

Governor DeWine Signs Budget that Invests in Ohio's Future

SFY 2020-21 Budget Offers Strong Support for Ohio's Mental Health and Addiction Services System

After thorough consideration, Governor Mike DeWine signed **Am. Sub House Bill 166**, Ohio's State Fiscal Year 2020-21 Biennial Budget, into law on July 18.

The budget focuses on priorities and initiatives that make Ohio a place of promise, a place that cares, and a place that works. A highlight of the budget is its focus on and investment in children and families. The budget also invests heavily in improving Ohio's response to mental illness and addiction, and in keeping all Ohioans healthy. Click [HERE](#) to see detailed policy one-pagers.

"I am proud that this budget will significantly impact the lives of Ohioans through its unprecedented investments," said Governor DeWine. "It lays the groundwork for a better Ohio for generations to come. This budget will lead to healthier children, stronger families, safer communities, an enhanced workforce, and a more prosperous Ohio, while also providing significant tax relief for every Ohio taxpayer and regulatory relief for Ohio businesses."

Key **OhioMHAS initiatives supported by the budget** include:
School-based Prevention Services

OhioMHAS, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Education, will direct \$18 million toward ensuring all schools can provide children with evidence-based prevention from grades K through 12. This investment will provide quality prevention services to every child, in every grade, in each school across Ohio.

OhioSTART (Sobriety, Treatment, and Reducing Trauma)

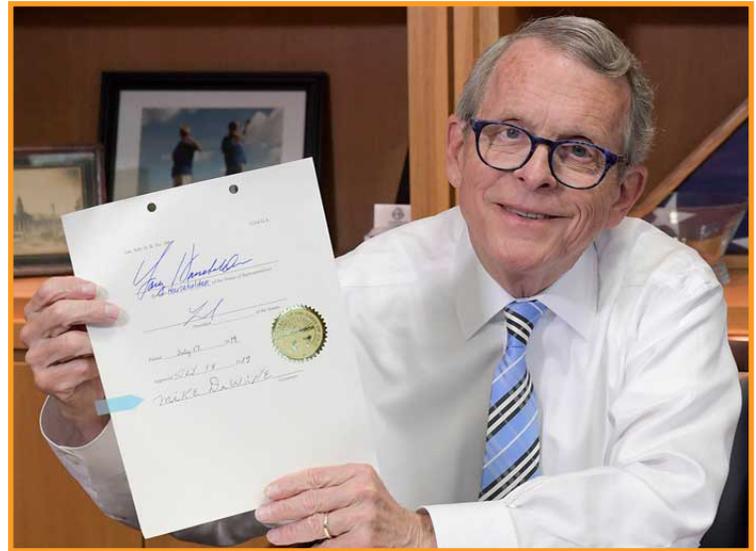
OhioSTART is an intervention program that provides specialized trauma recovery services to children who have a parent with a substance abuse issue. The program also assists the parents of these children in their recovery. OhioMHAS will provide \$12 million over the biennium to expand OhioSTART from 34 counties to 64 counties.

Empowering Families and Communities

Family and friends are the front line of prevention, but much work still needs to be done to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and addiction. This is why OhioMHAS will invest \$18 million to launch a series of statewide multi-media campaigns that build on the work of partners in the private sector who have market-tested prevention materials targeting friends and families.

Quality Crisis Services Infrastructure

OhioMHAS will strengthen crisis services with an additional investment of \$12 million over the biennium. The goal of this



Governor Mike DeWine signed Am. Sub. House Bill 166, Ohio's two-year general operating budget, into law on July 18.

investment is to fill gaps in Ohio's crisis service network with locally developed responses rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. Examples of these are mobile response teams, crisis center integration with a local hospital or behavioral health provider, and treatment services in jails.

Crisis Stabilization Flexible Funds

Sometimes, being in the right place at the right time and having the correct tool for the job makes all the difference. Keeping this in mind, OhioMHAS will be directing \$10 million over the biennium to meet intermittent needs of local communities for the purpose of providing supports and services that are not covered by Medicaid or other third-party payers. This could range from assisting with purchasing a new pair of work boots to covering a monthly rent payment on a residence.

Expansion of Specialized Dockets

In partnership with the Ohio Supreme Court and other local partners, OhioMHAS will create at least 30 new drug or specialty docket courts over the biennium. To accomplish this, OhioMHAS will be directing \$2.5 million in FY20 to cover startup costs for up to 15 courts, and an additional \$5 million in FY21 to sustain implementation of those courts and to add an additional 15 courts. Click [HERE](#) to view the full OhioMHAS Budget Overview White Paper. Download [slides](#) and view the [recorded webinar](#). Send questions to: statebudgetquestions@mha.ohio.gov.





A brief recap of some of Dir. Criss' recent activities:

- 6.3 Spoke at the OhioMHAS Peer Recovery Conference.
- 6.4 Participated in a panel discussion at the Ohio START Summit.
- 6.10 Provided remarks at Ohio's 2019 Opiate and Other Drug Conference.
- 6.11 Provided remarks at the Ohio Community Corrections Association.
- 6.12 Spoke at the monthly meeting of the Ohio Alliance of Recovery Providers.
- 6.13 Spoke at the monthly meeting of the Ohio Alliance of Recovery Providers
- 6.19 Attended "A Celebration of Womens' Resiliency".
- 6.25 Provided opening remarks at Ohio Prevention Conference.
- 6.28 Spoke at OhioMHAS Planning Council meeting. Visited Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare.
- 7.9 Met with representatives from SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention to discuss OhioMHAS' administration of block grant funding for primary prevention.
- 7.15 Attended the State Health Improvement Plan/State Health Assessment advisory committee meeting on mental health and addiction.
- 7.22 Hosted budget overview webinar for external stakeholders.
- 7.23 Co-hosted budget webinar and BH update webinar with ODM Director Maureen Corcoran
- 7.24 Attended opening day ceremonies for the Ohio State Fair.



Director Criss Receives OSU Alumni Distinguished Service Award

OhioMHAS Director Lori Criss received the 2019 Ohio State University — Alumni in Government Distinguished Award on June 17 during a ceremony at the Ohio Statehouse. The award recognizes individuals whose work as a public employee has provided extraordinary benefit to Ohioans, and whose service exemplifies The Ohio State University motto: *Education for Citizenship*.

Campaign Aims to Reduce Stigma, Connect Ohioans With Treatment

When an individual or a loved one is struggling with substance abuse or addiction, knowing where to turn for help is critical. That's why the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) has launched a statewide multimedia campaign to raise awareness about treatment options and reduce the stigma surrounding addiction.

The Take Charge Ohio campaign, made possible by federal State Opioid Response grant funding, features a blend of traditional and non-traditional approaches to encourage more Ohioans to visit the [Get Help section](#) of the TakeChargeOhio.org website, promote Ohio's online treatment finder ([emeraldjennyfoundation.org](#)) and use the state's toll-free help and information line: **1.877.275.6364**.

In addition to television and radio public service announcements, the campaign will include targeted messages in movie theaters, mobile messaging and banners, public transit ads on buses and shelters in Cleveland and Cincinnati, posters in convenience stores, laundromats and restrooms, outdoor kiosks and digital message boards, and partnerships with the Cincinnati Bengals and Cleveland Browns.

The campaign, which is expected to run through late Fall, was featured around Progressive Field in downtown Cleveland during Major League Baseball All-Star Game festivities.

How to Access Naloxone in Ohio

Naloxone (also known as Narcan) is a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug (heroin or prescription pain medications). When administered during an overdose, naloxone blocks the effects of opioids on the brain and quickly restores breathing. Naloxone must be administered by a third-party because the overdose victim is unconscious or otherwise incapable of administering the medication personally. Naloxone can be kept on hand by individuals and organizations such as schools, local health departments, community addiction service providers, universities, courts, places of worship, homeless shelters, libraries or other similar organizations. There are several ways for Ohioans to access naloxone.

If you represent a college or university, school, local health department, community addiction services provider, court, probation department, library, place of worship, halfway house, prison, jail, community residential center, homeless shelter, or similar entity, you may obtain naloxone for emergency administration three ways:

- First, it may be obtained from a wholesaler that is licensed by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy. To verify a wholesale drug distributor is licensed in Ohio, visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/licenselookup.
- Second, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy permits a pharmacy licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDD) to conduct an occasional sale of drugs at wholesale. There are no restrictions on the amount that can be provided by a pharmacy. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services operates Ohio Pharmacy Services, which sells naloxone kits. To contact Ohio Pharmacy Services, please call: **1-888-471-5632**.

Individuals who are interested in personally carrying naloxone, including an individual who is at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose, or a family member or friend, may obtain naloxone from a

pharmacy. In Ohio, a pharmacist can dispense naloxone without a prescription. To locate a pharmacy that provides naloxone without a prescription visit: www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/stopoverdose. Individuals may also receive it upon discharge from a hospital or from

EMS. Naloxone can also be accessed from Project DAWN sites across the state. Project DAWN programs provide free, take-home naloxone kits to the public. Once obtained, naloxone should be stored at room temperature and away from light. According to the manufacturer, the drug must be kept out of direct light and at room temperature (between 68 and 77 degrees Fahrenheit). It should not be

left in a car for extended periods of time and should not be subjected to extreme heat or cold (it will freeze), as it may impact the effectiveness of the medication.

- Third, Naloxone may be purchased from or donated by a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs. The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy permits any entity licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs to provide naloxone at wholesale. The terminal distributor must properly document the transaction (even if the naloxone is being donated). There are no restrictions on the amount that can be provided/sold by a terminal distributor.

REMINDER: An overdose is a MEDICAL EMERGENCY! Individuals administering naloxone should call 911 immediately.

Additional Resources:

[**Naloxone for Administration by Service Entity Personnel**](#)
[**Hospitals Providing Naloxone Upon Discharge**](#)
[**Law Enforcement Agencies Seeking to Obtain Naloxone**](#)
[**List of Pharmacies Dispensing Naloxone without a Prescription**](#)
[**Personally Furnishing Naloxone by Emergency Medical Service Personnel**](#)

Naloxone Fast Facts:

- Has no pharmacological effect and has no potential for abuse (non-scheduled);
- Can be safely administered by intranasal, intravenous or intramuscular injection;
- Works rapidly (2-8 min.) and wears off in 20-90 minutes;
- Produces no effect if opioids are not present.



Local Organizations Win Grants for Fatherhood Programming

The Ohio Commission on Fatherhood has **awarded** grants to five organizations throughout Ohio to help fathers in their areas become better parents, partners and providers.

The following organizations will receive \$260,000 each over the next two state fiscal years to offer individualized

services to remove barriers to father engagement; lead fatherhood classes using an evidence-based curriculum; help fathers prepare for, find and keep a job; and record all data in a web-based case management system:

- **Action for Children** — Delaware, Franklin and Licking counties

- **Early Childhood Resource Center** — Stark and Summit counties
- **ForeverDads** — Morgan, Muskingum and Perry counties
- **Passages** — Lorain and Portage counties
- **Talbert House** — Butler, Hamilton and Warren counties

Montgomery County Prevention Coalition Highlighted in National Newsletter

The Montgomery County Prevention Coalition was recently featured in the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) [Coalitions in Action newsletter](#) for its work to address youth marijuana use following the legalization of medical marijuana in Ohio.

Ohio's medical marijuana program was launched in late 2018. At the same time, the city of Dayton also completely decriminalized marijuana for personal, recreational use. The [coalition](#) understood the implications that these actions could have on youth marijuana use, and took action by developing the [Be Informed](#) toolkit to assist parents in having conversations with their children.

The toolkit provides conversation tips to parents of [middle school](#) and [high school](#) age youth, as well as another resource for parents of [college students](#). The group also developed resources on [Marijuana & Pregnancy](#), as well as [Marijuana & Breastfeeding](#). A [Marijuana as Medicine](#) patient tip card was also developed to encourage individuals who have been recommended marijuana for a medicinal purpose to safely store their marijuana to prevent accidental ingestion among children. The Coalition also partnered with local law enforcement to promote a 'Drive High Get an OVI' campaign.

"Youth are perceiving marijuana to be less risky than in years prior," Coalition Manager Tristyn Eppley told CADCA. "The committee understood that the recent changes in legislation, both at a state-level and locally, could cause the community as whole to have decreased perceptions of harm around marijuana which could lead to community norms that unintentionally promote youth use."

OSU Researchers: Brain Injury Common Among Domestic Violence Survivors

Domestic violence survivors commonly suffer repeated blows to the head and strangulation, trauma that has lasting effects that should be widely recognized by advocates, health care providers, law enforcement and others who are in a position to help, according to the authors of a [new study](#). In the first community-based study of its kind, researchers from The Ohio State University and the Ohio Domestic Violence Network found that 81 percent of women who have been abused at the hands of their partners and seek help have suffered a head injury and 83 percent have been strangled. The research, published in the *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma* suggests that brain injury caused by blows to the head and by oxygen deprivation are likely ongoing health issues for many domestic violence survivors.



Billboards Encourage Akron Residents to Lock Up Alcohol, Guns, Medications

Akron Children's Hospital and the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP) teamed up this month to sponsor "Store it Safe" — a campaign aimed at preventing suicide among adolescents. Billboards placed throughout Akron encouraged residents to lock up firearms, prescription medications and alcohol.

The Ohio AAP has been [working with pediatricians and gun owners since 2017](#) to expand awareness about suicide rates and the dangers of unsecured firearms. The Store It Safe campaign brings together a unique partnership of health care providers, firearm safety experts, and community organizations to keep children safe from unintentional gun deaths and teens safe from suicide by firearms. The presence of unlocked guns in homes increases the risk of both unintentional gun injuries and intentional shootings.

A recent study from the [Ohio Alliance for Innovation in Population Health](#) found the suicide rate in Ohio increased 24 percent between 2008 and 2017. Firearms accounted for more than half of all suicide deaths in the study, but the campaign also encourages parents to lock up medication and alcohol. One in three homes with a child has a gun and 43 percent have at least one unlocked firearm.

"We just want to make sure that they have it locked up and put away," said Akron Children's Injury Prevention Coordinator Sherry Blair. "If there is a child who you feel might be at risk for suicide due to there's been already a suicide ideation or they're talking about it, then we would like those guns removed all the way. But, at least lock them up."

Click [HERE](#) to view a Store it Safe family handout and [HERE](#) for Safe Kids Worldwide's Gun Safety Tips. Click [HERE](#) for resources on suicide in children and teens from the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychology. Click [HERE](#) to view OhioMHAS' suicide prevention resources.

\$300K Awarded for Child Sexual Abuse Trauma Prevention, Early Intervention

OhioMHAS is pleased to announce the awardees for the FY20 Child Sexual Abuse Trauma Prevention and Early Intervention grants. The awards, totalling \$300,000, will help grantees address one of the most severe forms of lifelong trauma affecting Ohio's youngest residents.

"The proposals received showed the commitment of all for doing the heavy lifting of preventing and treating survivors of childhood sexual trauma," said OhioMHAS Early Childhood Mental Health lead Valerie Alloy, Ph.D.

Dr. Alloy added, "The proposals we received covered a wide range of strategies and forged some new and unique community collaborations."

Final selections were based on the extent to which the activities met the overall objectives of the grant for childhood sexual abuse prevention and/or treatment, highest levels of identified outcomes, required community collaborations and the potential for sustainability of the project after the conclusion of the funding period.

Grantees include:

- **Beech Brook** — Pepper Pike (\$48,276)
- **Mercy Health Foundation** — Toledo (\$62,310)
- **Hopewell Health Centers** — Athens (\$63,354)
- **Council on Child Abuse** — Cincinnati (\$62,310)
- **Cleveland Rape Crisis** — Cleveland (\$63,750)

Ohio's 2019 Opiate and Other Drug Conference

More than 1,200 attendees participated in Ohio's 2019 Opiate and Other Drug Conference: "Promoting Solutions for Addiction Throughout Ohio" held in June. Professionals, individuals, and family members impacted by addiction to opiates and other drugs from throughout Ohio — and the country — were in attendance to learn from local, state, and national leaders.

Cheri L. Walter, CEO of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities and conference host, introduced the conference by giving her perspective on the growing understanding of addiction in Ohio.

"This conference is about hope and about what is working," Walter explained. "We all know we have a serious epidemic on our hands. Now we are coming together and finding new and innovative ways to help address this epidemic and discovering ways to help individuals move toward recovery." "Those of us in this field need to be leaders in fighting the stigma of addiction. We must remind people that addiction is a disease, that treatment does work, and that together we must believe in recovery, promote the reality of recovery, and celebrate individuals in recovery."

On day one, attendees heard from Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, RecoveryOhio Director Alisha Nelson, OhioMHAS Director Lori Criss, and OACBHA President Elaine Georgas. Walter, meanwhile, presented CARES Awards to six first responders and frontline workers who have gone above and beyond in helping individuals, families and their community to deal with the adverse effects of Ohio's opiate epidemic. CARES Awards recipients included:

- **Lt. M. Brent Meredith**, Ohio State Highway Patrol
- **Sheriff Steve Leahy**, Clermont County
- **Commander Justin Conley**, Brown County Drug and Major Crimes Task Force
- **Rob Martin**, Hanco EMS Director
- **Mike Kocon**, City of Fairview Park firefighter
- **Lindsey Ervin**, the Heroin Hopeline

Click [HERE](#) to view/download presentations from the Conference from the OACBHA website.



OhioMHAS Director Criss speaks to the more than 1,200 attendees of Ohio's 10th Opiate Conference. Click [HERE](#) to view more photos from the Conference.



Healthy Transitions Project Coordinator Earns “Golden Key Award” at Purple Project Foster Youth Conference

Makayla Lang, the Youth/Young Adult Coordinator for the SAMHSA/OhioMHAS/Wingspan Care Group **Healthy Transitions Project**, was recently awarded the Golden Key



Makayla Lang

award at **The Purple Project's** 10th Anniversary “I Believe in Me” foster care youth conference. The award recognizes leadership, and those making an impact after leaving the system.

The Purple Project's mission is to assist youth and young adults who have or will transition (age out) of the foster care system with maintaining stability. Their goal is to provide a viable support and resource network, one that is devoted to enhancing and positively changing the quality of life, and the negative outcomes of those youth and adults who have (or will) “age out” of the foster care system.

Makayla began her employment at **Wingspan Care Group** in January, where she now serves the voice for the youth/young adults in the planning stages of the grant.

In her own words, Makayla provides a glimpse into her life, and a few words about the Golden Key award:

“I aged out of the foster care system in Cuyahoga County. I had what many may call a hectic childhood. Through my experience in foster care many blessings were to come, unbeknownst to me. I found a place in a family that loved me like their own ... I built the skills necessary for later success through tears and tough love. Having no idea my life would change forever in succession, I ended up receiving a scholarship to go to Cleveland State free of cost through a program called the Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship Opportunity Program. Throughout my journey, I have met many hardships. However, the opportunity to become resilient through my battle with mental health only made me stronger.

Overcoming trauma and entering the professional world can be extremely difficult. People considered for this award are recognized for doing just this, as well as being considered change agents. We are acknowledged for being successful despite the odds, and setting an example for stigmatized youth; all the while hoping to become voices for those who haven't found theirs. This award is also given to honor those who give back to the community. In my case, this encompasses a mission to normalize the seeking and receiving of mental health services for a population that is often under scrutiny.”

First Episode Psychosis Program Recognized as Mahoning County's “Program of the Year”

Alta Behavioral Healthcare's FIRST Team was recognized as “Program of the Year” by the Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board during its annual “Mental Health Month” Luncheon.

FIRST is a specialized treatment program that helps individuals who are between the ages of 15 and 40 and have had psychotic symptoms for no more than 18 months (first episode psychosis [FEP]). Research suggests that early identification and intervention of schizophrenia spectrum disorders is very important, and the earlier and more comprehensive the treatment, the better the likelihood of a faster, more complete recovery.

The FIRST Mahoning County team members work together to provide treatment, information and support to clients and their families and significant others. Components of the program may include:

- individual counseling
- psychiatric care
- supported employment/education
- family education and support
- case management

OhioMHAS, with support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), **provides funding** for FIRST and other programs that specialize in working with individuals who are experiencing their initial symptoms of psychosis, major depression or bi-polar disorder. In Ohio, there are 12 programs operating in 35 counties that specialize in treating individuals early in the course of their illness to encourage better, long-term outcomes.



Scioto County Treatment Provider Awarded Funding to Test Smartphone App for Persons in Recovery

The Counseling Center of Portsmouth received a **\$24,000 donation** to test new technology to help persons in recovery from addiction.

Fluor-BWXT donated the money to sponsor a pilot program that uses artificial intelligence and cellphone technology to help people who are struggling with drug addiction. The program, called

CASANO Case Management Technology, will use an app and “chatbot” system to keep in contact with clients. Clients will check in with case workers through a custom phone app. The app also allows the center to verify a client's location. The program, developed by Piketon-based **Probatum Technologies**, will support about 100 clients.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and its Foundation Commit \$214,000 to Address Mental Health and Homelessness in Southeast Ohio

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Ohio and its **Foundation** have awarded \$214,000 to the **National Alliance on Mental Illness Ohio** (NAMI) and the **Adam-Amanda Mental Health Rehabilitation Center** (MHRC) in Athens to target homelessness and mental health in southeast Ohio. The funds represent one of largest financial commitments southeast Ohio has ever received to address mental health and homelessness, interrelated societal issues that are nearly impossible to address separately.

“These smart, locally-focused partnerships have the potential to change lives and have a lasting impact,” said Ohio House of Representatives Majority Whip Jay Edwards (R-Athens). “This is an important step forward for our area. I appreciate Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation’s commitment to southeast Ohio and their focus on the ‘whole health’ of people.”

The Foundation is partnering with community organizations and social service agencies to make progress on social determinants of health in southeast Ohio and throughout the state — factors like homelessness, food insecurity, unsafe neighborhoods, and others that impact people’s lives and create barriers to good health.

The funds will aid several initiatives in Athens and throughout southeast Ohio, including:

- **NAMI Ohio** will use funds to provide financial incentives to landlords in surrounding communities to encourage them to take clients with mental health conditions. The funds will also be used to support clients leaving the Adam-Amanda MHRC to secure supportive housing by assisting them to become financially stable, obtain basic living supplies, and maintain their connection to outpatient mental health services.
- **The Adam-Amanda MHRC** will purchase an array of

equipment to support physical health for patients as they received mental health care, including fitness equipment, fitness trackers, and bicycles. Funds will also be used to support gardening, healthy cooking and artistic expression programs that contribute to long-term mental health. As patients transition from the center back to home, the funding from Anthem and its Foundation will be used to provide rent support, help with paying bills, vouchers for farmers

markets, and home goods needed to create a stable home environment. Last fall, Anthem also provided a 16-passenger van to the Adam-Amanda MHRC to assist with patient transportation.

- **SE Ohio Mental Health and Housing Stability Forum** — As part of Anthem’s work with NAMI, the two organizations are planning the **Southeast Ohio Mental Health and Housing Stability Conference** at Ohio University on Oct. 7. The training will bring together academics, care providers, community organizations and families to address issues specific to southeast Ohio. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

NAMI Ohio Executive Director Terry Russell said that the closely related issues of homelessness and mental health are particularly critical in the 21-county region of southeast Ohio where 20 percent of people discharged from psychiatric hospitals are likely to be homeless. He pointed out that 60-70 percent of people that are chronically homeless in the region suffer from mental health issues.

NAMI Ohio is also working to develop 90 beds of stable housing in the southeastern Ohio community where individuals will be able to go once they leave the Adam-Amanda MHRC. The program provides funding to support landlords in making apartments and other rental properties available to people leaving treatment.

Anthem  

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation

OneFifteen Opens First of its State-of-the-Art Facilities for Opioid Treatment

Dayton-area residents needing immediate crisis care for addiction will soon have another option besides the emergency room thanks to the opening of **OneFifteen**, a state-of-the-art crisis stabilization and detox facility created by Google-affiliate Verily, Premier Health, Kettering Health Network and other community organizations.

For years, local hospitals have worked together on a plan for a crisis stabilization center, which was a missing piece in the local response to the opioid overdose crisis. OneFifteen — named after the 115 people in the U.S. who died each day from opioid overdoses in 2017 — will treat an estimated 1,000 patients in its first year. At the crisis center, patients can

quickly get evaluated, providers can determine what level of care they need and they can stay there up to 23 hours.

Patients might be able to avoid an inpatient stay by getting started on medication and linked to outpatient care.

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, and U.S. Rep. Mike Turner, R-Dayton, RecoveryOhio Director Alisha Nelson and Dayton Mayor Nan were among the speakers at the ribbon-cutting event in mid-June.

Click [HERE](#) to view the full media release.



30th Ohio Prevention Conference Highlights Latest Research, Best Practices in Prevention Science

The 2019 Ohio Prevention Conference (formerly OPEC) hosted a sold-out crowd of professionals for three days of development, learning, and networking. **Dr. Julie Sweetland**, sociolinguist and vice president for strategy and innovation at the FrameWorks Institute, provided day one keynote remarks. She discussed her efforts to diffuse the organization's cutting-edge, evidence-based reframing recommendations throughout the nonprofit sector. **Dr. Shawn Ginwright**, (pictured at right) founder and CEO of Flourish Agenda, Inc, provided day two keynote remarks. His presentation, "Healing-Centered Engagement: Addressing Trauma by a focus on Assets" explored the healing-centered engagement framework and highlight features of a healing-centered approach for addressing trauma — especially with vulnerable populations.

Click [HERE](#) to see more photos from the conference and [HERE](#) for a recap of workshops.



Governor DeWine Announces Record-Level OARRS Use by Prescribers, Pharmacists

White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Praises Gov. DeWine's RecoveryOhio Initiative

Use of the Ohio system used to track prescriptions of controlled medications has now reached record levels.

The **Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System** (OARRS), operated by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy, allows doctors and pharmacists to access patients' controlled substance prescription history to help them detect prescription drug abuse or diversion and intervene with high-risk patients.

OARRS recently surpassed 1 million daily queries on two separate occasions, a milestone that aligns with data from the American Medical Association that ranks OARRS as the most utilized prescription drug monitoring program in the country.

"As the use of OARRS has increased, Ohio has not only seen a significant decrease in the number of individuals who 'doctor shop' by visiting multiple prescribers to obtain multiple prescriptions, but this system has also empowered doctors and pharmacists to be a part of Ohio's efforts to prevent addiction," said Governor Mike DeWine. "Although it is impossible to know how many lives were saved, we do know that it has become an indispensable tool in Ohio's work to help those suffering from addiction."

According to the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy, the number of individuals

engaged in doctor shopping decreased by 89 percent between 2011 to 2018, and the total number of opioid prescriptions decreased by 4.6 million between 2012 and 2018.

Jim Carroll, who serves as President Donald Trump's chief advisor on drug



policy, praised the announcement. Carroll visited Ohio to learn more about Governor DeWine's RecoveryOhio initiative, which works to enhance mental health and substance use prevention, treatment and recovery efforts throughout the state.

"Communities big and small across Ohio have been particularly hard hit by our nation's drug crisis," said Carroll. As part of the Trump Administration's whole-of-government approach, we're partnering with true leaders like Governor DeWine to educate kids about the dangers of substance use, get more help to people struggling with an addiction, and reduce the availability of these deadly drugs. Because of our shared commitment to this issue,

we've begun to see progress in saving more of our family members, friends, and neighbors both in Ohio and nationwide. It was great to be with Governor DeWine in the Buckeye State today to see the incredible efforts happening on the ground that are helping to build on this momentum. Our partnership with the governor is an example of how the federal government can work together with state and local communities to be successful in achieving our ultimate goal of saving lives."

In 2016, Ohio became the first state in the country to offer, at no cost, direct integration of its prescription drug monitoring program into electronic health records and pharmacy dispensing systems. This integration is a primary factor contributing to Ohio's record levels of OARRS use as it allows 43,000 prescribers and pharmacists to seamlessly access their patients' OARRS reports.

Overall use of the OARRS system currently averages approximately 834,000 weekday patient queries, as compared to around 65,000 weekday patient queries in 2015. By 2020, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy anticipates that average weekday patient queries will surpass a million inquiries per day.

News & Research Roundup

Study: Suicide Rates Rising Rapidly Among African-American Teens

Suicide rates among young African-Americans have risen dramatically in recent years, according to a new, [large-scale study](#) from the University of Toledo. The study revealed that the rate of suicide deaths among black males ages 13 to 19 spiked 60 percent between 2001 and 2017. For African-American females in the same age group, the uptick was even more startling: a 182 percent increase over the same time period. Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for African-Americans between 13 and 19 years of age behind homicide. The study is published in the [Journal of Community Health](#).

National Council Releases New Guide to Long-Acting Medications

The National Council for Behavioral Health has published a new [Guide to Long-Acting Medications for Providers and Organizations](#). The Guide is a call to action for psychiatrists, other clinicians and behavioral health organizations to increase safe and appropriate use of long-term medications, which are also known as long-acting antipsychotic medications and long-acting injectables. Click [HERE](#) to download a free PDF.

On-Demand Video: National Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day 2019

On May 20, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) hosted National Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day 2019 at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Hubert H. Humphrey Building in Washington, D.C. The event was SAMHSA's 2nd annual observance of Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day. The goals of this year's observance were to: highlight the need for prevention, treatment, and recovery practices for America's growing older adult population, including older veterans; showcase evidence-based best practices in the field of older adult mental health and substance use treatment; highlight effective suicide prevention and trauma-informed care practices for older adults; and show how states can provide effective services for older adults, including the development of older adult peer support services.



Watch the on-demand webcast: [Part 1](#) [Part 2](#).

Many Patients Still Struggle to Get Insurance Coverage for Mental Health Treatment

Many patients still struggle to get insurance coverage for their mental health treatment, despite federal laws designed to bring parity between mental and physical health coverage, [NPR reported](#). The Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, passed in 2008, was designed to ensure that treatment for mental illness and addiction is covered at the same level as physical illness. In 2010, the Affordable Care Act required small group and individual health plans to cover mental health services at the same level as medical services. While the laws have been partially successful, patient advocates told [NPR](#) that insurance companies still impose more restrictive standards for mental health claims. A [study published earlier this year](#) reported earlier this year that compared with Medicare, private insurance companies pay 13-14 percent less for mental health care. A [study by a re-search group](#) funded by insurance companies found for the five years ending in 2017, out-of-pocket spending on inpatient mental health care increased almost 13 times faster than all inpatient care.

Data and Trends: The Most Serious Public Health Issues in America

[24/7 Tempo](#) reviewed the data, information, and trends on health problems and concerns from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health to identify the most pressing and serious public health issues facing America today. In addition to public health issues related to lifestyle, mental health, and socioeconomic factors, in recent years environmental factors have also taken center stage. See their list of the top-12 rated public health issues [HERE](#).

Deaths Due to Alcohol, Drugs and Suicide Have Soared Among Young Adults

Deaths from alcohol, drugs and suicide have soared among young adults ages 18 to 34, according to a [new analysis](#). The number of drug deaths among young adults has risen by 400% in the past two decades, according to the non-profit Trust for America's Health and Well Being Trust. These deaths were fueled in large part by the opioid crisis, [USA Today reported](#). Alcohol-related deaths for young adults rose 68 percent between 2007 and 2017, while suicide deaths increased 35 percent. Rates for "deaths of despair" from alcohol, drugs and suicide were higher among young adults than among Baby Boomers and senior citizens.

News & Research Roundup, cont.

Maintaining Naloxone Off-Site for Personally Furnishing

To facilitate greater access to naloxone, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy recently **issued a resolution** permitting a licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs (TDDB) to store naloxone off-site for the purposes of personally furnishing. For example, a local health department licensed as a TDDB can maintain a supply of naloxone at a community center to personally furnish without the community center having to be licensed as a TDDB.

Drug Overdose Death Rate Dropped Slightly Last Year

New government data suggests deaths from drug overdoses decreased slightly between 2017 and 2018, after years of sharp increases. The age-adjusted overdose death rate increased from 6.1 to 21.7 deaths per 100,000 people between 1999 and 2017. That number dropped to an estimated 20.8 deaths per 100,000 for the 12 months ending in the second quarter of 2018, according to **preliminary data** released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Epidemiologist Dr. Guohua Li of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health said a number of factors likely contributed to the downturn. These include expanded access to naloxone and medication-assisted treatment; substance use prevention programs at the federal, state, and local levels; and the federal declaration of a public health emergency related to opioids in 2017.

Study Examines Secondhand Harms Of Alcohol

Reuters recently reported that "just like cigarettes, alcohol creates secondhand harms," research indicated. After examining data from two nationally representative surveys: the 2015 National Alcohol's Harm to Others Survey, which contained information on 2,830 adults, and the 2015 National Alcohol Survey, which contained data on 7,071 adults, investigators found that more than one in five women and nearly one in four men experienced some harm related to someone else's drinking. The **findings** were published online June 30 in the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*.



Legalizing Medical Marijuana Does Not Reduce Rate of Fatal Opioid Overdoses: Study

A **new study** concludes legalizing medical marijuana does not reduce the rate of fatal opioid overdoses. Rates of opioid overdoses deaths increased by 22.7 percent on average from 1999 to 2017 in states that had legalized medical marijuana, Stanford University researchers found. A study conducted in 2014 found that states with medical marijuana laws experienced a 24.8% reduction in opioid-related deaths from 1999 to 2010, *The Wall Street Journal* **reported**. In the new study, published online in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, researchers extended the analysis to 2017, and took into account the strictness of different medical marijuana laws. Researchers found that when they analyzed opioid deaths through 2017 — when most states had legalized some form of medical marijuana — states with legal medical marijuana had a higher rate of deaths due to opioid overdoses. "If you think opening a bunch of dispensaries is going to reduce opioid deaths, you'll be disappointed," researcher Keith Humphreys, Ph.D., said in a **news release**.

National Survey Highlights Parents' Role in Protecting Teens From Substance Use



Parents of adolescents can play a valuable role in protecting their teens from substance use, a **new national survey** by Center on Addiction finds. Although parents often pull back from being involved in their older teens' lives, the survey found teens say parents and caregivers remain the greatest influence on them, even in high school. The national survey of adolescents aged 12-17 found that 55.8 percent of teens said they believe the most common reason some kids their age choose not to drink or use drugs is their parents — either because they think their parents would disapprove, or because they don't want to get in trouble.

More Teens are Using Marijuana, While Fewer are Smoking Cigarettes

Marijuana use among teens is on the rise, while fewer teens are smoking cigarettes, according to a new study. Researchers at the University of Nebraska's College of Public Health looked at use of marijuana, alcohol and cigarettes among U.S. teens from 1991 to 2017. They found the number of teens who said they had used marijuana at least once over the past month rose 10-fold, from 0.6 percent in 1991 to 6.3 percent in 2017. The number of teens who said they used marijuana and alcohol together almost doubled, from 3.6 percent to 7.6 percent, *HealthDay* **reported**. Cigarette smoking rates dropped from 4.4% of high school students to 1.3 percent during that period, the researchers **wrote** in the *American Journal of Public Health*. Alcohol use fell from 24 percent of teens in 1991 to 12.5 percent in 2017.

News & Research Roundup, cont.

New Mental Health Infographic from Healthy People 2020

Each month, Healthy People 2020 releases an infographic with the latest data related to the groups Leading Health Indicator (LHI) topic. These infographics show progress toward Healthy People 2020 LHI targets — and show where there's still work to be done. This month's featured LHI topic is Mental Health. [See the infographic](#) to learn about suicide rates by gender.

Former NBA Player Chris Herren Featured in New Substance Use Prevention Film

Former NBA player Chris Herren is featured in a new substance use prevention education film, [The First Day](#). The film premiered on ESPN on July 16. "The focus oftentimes is about the worst day when it comes to speaking about addiction and not the first day," Herren said in a [news release](#). "Kids and parents need to understand how this begins rather than how it ends. Prevention starts on the first day." Click [HERE](#) to download support materials and resources developed for the film.

New Free E-Learning Program on Cultural Competency for Behavioral Health Professionals

The U.S. Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health (HHS OMH) announced a new, free and accredited e-learning program: [Improving Cultural Competency for Behavioral Health Professionals](#). The program, available via OMH's Think Cultural Health website, is designed to develop behavioral health providers' knowledge and skills related to culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS). This online program is a practical tool for behavioral health professionals who want to gain skills and knowledge about culture and diversity, which could be applied daily to better serve your clients. The tool is particularly timely for professionals working to address the opioid epidemic among racial and ethnic populations, which have low treatment rates and some of the highest rates of opioid misuse and overdose.

White Papers for Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Adult Allies

Ohio Adult Allies throughout the state participated in a study group to deepen their knowledge about the theories that inform youth-led programs. Based on this knowledge, the study group developed a [series of white papers](#) designed to provide information on core content areas that are critical for adult allies to understand to be effective facilitators of youth-led programs. Topics include: community-based process, media campaigns, policy and advocacy, and prevention education and social norms. The OhioMHAS Office of Prevention Services thanks the study group for making such valuable contributions to Ohio's youth-led programming.

Training Opportunities

Ohio Opioid Online Curricula Series is Now Live

As part of the State Targeted Response/CURES grant from SAMHSA, OhioMHAS sponsored the development of a 23-part online curricula. The curricula focuses on the nature of addiction and its impact, as well as treatment and best practices for treating opioid use disorder in a variety of settings. Courses highlight evidence-based practices for utilizing medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and provide medical setting specific protocols. Each course is approximately one hour and serves as a standalone module that can be taken in conjunction with the full series. The series is intended to provide general education about addiction, while also offering discipline-specific information for a large variety of systems that encounter individuals with an opioid use disorder. Additional details, including the full course list, can be found [HERE](#). The courses can be accessed on the [e-Based Academy](#).

OCAAR Recovery Rights Summit — Aug. 21

Ohio Citizens Advocates for Addiction Recovery will host the Recovery Rights Summit on Aug. 21 at the MaKoy Center in Hilliard. The Summit will be a chance for recovery advocates to come together and hear speakers discuss the Recovery Bill of Rights and to have a chance to have their voice heard regarding potential policy solutions to the addiction epidemic. Click [HERE](#) to reserve a ticket.

Training Opportunities

ASAM/Ohio DEA DATA 2000 Waiver Training Schedule Released

OhioMHAS, in partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) has released a schedule of upcoming ASAM/Ohio DEA DATA 2000 trainings for physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants who are interested in becoming eligible to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder. Day One features ASAM's eight-hour Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder course, where participants will learn about all medications and treatments for opioid use disorder and the education needed to obtain the waiver to prescribe buprenorphine. Day Two features a four-hour training provided by OhioMHAS designed to enhance the prescriber's knowledge about opioid prescribing and buprenorphine policies (e.g., low-dose prescribing according to federal and state guidelines and DEA guidance on documentation.) Click the links below for more information and to register. If you have questions, please contact education@ASAM.org.

Aug. 23-24 | [Ashtabula](#) (Ashtabula County Medical Center)
Sept. 12-13 | [Columbus](#) (Grant Medical Center)
Sept. 17-18 | [Cleveland](#) (Metro Health)
Sept. 23-24 | [Cleveland](#) (University Hospitals Medical Center)
Oct. 4-5 | [Cincinnati](#) (UC College of Medicine)

Ohio AAP Adolescent Vaping Trainings

The Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics is hosting a series of regional adolescent vaping/e-cigarette trainings. Participants will receive information about the latest trends and statistics regarding adolescent vaping; learn how to screen adolescents for vaping; discuss intervention tactics; and receive educational tools and resources. Upcoming dates and locations include: Oct. 11 — Akron, Oct. 19 — Columbus, Nov. 13 — Toledo, and Nov. 15 — Dayton. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

Introduction to Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy — Sept. 5-6

The Ohio Children's Alliance is hosting an [Introduction to Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy](#) training Sept. 5-6 at the Embassy Suites Columbus. This training, which offers 11.0 CEUs, will prepare clinicians to begin the practice of Trauma-Focused CBT.

PreventionFIRST 2019 Coalition Academy — Sept. 10

PreventionFIRST will host its [2019 Coalition Academy](#) on Sept. 10 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason. Dr. O'dell Owens, President/CEO of Interact for Health and InterAct for Change will provide keynote remarks. Click [HERE](#) to register. For more information, contact aconnstarner@prevention-first.org or call 513.751.8000, ext. 13.

30th Annual UMADAOP State Conference — Sept. 11-13

Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Programs (UMADAOP) of Ohio will host its 30th annual state conference, "Preserving the Past and Moving to the Next Level" Sept. 11-13 at the Radisson Hotel at the University of Toledo. The conference offers cutting-edge training and information on culturally relevant services for community-based substance abuse prevention and behavioral health professionals, coalition leaders, nurses, educators, criminal justice personnel, and faith leaders. The conference sessions will help attendees strengthen and develop essential and enhanced culturally responsive leadership skills that will better equip one's ability to help increase healthy lifestyles, and resiliency among youth, families and communities. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

OhioMHAS Housing University — Sept. 16-17

Residential Facility Class 2, Recovery Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing owners, managers, and operators are encouraged to attend the third annual OhioMHAS Housing University, Sept. 16-17 at the Marriott Columbus — University Area hotel. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register online. Questions? Please email Susan.Tafate@mha.ohio.gov.

Training Opportunities, cont.

Third Annual Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Forum — Sept. 20

September is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness and Prevention Month. To mark the observance, the Ohio FASD Steering Committee will host its third annual forum “Working Together for Ohio’s Families” on Sept. 20 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, 2045 Morse Road Suite E, Columbus. Attendees will learn about the impact of prenatal alcohol exposure on the cognitive and behavioral development of children, evidence-based interventions to treat individuals with FASD and how to energize the community to tackle these important issues. For more information, contact Karen.Kimbrough@mha.ohio.gov.

OSU-Marion Addiction Symposium — Sept. 24

The ARCHWay Institute is hosting a free [Addiction Symposium](#) on Sept. 24 on the Marion Campus of The Ohio State University. Guest speakers include OhioMHAS Director Lori Criss and former Ohio State University football star Maurice Clarrett. Topics will include trauma, alternatives to pain management, medication-assisted treatment, overcoming barriers to recovery and stigma. Click [HERE](#) to view the agenda and [HERE](#) to register.

Ohio Children’s Alliance Fall Conference — Oct. 7-8

The Ohio Children’s Alliance will host its fall conference Oct. 7-8 at the Renaissance Columbus Westerville-Polaris. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

Save the Date: Ohio Council’s 2019 Annual Conference and Exhibit Hall — Oct. 17-18

The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers will hold its Annual Conference and Exhibit Hall on Oct. 17-18 at the Marriott Columbus — University Area. Please visit www.theohiocouncil.org or contact Brenda Cornett, cornett@theohiocouncil.org, 614.228.0747, for more information.

Private Psychiatric Inpatient Provider Conference — Oct. 18

Save the date! OhioMHAS will host the 2019 Private Psychiatric Inpatient Provider Conference, “Transforming Behavioral Healthcare Through Prevention,” Oct. 18 at the Quest Conference Center in Columbus. Registration information is forthcoming.

2019 Forensic Conference — Nov. 7

OhioMHAS will host the 2019 Forensic Conference “Balancing Risk and Recovery: Helping People Maintain Hope Within the Forensic System” Nov. 7 at the Embassy Suites Columbus — Dublin. This year’s conference will feature three concurrent, two-hour workshops. One will focus on mental health courts in Medina and Ashtabula counties. Another workshop will highlight the experiences of three people who have lived experience within the forensic mental health or developmental disability systems. The third workshop will detail recovery-oriented principles and programs within hospitals and community settings. This year’s legal update will be presented by two judges: The Honorable Hollie Gallagher, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, and The Honorable Stephen L. McIntosh, administrative judge, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Click [HERE](#) to view the conference booklet and [HERE](#) to register online.



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.