovery](#) on June 12-13 at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. This event has expanded to include two full days of education, information sharing and networking. The conference will provide attendees with the opportunity to hear from local, state and national leaders and an opportunity to select from more than 50 breakout sessions.

[View the registration packet](#)

[Register online](#)

Mental Health America 2017 Annual Conference — June 14-16

Mental Health America will host its 2017 Annual Conference “Sex, Drugs and Rock & Roll” June 14-16 at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register online.

2017 Ohio Promoting Wellness & Recovery Conference – June 26-28

Registration is now live for the [2017 Ohio Promoting Wellness & Recovery \(OPEC\) Conference](#) slated for June 26-28 at Miami University in Oxford. OPEC focuses on creating access, improving quality and making connections with Ohio’s prevention, early intervention and treatment workforce for children, families and communities. This year’s conference will offer six subject matter tracks, including: early childhood mental health, adolescent treatment and recovery/peer support, prevention, collective impact, youth development and cultural competency. Cost is \$115. Register online at opeconference.com. For more information, please contact Erin Eakin at paternem@miamioh.edu.

Follow OPEC 2017 on social media:

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Training Opportunities, cont.

NaBITA BIT Foundations Certification Course — June 28-29

The National Behavioral Intervention Team Association is sponsoring a [Behavioral Intervention Team Certification Course](#) June 28-29 at Cuyahoga Community College. This training is designed for schools that are in the early stages of behavioral intervention team (BIT) development or that do not yet have a team. The course will offer a concise and easy-to-understand overview of how BITs function in three distinct phases: gathering information, the analysis and application of a rubric based on collected information and the intervention and follow-up plan.

2017 Cuyahoga Problem Gambling Symposium — June 30

The Cuyahoga Problem Gambling Coalition is hosting its third annual [Cuyahoga Problem Gambling Symposium: Advancing Awareness, Prevention & Treatment in Our Community](#) at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South in Independence on June 30. Click the link for more information.

Save the Date: Cincinnati Children's Pediatric Mental Health Symposium — Sept. 11

Cincinnati Children's Hospital will host its 2017 Pediatric Mental Health Symposium on Sept. 11 at Great Wolf Lodge in Mason. Registration and presentation details will be released in coming weeks.

2017 Rally for Recovery — Sept. 29

Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery will host the 2017 Rally for Recovery will be held on Sept. 29 at the West Plaza at the Ohio Statehouse from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. In addition to fellowship, food, speakers, exhibits, and other activities, rally attendees are invited to advocate for individuals in recovery by meeting with local legislators. For more information, contact cgifford@oca-ohio.org.

Private Psychiatric Inpatient Provider Conference — Oct. 20

Mark your calendar: the OhioMHAS biennial Private Psychiatric Inpatient Provider Conference will be held Oct. 20 in Columbus. This year's conference theme is "Innovation in Behavioral Health Care – What's New?"

Save the Date: Annual Forensic Conference — Nov. 1

Hold the date! OhioMHAS will hold its Annual Forensic Conference Nov. 1 at the Dublin Embassy Suites Hotel. Joel Dvoskin, Ph.D., will serve as keynote speaker.



Inaugural Early Childhood Mental Health Conference

Valerie Alloy, Ph.D., OhioMHAS lead early childhood mental health administrator, speaks to about 350 attendees at the inaugural Early Childhood Mental Health "Skills to Action" Conference held April 19-20 in Columbus. The conference was designed to showcase local and national speakers whose work supports the youngest children in Ohio, reflecting the focus of the state's increased capacity of trainers and consultants through the Whole Child Matters initiative.

Presentation slides from the conference will soon be available at mha.ohio.gov/kids. View [more photos](#).



Have a news story or training opportunity you'd like to share with colleagues?
Please forward submissions to Eric.Wandersleben@mha.ohio.gov for consideration.