

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lieutenant Governor
Orman Hall, Director

For Immediate Release

State Agency Announces Substance Abuse Prevention Award Winners

(Nov. 17, 2011 -- Columbus, OH) The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) presented its annual Community Prevention Awards today during the 23rd Ohio Prevention and Education Conference (OPEC), the largest alcohol and other drug prevention workforce development event of its kind in the state. The awards are given annually to a service provider and an individual who exemplify Ohio's best in terms of prevention programming, advocacy and leadership.

"Building healthy and safe communities is a top priority for the Kasich Administration," commented ODADAS Director Orman Hall. "By providing access to quality substance abuse prevention services, we empower individuals to make healthy choices, which ultimately helps to boost productivity and keeps rising healthcare costs in check. This year's honorees have demonstrated a strong commitment to improving the health and well-being of Ohioans."

This year's award winners are:

Community Prevention Award: Alcohol and Chemical Abuse Council (Butler County)

The Alcohol and Chemical Abuse Council of Butler County's "Minimize Risk-Maximize Life" program helps adults make informed decisions about alcohol consumption based on comprehensive research on the long- and short-term effects of alcohol on individual health and safety. This program, one of a few that specifically target adults, helps participants understand the effects of alcohol consumption on the body and promotes behavioral changes intended to lower a person's risk level for alcohol-related problems like injuries, depression, suicide and damage to the liver and brain. By capitalizing on numerous community partnerships, "Minimize Risk-Maximize Life" reached more than 600 adults in the past year.

Prevention Innovator of the Year: Tammy Kline, Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist II, Summit County Public Health

Tammy Kline, a Certified Prevention Specialist with Summit County Public Health, is this year's Prevention Innovator of the Year. Kline has spent the past 20 years working to protect the health of Summit County residents by developing programs and activities that promote health, safety and wellness. Throughout her career, she has shown outstanding leadership, dedication to serving the community and a commitment to advancing prevention science. One of the first prevention professionals in her area to earn the OCPS II credential, Kline is credited with developing a variety of innovative and engaging programs.

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Note to Editors: Hi-res photos available upon request.

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