

DIRECTOR'S MEMO:

Medication Assisted-Treatment is the Standard of Care in Ohio

Amid the ongoing national opioid epidemic, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Director Mark Hurst, M.D., this month issued a memo to all health care providers asserting Medication-Assisted Treatment as the "standard of care" in Ohio. The text of his memo follows:

"Opioid use, dependence, and their consequences continue to be a major public health issue in Ohio and across the United States. In response, Ohio has implemented an aggressive and comprehensive approach to expand prevention services, improve access and quality of treatment, and increase access to naloxone. These efforts have resulted in a six-year low in prescription-related deaths.

One of Ohio's major treatment initiatives has been the expansion of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), and for good reason. Multiple studies demonstrate that a positive treatment outcome is as much as three times more likely in individuals treated with MAT, along with psychosocial treatment, than among those treated with psychosocial treatment alone. The United States Surgeon General, the Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and numerous other leaders in the field have emphasized the importance of MAT as a standard of care. Recently, the state opioid response funding provided to Ohio by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration precluded providing funding to health care providers that do not offer all forms of MAT directly or by referral.

There are currently three FDA-approved MAT options: products containing naloxone, products containing buprenorphine, and methadone. All three options have advantages and disadvantages for specific patients, and all three are demonstrated to improve treatment outcomes. There is no evidence that one form of MAT is more effective than the others.

For all medical disorders, including opioid use disorders, providers should inform patients of the nature of their disorder and the options for treatment, including the likelihood of success and potential problems associated with each form of treatment, as well as the potential course of the disorder without treatment. For opioid use disorders, these treatments



Mark Hurst, M.D.

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— Mark Hurst, M.D.

should include all forms of MAT in combination with psychosocial treatment and psychosocial treatment alone. The patient then can use this information to make the best-informed decision and give his/her informed consent for a treatment approach best suited to them. OhioMHAS recommends that providers utilize the ***nationally developed educational materials*** for helping patients understand their opiate use disorder and treatment options.

Many providers cannot offer all forms of MAT, and some do not have the ability to offer MAT at all, but patients should be informed of the different options available and referrals made when needed. To assist, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services has partnered with the Emerald Jenny Foundation to provide a ***statewide treatment finder webtool*** to identify providers by service type (including MAT) in a location most convenient to the patient. Providers may also call the OhioMHAS toll free number at **1.877.275.6364** to be connected to someone who can help them find a behavioral health treatment provider or MAT provider in a specific geographic location.

Please consider deploying enhanced efforts to treat those suffering from opioid use disorder. We have made great progress in improving access to evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorders, and further improvements can be made with your continued and dedicated efforts.

For that, you have our most sincere gratitude. Thank you."



On the Road with Dr. Hurst



A brief recap of some of Dir. Hurst's recent public activities:

- 11.8 Attended the Justice Reinvestment 2.0 Ad Hoc Committee meeting at the Ohio Statehouse.
- 11.9 Provided remarks at the second Marijuana as Medicine Symposium: Prevention and Clinical Implications hosted by the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities.
- 11.7 Served as the luncheon keynote presenter at the 5th annual Management of High Value Care GI Disorders for the Primary Care Physician presented by The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.
- 11.28 Spoke at The Ohio State University's College of Public Health.

County Board Executive Directors Announce 2019 Retirement Plans

Two county board executives announced plans this month to retire in the new year. Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Warren and Clinton Counties Executive Director Brent Lawyer and Wood County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board Executive Director Tom Clemons both plan to call it a career in 2019.



Brent Lawyer

Lawyer joined the MHRS in 2000 as associate director and moved into the executive director role two years later. During his tenure, he has led the expansion of behavioral health providers offering services in Warren and Clinton counties. His efforts have resulted in increases in the number of people served while maintaining a financially sound system. The MHRS Board of Directors has formed a team to search for his successor.

Clemons, who plans to retire March 15, spent 26 years as associate director before spending the past six as executive director. He too has overseen the growth of a system that now serves around 8,000 individuals annually compared to 3,000 just a few years ago. Clemons helped to lead a successful levy campaign this month and told local reporters obtaining funding for Dialectical Behavioral Therapy after decades of advocacy work was among his many achievements.



Tom Clemons

OhioMHAS salutes both directors for their leadership, advocacy and outstanding contributions to Ohio's mental health and addiction services network.



Winter Weather Alert!

OhioMHAS Medical Director Justin Trevino, M.D. recently released a Winter Weather Alert to help protect inpatient and community clients from cold weather injuries. Click [HERE](#) to view.

OACBHA Hosts Medical Marijuana Symposium for Clinicians and Prevention Professionals

As Ohio gears up for legalized medicinal marijuana sales, the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) hosted its second *Marijuana as Medicine Symposium* on Nov. 9.



The training focused on implications for clinical and prevention professionals and featured keynote speakers: Dr. Aaron Weiner, addictions chief and clinical psychologist from Linden Oaks Behavioral Health in Illinois; Jessica Nickel from the Addiction Policy Forum; Marcie Seidel, executive director of Prevention Action Alliance; and OhioMHAS Director Mark Hurst, M.D. More than 200 professionals attended and learned about prevention strategies, impacts of marijuana policies on treatment professionals and the science behind marijuana as a medicine.

Click [HERE](#) to view presentations on the OACBHA website.

Lottery Tickets and Gambling Games Discouraged as Youth Stocking Stuffers

The holiday season is welcomed as a time for bringing family and friends together for traditional meals, games and giving to others. While considering those special gifts, OhioMHAS would like to remind parents and other adults that lottery, scratch-off tickets and gambling games are not appropriate gifts for children under age 18.



Young people report that their first gambling experiences occur around ages 9-11. The Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey suggested that nearly 15 percent of 7th-12th graders had gambled money or personal items in the past

12 months. Further, 3.4 percent of a sample survey of these youth reported that they felt bad about the amount they bet or what happened when they bet. Based on studies of adults with gambling problems, the earlier a person begins gambling, the greater the likelihood of developing a problem.

OhioMHAS has joined the National Association of Problem Gambling Service Administrators, the National Council on Problem Gambling and dozens of organizations from throughout the U.S. in a campaign to stop lottery tickets from being given as gifts to children.

For individuals and families experiencing problem gambling issues, call the Ohio Problem Gambling Helpline at **1.800.589.9966**, or chat [HERE](#). For more resources, visit www.beforeyoubet.org.

Six Ways to Manage Stress, Cope With Depression During the Holiday Season

The holiday season can bring mixed emotions for many. For some, it's their favorite time of the year. For others, it brings feelings of sadness, stress, anxiety and depression. Whether you hunker down at home, or travel over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house, here are some ways to help keep depression from taking over.

Manage your commitments. Perhaps the most important thing to do is to keep yourself from getting overwhelmed by holiday commitments. These commitments come in many forms — gifts you promise to buy, parties you promise to attend, dinners you promise to cook, relatives you promise to visit and so on. Accept that you won't be able to do everything you want to do, and you certainly won't be able to do everything other people want you to do. Pick a few priorities, set a firm spending limit and focus on what matters most.

Focus on connecting. There is no end of lamenting that the holiday season has become too commercial. However, studies have shown that getting things only makes us happier for a very short time. And the pressure of holiday shopping can make you completely miserable. It's much better for your happiness and mental health if you make the focus of your holidays connecting to friends and family. Gifts are fine, but giving gifts should be a way to strengthen relationships, not to check a holiday season box. The connections are what really make you happier, so focus on those.

Go easy on the sweets. It's hard to avoid sweets during the holidays, but it's worth the effort to try. Sweets crash your blood sugar and wreak havoc on the digestive system, leading to fatigue, irritability and depressed mood. The more you can stick to a healthy diet, the less depressed you'll feel.

Watch out for SAD. In addition to the pressures of the holiday season, the days get shorter in the northern hemisphere, which can lead to seasonal affective disorder, or SAD. Talk to your doctor about ways to prevent it and strategies to cope.

Stay away from alcohol. This goes without saying for anyone in recovery from any kind of addiction. However, if you have struggled with depression, it's better to avoid alcohol (a depressant) especially during the holidays.

Find someone to talk to. Discuss concerns with your doctor or therapist ahead of time. This will allow you to prepare for anything that's likely to happen. Also, don't be afraid to discuss your feelings with friends or loved ones, or attend a support meeting. In an emergency, you can always call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or reach out for assistance via the Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword 4HOPE to 741 741. More [self-care tips](#).



Franklin County ADAMH Unveils Two New Murals to Promote Health and Wellness

The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health (ADAMH) Board of Franklin County this fall unveiled two new murals designed to engage Central Ohioans about overall health and wellness, including mental health. The murals are located in the Columbus suburbs of Gahanna and Reynoldsburg.

The new mural in Gahanna is a whimsical depiction of the community's warmth and openness to communication across cultures and generations. The mural's title, *Talk to Me*, reminds viewers that our desire for connection and companionship is a universal foundation of happiness. View [pictures](#) of the Gahanna mural in the Creekside District on Mill Street.

In Reynoldsburg, visitors will see a colorful depiction of healthy living that promotes thoughts of diversity, collaboration and hope. It encourages individuals to work, grow and thrive together in the community and reminds viewers to *Live in the Moment*. View [pictures](#) of the mural located on the Reynoldsburg High School Livingston campus.

The ADAMH Board of Franklin County started investing in partnerships with neighborhoods to install murals county-wide in 2013. Each mural is a reflection of its location and the unique thoughts residents associate with wellness.



Since 2013, the ADAMH Board of Franklin County has worked with communities to promote understanding and awareness of mental health. The mural above, located in Reynoldsburg, encourages viewers to “Live in the Moment.”

Toledo Provider Lands Mental Health Awareness Training, Treatment Grants

The [Zepf Center](#) of Toledo has received two grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that will enable the agency to provide Mental Health First Aid, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and treatment for persons who have a serious mental illness and are homeless.

Through its *REACT: Responsive Education, Awareness and Community Treatment*, Zepf Center will provide multiple Mental Health First Aid trainings for adults and youth, coordinate CIT for first responders and law enforcement, and create a speakers bureau of trainers (including Certified Peer Recovery Supporters) who will be deployed throughout northwest Ohio.

Zepf Center also secured a *Treatment for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness, Serious Emotional Disturbances, or Co-Occurring Disorders Experiencing Homeless* grant. With this funding, Zepf Center will work in partnership with Neighborhood Properties, Inc., the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board, Lucas County Metropolitan Housing and Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County on the *HOPE: Homeless Outreach and Person-centered Engagement* project. The initiative will serve families who have at least one member with a co-occurring disorder; homeless veterans and their families who have a co-occurring disorder; and individuals who are chronically homeless with a co-occurring disorder. The HOPE project will serve 60 unduplicated individuals and their children each year, for a total of 300 unduplicated individuals across five years.



Provider Gets \$2.5M to Combat Family Homelessness in Greater Cleveland

The [Emerald Development & Economic Network](#) (EDEN), Inc., a contract agency of the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County, will receive a \$2.5 million grant from the [Bezos Day 1 Families Fund](#) to provide rental assistance and support services targeted to homeless and at-risk families in Cleveland.

The goal of this initiative is to provide an opportunity for families to be successfully housed, and to maintain their housing in the community. While communitywide efforts have had a positive effect on reducing specific homeless populations — such as adults who experience chronic homelessness and veterans who are homeless — the need to serve families experiencing homelessness and families on the verge of homelessness remained great.

“We are truly honored to partner with Day 1 Families Fund in our shared goal to engage in needle-moving work to provide systemic solutions to homelessness and to enable families who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk to achieve long-term stability,” said EDEN's Executive Director, Elaine Gimmel. “We firmly believe that affordable, stable, and safe housing is the linchpin to improved health and educational outcomes for every member of a household, and enables them to take positive steps toward achieving life goals.”

EDEN serves more than 4,000 households annually through its programs and services, and works closely with agency partners like [FrontLine](#) to provide a continuum of ongoing and customized services to its clients.



News & Research Roundup

CDC: Firearm Homicide and Suicide Rates Increase

According to a [recent article](#) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, firearm homicide and suicide rates both increased in 2015-16. The national firearm homicide rate jumped to 4.4 (per 100,000 residents) in 2015-16, up from 3.7 in 2012-13. For the same years, the firearm suicide rate increased to 7.7 from 7.4. A factor "likely affecting both firearm homicide and suicide is access to firearms by persons at risk for harming themselves or others," the report concluded. Reducing access to lethal means during an acute suicidal crisis by safely storing firearms or temporarily removing them from the home can help reduce suicide risk, particularly among youths, the article stated. Click [HERE](#) to read Dr. Hurst's May 2018 memo on firearms and mental illness.

Team-Based Care Optimizes Medication Treatment for First Episode Psychosis

Findings from the National Institute of Mental Health's Recovery After an Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE) [project](#) indicate that team-based coordinated specialty care (CSC) for first episode psychosis (FEP) results in more optimal prescribing of anti-psychotics and fewer side effects when compared with typical community care. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

CDC Study Identifies Careers with Highest Suicide Rates

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently conducted a study to determine the occupational groups with the highest suicide rates. Researchers analyzed the suicide deaths of 22,053 Americans of working age from 17 states who participated in the 2012 and 2015 National Violent Death Reporting System. They found the construction and extraction field, which includes jobs such as carpenters, electricians and miners, had the highest rates of suicide for men in 2015, calculating 53.2 suicides per 100,000 working people. As for women in 2015, careers in arts, design, entertainment, sports and media had the highest suicide rates, with 15.6 suicides per 100,000 working people. Those jobs include illustrators, tattooists and professional sports players. The lowest suicide rates for both men and women were in the education, training and library field, which includes teachers, professors and archivists. Click [HERE](#) for news coverage of the report.

NIMH Explores the "Next Big Thing" in Mental Health Services Research

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)'s 24th biennial Mental Health Services Research (MHSR 2018) conference held August 1-2, in Rockville, MD, brought together mental health researchers, trainees, consumers, advocates and mental health care providers to learn about current research findings and discuss new research that might close the gap between what science shows is most effective and what services people actually receive in real-world settings. Click [HERE](#) to read some of the highlights on research that could help people with mental illnesses get the treatment and services they need.



FDA Warns Against Use of Genetic Tests with Unapproved Claims to Predict Response to Meds

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) issued a [safety alert](#) to patients and health care providers warning that claims for many genetic tests to predict a patient's response to specific medications have not been reviewed by the FDA, and may not have the scientific or clinical evidence to support this use for most medications. Changing drug treatment based on the results from such a genetic test could lead to inappropriate treatment decisions and potentially serious health consequences for the patient.

MHA Releases New State of Mental Health Report



Mental Health America released its annual [State of Mental Health Report](#), which ranks all 50 states and the District of Columbia based on several mental health and access measures. This year, Minnesota came out on top overall with Nevada coming in 51st. Ohio ranked 19th overall. The report also shines the spotlight on childhood trauma and its impact long-term, and releases new data that shows how much trauma can impact youth in school.

New Treatment Locator Tool Offers Hope to People Experiencing Early Serious Mental Illness

SAMHSA has unveiled a new [Early Serious Mental Illness Treatment Locator](#) to help connect people experiencing a first onset of serious mental illness to effective care.

News & Research Roundup, cont.

National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week — Jan. 22-27, 2019

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism invite prevention and treatment professionals and organizations to participate in National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® (NDAFW). This week-long observance sheds light on the science behind the effects of drug and alcohol use on the brain, body and behavior, and connects students with scientists and other experts who help shatter the myths about drugs and alcohol. Find activity ideas, then [register your event online](#) to be featured on the official 2019 NDAFW map.



Partnership for Drug-Free Kids Launches Vaping Resources for Parents

The Partnership for Drug-Free Kids, the nation's leading nonprofit committed to helping families struggling with their son's or daughter's substance use, has launched [Vaping: What You Need to Know And How to Talk With Your Kids](#), a resource guide for parents and caregivers. According to the recently released National Youth Tobacco Survey, vaping increased 78 percent among high school students and 48 percent among middle school students between 2017 and 2018. This represents 1.5 million new initiates in just one year. The guide will help parents understand vaping's appeal to young people. Readers will benefit from what signs to look for and comparisons among vaping flavors with no additives, flavors that contain nicotine and those that contain marijuana, whether in leaf or oil form. Parents will also learn what they can do to safeguard their teens against vaping, the concerns linked to the behavior and how to have an open dialogue with their son or daughter about its risks.

FDA Announces Restrictions on Sale of Flavored E-Cigarettes to Teens

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) this month [announced](#) new restrictions on sales of flavored e-cigarettes to teens, *The New York Times* reported. The FDA will allow stores to continue to sell flavored e-cigarettes, but only from closed-off areas that are not accessible to minors. The agency also announced it will outlaw menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars. In September, the FDA [launched](#) "The Real Cost", a new campaign to warn kids about the dangers of e-cigarette use.

Study: Traffic Accidents Rising in States with Legalized Recreational Marijuana

New [research](#) from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) and Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI) shows that traffic accidents are increasing in states that have legalized recreational marijuana, Bloomberg [reported](#). In a separate study, IIHS examined police-reported crashes before and after retail marijuana sales began in Colorado, Oregon and Washington. The study found the three states combined saw a 5.2 percent increase in the rate of crashes per million vehicle registrations, compared with neighboring states that did not legalize marijuana.

Kratom Use During Pregnancy May Cause Withdrawal Symptoms in Newborns

CBS News [reported](#) this month that although the herbal supplement kratom is still legal and widely available, its opioid-like effects have caused significant withdrawal symptoms in at least two newborns in the U.S. and that should raise concerns, according to researchers. A case study of a baby boy exposed to kratom during his mother's pregnancy — only the second American case reported — likely signifies a broader trend among pregnant women toward seeking alternatives to opioid painkillers such as morphine, heroin and oxycodone (OxyContin), said study author Dr. Whitney Eldridge. In February, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration classified compounds in kratom as opioids, basing its findings on a computer analysis showing it activates receptors in the brain that also respond to opioids. The case study was [published](#) online Nov. 7 in the journal *Pediatrics*.



HHS Seeks Comments For Healthy People 2030

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is soliciting written comments on the proposed core, developmental and research objectives for *Healthy People 2030*. The public comment period will be open through Jan. 17, 2019. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about proposed objectives and submit comments.

DEVELOPING
HealthyPeople
2030

Training Opportunities

Upcoming CWRU CEBP Training

The Case Western Reserve University Center for Evidence-Based Practices is sponsoring the following upcoming trainings:
Jan. 10 ***AOD Treatment Considerations for Individuals with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (Columbus)***

2019 Regional LOSS Team Trainings

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation and Franklin County LOSS will offer five, free regional LOSS Team trainings in 2019. The trainings will provide an introduction to LOSS Teams and an overview of LOSS Team volunteer roles and activities. Upcoming dates and locations include: Fairfield County (Jan. 25); Butler County (Feb. 15); Athens County (March 22); Stark County (May 17) and Putnam County (June 7). Registration will be available one month prior to each training, Click [HERE](#) for more information.

2019 Star Behavioral Health Provider Trainings

Star Behavioral Health Providers (SBHP) is an initiative in Ohio developed through a collaboration with the Ohio National Guard, Ohio Department of Veterans Services, OhioMHAS, The Ohio State University, American Red Cross, OhioCares, the Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University and the Center for Deployment Psychology. The mission of this program is to create an opportunity for licensed Ohio behavioral health providers to receive specific evidence-based training that will help them meet the needs of the state's service members and their families. Providers receiving the training will then be listed in a comprehensive provider registry that will identify them as having completed this training in military issues. The registry will serve as a valuable resource for service members, families, and referring professionals in and outside the military. The training is free to participants, and continuing education units (CEUs) may be earned at no cost. Trainings are divided into three tiers. Tier One provides an introduction to military culture, information about the deployment cycle and the effect of the deployment cycle on service members and their families. Upcoming opportunities include: Chillicothe (Jan. 9), Lima (Feb. 11), Greenville (Feb. 13), Newark (March 5), Akron (April 11), Lancaster (May 7), Dayton (May 16) and Mansfield (June 27). Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

Recovery Housing Training: Stigma and MAT (Portsmouth) — Jan. 8, 2019

OhioMHAS will host its southeast regional recovery housing training to focus on stigma reduction and medication-assisted treatment on Jan. 8 in Portsmouth. Attendees will be able to apply for free lock boxes to be delivered to their recovery houses upon completion of the training. Click [HERE](#) for more details and to register.

Stage II: Treating the Disordered Gambler — Jan. 17-18, 2019

OhioMHAS, in partnership with Recovery Resources, will host a "Stage II: Treating the Disordered Gambler" training Jan. 17-18, 2019, at the Lodge at Hocking College. This training, presented by Heather Chapman, Ph.D., NCGC-II-BACC, will provide clinicians with 12 hours of gambling-specific education and CEUs. This phase of training is 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. Participants will also discuss disordered gambling as a co-occurring disorder. The cost is \$50 and includes continental breakfast and lunch both days. Register [HERE](#). Questions? Call Mike Buzzelli at 216.431.4131 x2612 or email mbuzzelli@recres.org.

Save the Date: 10th Annual Ohio Human Trafficking Awareness Day — Feb. 28, 2019

Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) will host the 10th Annual Ohio Human Trafficking Awareness Day Feb. 28 at 8:30 a.m. in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium. For more information, contact rep45@ohiohouse.gov.

16th Annual Ohio Problem Gambling Conference — Feb. 28-March 1, 2019

Save the date! The 16th Annual Ohio Problem Gambling Conference will take place Feb. 28-March 1, 2019, at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center in Lewis Center. More information will be available at a later date.

Save the Date: 14th All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry — March 15-16, 2019

OhioMHAS will partner with Northeast Ohio Medical University and University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center to host the ***14th All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry*** March 15-16, 2019, at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North — Worthington. Individuals wishing to submit abstracts for workshops, showcases or poster presentations should contact AllOhio2019@uhhospitals.org. Registration information will be available in January.



Training Opportunities, cont.

Ohio Collective Impact Summit — March 20, 2019

Save the date! OhioMHAS will host the Ohio Collective Impact Summit on March 20, 2019, at the Doubletree by Hilton Columbus — Worthington. Registration will go live in January. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the Community Collective Impact Model for Change Initiative.

Save the Date: Ohio Early Childhood Systems Conference — March 25-28, 2019

OhioMHAS is pleased to partner with the Ohio Departments of Developmental Disabilities, Health, Medicaid, Education and Job and Family Services to host the [2019 Ohio Early Childhood Systems Conference](#) “Infant and Early Childhood Wellness: A Systems Approach to Integrated Care” March 25-28 at the Hilton Easton in Columbus. Each state agency partner will have a daily focus while incorporating cross-systems sessions designed to promote increased collaboration among and across all early childhood serving professionals. Watch *OhioMHAS e-Update* for more information in the coming months.

Ohio Recovery Housing 2019 Annual Conference — April 2-3, 2019

Early registration is now open for Ohio Recovery Housing’s 2019 Annual Conference “Bringing Recovery Home” scheduled for April 2-3, 2019, at the Embassy Suites — Dublin. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Save the Date: Ohio’s 2019 Opiate Conference — June 10-11, 2019

The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities, in partnership with the OhioMHAS, will host *Ohio’s 2019 Opiate Conference: Promoting Solutions for Substance Use Disorders Across Ohio* on June 10-11, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus. The conference will focus on efforts related to opioid and other substance use disorder prevention, education, intervention, treatment, recovery, family supports and community engagement. OACBHA is currently accepting [presentation proposals](#) through Jan. 11, 2019.

Mental Health America’s 2019 Annual Conference — June 13-15, 2019

Mental Health America will host its 2019 Annual Conference, “Dueling Diagnoses: Mental Health and Chronic Conditions in Children and Adults” June 13-15 in Washington, D.C. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

10th National Conference on Alcohol and Addiction Disorders — Aug. 14-18, 2019

The Institute for the Advancement of Behavioral Healthcare will host the 10th Annual National Conference on Alcohol and Addiction Disorders, “Connecting Our Community,” Aug. 14-18 in Baltimore, Md. Counselors, therapists, psychologists, interventionists, social workers, advocates, law enforcement and agency executives are encouraged to attend. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

PreventionFIRST 2019 Coalition Academy — Sept. 10, 2019

PreventionFIRST will host its 2019 Coalition Academy on Sept. 10 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason. For more information, contact aconnstarner@prevention-first.org or call 513.751.8000 ext. 13.



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.