2017: A Year of Perseverance, Promise and Progress

Reflections from Director Tracy Plouck

On behalf of the OhioMHAS staff team, I’d like to recognize all of the progress that has been made by our system over the past year. Throughout Ohio, advocates, providers and public servants have worked tirelessly to improve service access and quality of life for people struggling with mental illness and/or addictive disorders. We’ve worked together to identify new funding approaches, policy changes and operational improvements; we’ve shared data and promising practices; we’ve supported each other in our collective efforts to resolve challenges. As we open 2018, it seems appropriate to pause and reflect for a moment on successes of the past twelve months.

OhioMHAS continued to make progress as a key partner in the cross-system effort to stem the tide of opiate abuse and addiction in Ohio. Overall, the state invested more than $1 billion to help communities battle drug abuse and addiction at the local level. In addition to substantial state investment, Ohio was awarded $26 million in 21st Century Cures Act funding. Though we are only half way through the first year of programming, these funds have already resulted in:

- More than 1,200 Ohioans served through new local opiate-focused initiatives and programs.
- 76 Ohio prescribers trained in Continuing Education accredited medication-assisted treatment.
- Six new programs to provide pregnant women and moms who struggle with opioid abuse comprehensive medical and social service care teams. These teams help support the mother’s recovery and the birth of a healthy baby.
- More than 2,000 teachers trained in evidence-based classroom management and prevention techniques through the PAX Good Behavior Game program.

As part of Gov. Kasich’s continued efforts to help Ohioans with mental illness, OhioMHAS continues to support comprehensive and targeted suicide prevention efforts. Ohio’s strategy focuses on reducing suicides through expansion of helpline services, empowering youth to intervene when they see a friend in trouble, equipping Ohio’s behavioral and physical health care professionals to actively engage with patients, and Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS Teams) to offer guidance, resources and comfort to family and close friends of someone who has died by suicide.

Recently, Ohio launched the new Be Present suicide prevention campaign targeting youth and young adults. In addition to providing local communities with free campaign materials, the campaign offers Ohio’s youth resources to empower them in making a difference in the lives of their peers.

In addition to the launch of Be Present, 4,700 Ohioans received assistance through the Ohio’s statewide crisis text line, and more than 9,700 conversations were handled from across the state. Also, 120 counselors and 10 medical professionals participated in Ohio’s Zero Suicide Academy where they learned techniques for recognizing risk and preventing and reducing suicide.

The Department has been focused on supporting access to treatment and recovery supports for individuals involved in the justice system. OhioMHAS, in partnership with Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, has increased treatment for substance use disorders within Ohio’s prisons, and has continued to improve connections to treatment and recovery supports in the community.

Through several court- and jail-focused initiatives, OhioMHAS supported 46 Ohio counties through specialized docket grants, addiction treatment program grants and legacy drug court allocations. OhioMHAS also supported the national Stepping Up Initiative to help counties reduce the number of criminal offenders with untreated mental illness and/or substance use disorders who continually cycle through county jails.

As we look back on all that has happened in the past year, let us think about what possibilities and opportunities lie ahead in 2018. Let us continue to work together to make progress and think creatively in our problem solving. Even when circumstances look bleak, we must press forward and never lose sight of our goals. Through the dedicated work of our employees and community partners, we are determined to help Ohioans achieve optimal wellness.
Ohio Awards $10 Million for New Technology Projects to Fight Opioid Addiction

A recovery app, a therapeutic implant and a non-narcotic pain drug are among the top ideas that will receive grant funding to advance innovative science and technology solutions in responding to the opioid epidemic.

The Ohio Third Frontier Commission this month announced that seven proposals would receive a total of $10 million through the Ohio Opioid Abuse Prevention and Treatment Technology Initiative. The competition is part of a two-pronged strategy to drive innovative research and development in opioid and addiction science.

The second element is an $8 million Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge, a competition modeled after the Head Health competition launched by the NFL, Under Armour and GE to address traumatic brain injuries. Several state officials traveled to New York City on Dec. 7 to generate ideas for the contest with a Tech2025 hackathon event.

“We're utilizing innovative solutions and new technology to help combat the opioid problem,” Commission Chair David Goodman said. “This is an opportunity to save lives.”

Click HERE to view a list of funded projects.

State Employees Trained in Use of Naloxone

The Governor’s Cabinet Opiate Action Team (GCOAT) hosted two trainings in December for OhioMHAS, Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and Secretary of State employees interested in learning how to properly administer the opioid reversal medication naloxone.

Eva Wollerman, emergency preparedness and training supervisor from Franklin County Public Health, and Steve Roth from Mount Carmel Hospital Outreach Services discussed the signs and symptoms of an opioid overdose, and demonstrated the proper deployment and storage of naloxone nasal spray.

Roth and Wollerman stressed the importance of being aware of surroundings and the circumstances when it comes to administering naloxone. Most notably, they cautioned participants to remember to contact 911, never attempt to recap a syringe and to be prepared for the overdose victim to become argumentative and aggressive once revived. The trainers reviewed other safety measures, especially the risk of coming into contact with Fentanyl, a highly lethal substance. A tiny speck is enough to cause death. The trainers wrapped up their presentation by encouraging participants to purchase and carry naloxone wherever they go. Plans are in the works for a web-based training to be shared on the OhioMHAS website.
Montgomery County ADAMHS, Scene 75 Indoor Entertainment Center Team Up to Thank Dayton-Area First Responders

The opioid epidemic has exacted a huge toll on individuals, families and communities. This holiday season, Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) partnered with a local indoor entertainment center to thank the county’s first responders who have saved thousands of lives in the Dayton area. First responders and their families were invited to participate in “Supporting the Shield Appreciation Days” on Dec. 26-28 at the Scene 75 Entertainment Center in Dayton. Montgomery County ADAMHS also plans to honor first responders with a special billboard.

“Every day, first responders handle emergencies that require them to serve beyond the call of duty,” said Helen Jones-Kelley, Montgomery County ADAMHS executive director. “Their efforts are heroic and compassionate, but it can take a toll on them and their families. We want first responders to know how much we appreciate them and their service to our community, especially during this horrific opioid epidemic.”

Scene 75 will offer first responders in Montgomery County free vouchers for a day of food, fun and games.

“Our mission at Scene75 is to save communities we care about from boredom,” said Jonah Sandler, Scene75 founder and chief entertainment officer. “Key to this mission is the word ‘care.’ We genuinely value our role in the community to help serve others. By partnering with ADAMHS to support the shield, first responders and their families allows us an opportunity to support those who support our community at large. It is our way of working together to say thanks.”

Scene 75 features multi-level laser tag, bumper cars, mini bowling, a gaming theater and a video arcade.

Earlier this year, The Cincinnati Enquirer chronicled compassion fatigue among first responders, who have found the volume of opioid overdose victims “upsetting and devastating.” What used to be rare is now common to police, emergency medical personnel and others.

ABH Police Armed with Naloxone

Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare in Athens has trained all of its police officers in the administration of the opioid overdose reversal drug naloxone.

With the opioid epidemic affecting the hospital’s catchment area and community, the decision to train police officers was strongly supported by ABH administration, according to Chief Joe Sprague.

“Many of our patients arrive with heroin and other opioid addictions,” he said. “We don’t want a patient or their family or friends visiting, or anyone in our parking areas, to suffer a fatal dose when we have the ability to deliver an antidote.”

The kits are stored in a secure location, but readily available to police officers.
Lorain County Mental Health Board Sponsors Forum on Suicide Prevention, Recognition

The Lorain County Board of Mental Health sponsored a community suicide prevention and mental health forum Dec. 14 to promote community healing among Wellington residents after recent suicide deaths.

The forum provided basic education on depression, identifying the risks for suicide, recognizing warning signs and learning several intervention techniques.

Elizabeth Wolanski, child and adolescent services director for the Board, introduced components of the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation’s Gatekeeper training and provided guidance on how to have conversations about mental health in the community.

“One of the biggest myths is that if you ask somebody if they are thinking about suicide or having suicidal thoughts, it’s going to lead to them acting on those thoughts,” said Wolanski.

“It’s a myth. Usually people get a sense of relief when they’re asked about it because you’re that someone who is willing to sit there and listen to their story.”

Wolanski shared questions individuals can ask to determine if somebody could be at risk for suicide, and encouraged participants not to be afraid to reach out to those in need.

“The goal of the forum was to help Wellington residents determine what type of mental health training and education support they want in the near future.

“We aren’t asking people to put all the responsibility on themselves in intervening,” Wolanski explained. “There are lots of resources that are available within our county.”

The Board provides a 24-hour crisis line and emergency stabilization unit through the Nord Center. It also supports counseling services through Applewood Centers, Bellefaire, Firelands Counseling, Ohio Guidestone and Pathways Counseling.

“We’re trying to get people to recognize that it’s OK to talk about depression or feeling sad,” said Dr. Kathleen Kern, executive director of the Board.

“Our goal is to give people tools, but we’re useless if the community doesn’t have the desire to create healing,” she said. “When people join in arms and say we’re grieving together ... that’s when the healing happens.”

Tuscarawas County Coalition Distributes At-Home Rx Medication Deactivation Bags

The Tuscarawas County Anti-Drug Coalition has begun distribution of specially designed bags which can be used to safely dispose of unused medications.

The Coalition purchased 9,100 Deterra Drug Deactivation System bags with the help of a $30,000 grant from OhioMHAS.

The lightweight bags can hold up to 45 pills, six ounces of liquid or six patches. Users place unused medication in the pouch, fill halfway with warm tap water, seal, shake and toss the bag in the trash.

A wide range of county agencies and organizations are assisting in getting the bags to households.

“With the drop-off locations that are available throughout Tuscarawas County for safe disposal, this in-home deactivation should remove even more potentially dangerous medications and prescriptions from potential abuse,” said Jodi Salvo of Personal & Family Counseling Services and the Anti-Drug Coalition.

The bags come with an educational flier and postage-paid survey to gather data.

“We are not asking for any identifying information,” Salvo said. “But the information provided to us will help us with future projects to help end prescription misuse and abuse.”

Salvo displays the disposal pouches.
Summit Behavioral Healthcare Officers Honored for Apprehending Armed Felon

This month, the administration of Summit Behavioral Healthcare in Cincinnati recognized the outstanding work of police officers Reuben McDowell (top, left) and Zachary Philibin (bottom, left). In the early morning hours of Dec. 17, the new third-shift officers assisted State Highway Patrol troopers in apprehending an armed felon who was operating a motor vehicle while impaired and trespassing on State of Ohio property.

The suspect, who was found to have a blood-alcohol content of 0.18 percent, had crashed his vehicle on state-owned property and was initially found to be unresponsive behind the wheel. After failing to respond to verbal commands, troopers attempted to open the vehicle door to help the suspect exit the vehicle. The suspect hesitated and then attempted, unsuccessfully, to put the vehicle in drive. The responding officers were able to safely pull the suspect from the vehicle. While attempting to restrain the driver with handcuffs, Officer Philibin spotted a loaded 9mm handgun in the suspect’s waistband. He alerted the assisting troopers who safely secured the weapon.

“The officers maintained exemplary situational awareness and, due to their dedication to duty, they were able to effect this apprehension in the safest way possible,” said Chief Joseph Heckel. “Their initial alertness and corresponding inter-agency cooperation brought the situation to a rapid conclusion. Their actions serve as an example of the highest level of law enforcement professionalism.”

Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital Employees Donate Toys to Brighten Holidays for Needy Children

Employees at Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital (NOPH) continued a long-standing tradition of bringing joy to needy children during the holidays by supporting the local Toys for Tots initiative. Employees generously donated a variety of new, unwrapped toys to be shared with needy children in the Greater Toledo area.

Toys for Tots is a program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to distribute toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The stated goal is to “deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive and patriotic citizens.”

Pictured: Shanna Taylor, clinical services director, and Jamey Wildman, nursing supervisor, pose with some of the items donated by NOPH employees in support of the local Toys for Tots program.
New SAMHSA Resources
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has released several new publications:

**Behavioral Health Among College Students Information and Resource Kit** discusses the consequences of substance misuse among college students including the misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. It explores various causational factors such as peer pressure, stress, social norms and advertising messages.

**Rx Pain Medications, Know the Opinions, Get the Facts** is a set of 13 fact sheets designed to increase awareness of the risks associated with prescription opioid use and misuse, as well as to educate patients who are prescribed opioids for pain about the risks and to provide resources on methods for alternative pain management.

**The Way Forward: Federal Action for a System That Works for All People Living With SMI and SED and Their Families and Caregivers — Full Report** shines the spotlight on the critical issues and services for Americans with serious mental illnesses and serious emotional disturbances, and the importance of concerted efforts by the federal government to address their needs. The report describes key advances in research and strategies to improve services to these individuals.

**Intergovernmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee Issues Interim Report**
The Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) released its 2017 Report to Congress. This report, *The Way Forward: Federal Action for a System That Works for All People Living With SMI and SED and Their Families and Caregivers*, shines the spotlight on critical issues and services for Americans with serious mental illnesses (SMI) and serious emotional disturbances (SED), and the importance of concerted efforts by the federal government to address their needs. Download the [full report](#). View the [executive summary](#).

**CDC Offers Adolescent Health Status Infographic**
“Health, United States” is an annual report on health, produced by the National Center for Health Statistics and submitted by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to the President and Congress. The report uses data from government sources as well as private and global sources to present an overview of national health trends. This [infographic](#) features indicators relating to adolescent health from the report’s Health Status and Determinants section. It focuses on teenage childbearing, tobacco use, suicide deaths and obesity.

**LGBTQ Teens Face Serious Suicide Risk, Research Finds**
[LGBTQ](#) teens are more vulnerable to planning or attempting suicide, according to a [Dec. 19 research letter](#) published in the journal *JAMA Psychiatry*. Looking at responses from the [2015 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey](#), researchers found that 40 percent of high school students who identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual or questioning were seriously considering suicide. Transgender teens were not included in the survey, but [research](#) has shown that transgender youth may face a similarly high, if not higher, suicide risk. The [survey](#), conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, looked at a nationally representative sample of 15,624 students across the country in that were in grades 9 through 12 (typically 14 to 18 years old). Of the sexual minorities in the study, 34.9 percent were planning suicide and 24.9 percent had attempted suicide in the previous year.

**Adults With A History Of Childhood Adversity, Violent Offenses May Have A High Risk For Suicide**
*Health* reported this month that “adults with a history of childhood adversity who also engaged in violent offending during adolescence have a high risk for suicide in early adulthood.” Researchers arrived at that conclusion after assessing data on 476,103 Swedish adults born between 1984 and 1988, with follow-up from 20 years of age until Dec. 31, 2013. The findings were published online Dec. 13 in *JAMA Psychiatry*.

**Study: Children’s Resilience Is Key to Weathering the Emotional Pain of Bullying**
Children who bounce back and successfully adapt to stressful situations often withstand the emotional pain caused by bullying, according to a Florida Atlantic University and University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire [study](#). Resilient youngsters are not only targeted less by bullies, but also less affected by bullying when it occurs, researchers found, emphasizing that resiliency skills can be taught. “We want children to learn and develop the skills they need to deal with problems, and yet we rarely help them engage with those problems so that they can grow in their ability to solve them,” said lead author Sameer Hinduja.
Adjunctive Ketamine Appears to Reduce Suicidal Thoughts in Depressed Patients

A single adjunctive infusion of ketamine appears to reduce suicidal thoughts in depressed patients within 24 hours, according to a new study from researchers at Columbia University Medical Center and the New York State Psychiatric Institute. This improvement was maintained for six weeks with standard, optimized pharmacotherapy. While previous studies have suggested ketamine rapidly reduces suicidal ideation in some patients, whether similar effects would be seen in patients with major depression and high levels of suicidal ideation was less clear. The researchers assessed the study participants’ suicidal ideation at the start of the trial using the clinician-rated Scale for Suicidal Ideation (SSI). The assessment was repeated 24 hours before infusion with ketamine or midazolam, 230 minutes after infusion, 24 hours after infusion, and at weeks one to six after infusion. Patients were also asked about symptoms of depression and anxiety before and after the infusion, as well as adverse effects following the infusion and again at six-week follow-up.

Family Meals May Boost Kids’ Physical, Mental Health

Researchers have found that children who often ate meals with their family at the age of six years old had better social skills and general fitness by the age of 10, compared with those who rarely spent mealtimes with their family. Study co-author Linda Pagani, of the Université de Montréal in Canada, and colleagues recently reported their new findings in the Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics.

WHO to Add Excessive Video Gaming to ICD-11

The World Health Organization (WHO) is adding gaming disorder to its upcoming 11th update of International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) for persons who play an excessive amount of video games. WHO’s beta draft of the ICD-11 characterizes gaming disorder as “a pattern of persistent or recurrent gaming behavior (‘digital gaming’ or ‘video-gaming’), which may be online (i.e., over the internet) or offline, manifested by: 1) impaired control over gaming (e.g., onset, frequency, intensity, duration, termination, context); 2) increasing priority given to gaming to the extent that gaming takes precedence over other life interests and daily activities; and 3) continuation or escalation of gaming despite the occurrence of negative consequences.” The description of the condition continues: “The behaviour pattern is of sufficient severity to result in significant impairment in personal, family, social, educational, occupational or other important areas of functioning. The pattern of gaming behaviour may be continuous or episodic and recurrent. The gaming behaviour and other features are normally evident over a period of at least 12 months in order for a diagnosis to be assigned, although the required duration may be shortened if all diagnostic requirements are met and symptoms are severe.” The fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) published in 2013 defined internet gaming disorder as a “condition for further study.”

Parental Homelessness May Increase Risk For Psychiatric Disorders Among Children, Teens

Healio recently reported that “parental homelessness increased the risk for psychiatric disorders among children and adolescents,” researchers found after conducting a “nationwide, register-based cohort study of 1,072,882 youths aged 0 to 16 years in Denmark from Jan. 1, 1999, to Dec. 31, 2015.” The findings were published in the December issue of The Lancet Public Health.

February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, a national effort to raise awareness about abuse among teen and 20-something relationships and promote programs that prevent it. Teen dating violence — also called intimate relationship violence or intimate partner violence among adolescents or adolescent relationship abuse — includes physical, psychological or sexual abuse; harassment; or stalking of any person ages 12 to 18 in the context of a past or present romantic or consensual relationship. It is important to understand and recognize the signs of teen dating violence.

2017 Monitoring the Future Survey Released

On Dec. 14, researchers from the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research released the 2017 Monitoring the Future Survey. Since 1975, the survey has measured how teens report their drug, alcohol, and cigarette use and related attitudes in 12th graders nationwide; 8th and 10th graders were added to the survey in 1991. This year, nearly 48,000 students from 360 public and private schools participated in the survey.
FDA Approves First Once-Monthly Injectable Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Sublocade, the first once-monthly injectable buprenorphine product for the treatment of moderate-to-severe opioid use disorder in adults who have initiated treatment with a transmucosal (absorbed through mucus membrane) buprenorphine-containing product. Sublocade is indicated for patients who have been on a stable dose of buprenorphine treatment for a minimum of seven days and is meant to be used as part of a complete treatment program that includes counseling and psychosocial support. Read the FDA media release.

Non-addictive Painkillers Found as Effective as Opioids

In a new study of patients who showed up to an emergency department, researchers found that a cocktail of two non-addictive, over-the-counter drugs relieved pain just as well as — and maybe just a little better than — a trio of widely-prescribed opioid pain medications. The trial involved 416 patients who entered Montefiore Medical Center’s Emergency Department in the Bronx with painful injuries. About 20 percent of them were diagnosed with a bone fracture. The rest suffered injuries such as a sprained ankle, a dislocated shoulder or a banged-up knee. Upon arrival, the patients were assigned to one of four groups. One group got a combination ibuprofen/acetaminophen tablet, containing the medications found in Advil and Tylenol. The other groups got a drug that contained a prescription narcotic, such as Percocet, Vicodin or Tylenol No. 3. Researchers asked patients to rate their pain upon arrival and two hours after they got their medication. Patients who got the acetaminophen/ibuprofen treatment reported pain relief just as substantial as did the patients who got one of the opioid painkillers.

U.S. Life Expectancy Falls as Opioid Deaths Rise

The average life expectancy in the U.S. dropped for the second straight year as the opioid epidemic, fueled by a rise in use of fentanyl and other synthetic opiates, continues to scourge the nation, according to a report from CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics. More than 63,600 people died from drug overdoses in 2016, a rate three times that of overdose deaths in 1999, according to the report. Because of these ever-growing rates of overdose deaths, researchers witnessed the average American life expectancy drop another degree, from 78.7 in 2015 to 78.6 in 2016. But the life expectancy in 2015 was already a sobering drop from 2014, when the life expectancy was 78.9. Read more.

Training Opportunities

Upper Northeast Regional Trauma-Informed Care Collaborative Meeting — Jan. 18
The Upper Northeast Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) Collaborative has reorganized under the leadership of Pam Waite, Rick Cirillo, Carol O’Connell and Heather Leffler. Meetings dates for 2018 are as follows: Jan. 18, April 19, July 19 and Oct. 18. Meetings will be held at Northcoast Behavioral Health, 1756 Sagamore Road, Northfield, Ohio 44067. Entrance will be through the McKee Building. FrontLine Services of Cleveland will be the featured program at the January meeting.

Columbus Area IHS, Inc. to Host Ninth Annual Clinical Conference — Jan. 19
Columbus Area Integrated Health Services, Inc. will host the Ninth Annual Clinical Conference, “Healing a Community: The Opioid Epidemic, Infant Mortality, Race Relations and Resolutions” on Jan. 19 at the Quest Conference Center in Columbus. The conference features two speakers and an engaging panel discussion with local community leaders. Author, psychologist and professor Erlanger A. Turner, Ph.D. and Michael Johnson, M.S.W., L.M.S.W., will provide keynote remarks. Register via Facebook or contact Terri Ferguson at 614.251.7730 | tferguson@columbus-area.com.

Introduction to Suicidology: Prevention, Intervention and Postvention — Jan. 26
The Northern Ohio Recovery Association will host “Introduction to Suicidology: Prevention, Intervention and Postvention” from 1-4 p.m. on Jan. 26 at the Cleveland Heights Library—Lee Road Branch. Click HERE for more information or call 216.391.4987.

Improving Care for Homeless Patients at Risk for Suicide Webinar — Jan. 30
The Suicide Prevention Resource Center is hosting a Zero Suicide: Improving Care for Homeless Patients at Risk for Suicide webinar from 2:30-4 p.m. on Jan. 30. The webinar recording will be archived on www.zerosuicide.com.
Training Opportunities, cont.

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:
Feb. 22 — Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Considerations for Individuals with SPMI (Mentor)

Upcoming Problem Gambling Treatment Training Opportunities
Stage 2: Treating the Disordered Gambler is a two-day training that will provide clinicians with 12 hours of gambling-specific education. Designed for the clinician preparing to treat disordered gamblers, clinicians will gain a better understanding of treating gambling addiction through Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Motivational Interviewing techniques. Participants will discuss case reviews, participate in role plays, and write treatment plans. They will also discuss disordered gambling as a co-occurring disorder. A prerequisite is Stage 1 Foundations in Disordered Gambling or 12 hours of previous gambling counseling training. This training provides 12 CEUs for social workers, counselors, and gambling counselors, as well as 12 RCHs for chemical dependency and prevention professionals. Cost is $50, which includes breakfast and lunch.

Feb. 1-2, 2018 in Cleveland
March 1-2, 2018 in Cambridge

Advanced Training in Treating Disordered Gamblers is a six-hour training and registration will be HERE.
Presenter Bruce S. Liese, Ph.D., will provide an overview of substance use and addictive behaviors, discuss the treatment of addictive behaviors, as well as conceptualize “Addiction Syndrome” and its implications on treatment.
April 26, 2018 in Columbus
April 27, 2018 in Cincinnati

Presenter Chris Tuell, EdD, LPCC-S, LICDC-CS, will examine the role that problem gambling and other behavioral addictions have upon mental health and recovery, the role that the addictive brain plays in this process, and the relationship with co-occurring disorders. Also covered will be the CUBIS Model of addiction and assessment and treatment strategies.
May 24, 2018 in Columbus
May 25, 2018 in Cincinnati

Gambling Clinical Supervision Monthly Conference Calls for gambling treatment qualification will take place on the fourth Friday of the month from noon-1:30 p.m. with Dr. Heather Chapman. These calls are open to licensed social workers, counselors, chemical dependency counselors, psychologists and psychiatrists in Ohio who have attended a minimum of 24 hours of gambling-specific education and are working with disordered gamblers. Participants must register HERE for the monthly calls.

Regional Peer Supporter Trainings
The OhioMHAS Bureau of Recovery Supports has released its schedule of upcoming regional peer supporter trainings. Click HERE for a schedule. Learn more about peer recovery support training opportunities under the Workforce Development tab on the OhioMHAS website.

Human Trafficking and the Opioid Crisis Webinar — Jan. 31
The National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center is hosting a webinar on Jan. 31 from 1-2:30 p.m. that highlights emerging trends, case studies and research on human trafficking and substance use. Register HERE.

Northwest Regional Trauma-Informed Collaborative Meeting — Feb. 13
The Northwest Regional TIC Collaborative recently reorganized under the leadership of Andy Swaisgood, Craig Smith, Joey Supina, Bob Oglebee and Beth Boyle. The first meeting for 2018 will be held Feb. 13 at Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center, 138 East Market St., Sandusky, Ohio 44870. The meeting will be from 10 a.m.-noon and will feature a presentation focused on the endurance of art by Joey Supina.

ICCA Annual Public Policy Forum and Hill Day — Feb. 26-27
The International Community Corrections Association (ICCA) will host its annual Public Policy Forum (Feb. 26) and Hill Day (Feb. 27) in Washington, D.C. The Forum will feature criminal justice leaders from the private and public sectors who will highlight
Training Opportunities, cont.

current trends, pending legislation and relevant updates for those working within community corrections. U.S. participants are encouraged to schedule visits with their elected officials the following day. ICCA will distribute suggested talking points and helpful hints at the Forum. Click HERE for more information or call 614.252.8417.

2018 Minority Health Month Kickoff & Exhibition — March 29
The Ohio Commission on Minority Health will host its annual Minority Health Month kickoff and exposition from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on March 29 at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 S. High St., Columbus. Conducted with and by community-based agencies and organizations, this celebration reaches into urban, suburban and rural areas of the state. For more information, please contact the Commission at 614.466.4000.

2018 Maternal Depression Trainings
The OhioMHAS Bureau of Children and Families will host a series of regional Maternal Depression Trainings throughout the remainder of SFY 2018. All trainings are from 9 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Upcoming dates and locations include:

- March 9 — Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare, Athens
- April 11 — Montgomery County ADAMHS, Dayton
- April 19 — Wood County ESC, Bowling Green

For more information, please contact Karen Kimbrough at 614.752.8355 or karen.kimbrough@mha.ohio.gov.

Save the Date: 2018 Ohio Recovery Housing Annual Conference — April 3-4
Ohio Recovery Housing (ORH) will host its 2018 Annual Conference April 3-4 at the Marriott Columbus University Area. Visit www.ohiorecoveryhousing.org for more information.

Second Early Childhood Mental Health Conference — April 23-25

Fifth Annual Trauma-Informed Care Summit — May 22-23
OhioMHAS, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, will host the Fifth Annual Trauma-Informed Care Summit “Creating Environments of Resiliency and Hope in Ohio” May 22-23 at the Residence Inn by Marriott Columbus-University Area. Workshop proposals are currently being accepted through Feb. 2. Click HERE to submit a proposal.

Save the Date: 2018 Ohio Promoting Wellness & Recovery Conference — June 25-27
The OhioMHAS Bureau of Prevention and Wellness is pleased to announce that the 2018 Ohio Promoting Wellness and Recovery Conference (OPEC) will take place June 25-27 at Miami University in Oxford. This annual conference focuses on creating access, improving quality and making connections with Ohio’s prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery support workforce for children, families and communities. Cost is $120. More details will be provided in early 2018. Follow conference-related news at www.OPECconference.com or on Twitter @OPECconference. Workshop proposals will be accepted through Feb. 23. Click HERE to submit a proposal.

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.