

## Stay Informed About Advocacy Efforts

The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County offers Cuyahoga County residents an opportunity to stay informed and become involved as advocates for mental health and alcohol and other drug addiction issues. Clients, family members, providers and the public may request placement on the ADAMHS Board's e-mail distribution list.

Being on our distribution list allows you to stay informed by receiving the latest news and action alerts about legislation and other issues impacting mental health and alcohol and other drug addiction in Cuyahoga County, the state of Ohio and the United States.

To have your name placed on our e-mail distribution list, or to obtain more information about the Advocacy Action Agenda, contact Scott Osiecki, Chief of External Affairs, at [osiecki@adamhsc.org](mailto:osiecki@adamhsc.org), or at 216-241-3400, ext. 814.

Another way to stay informed is to visit the ADAMHS Board's Web site at [www.adamhsc.org](http://www.adamhsc.org). You can find client and family information, service providers, facts about mental health and alcohol and other drug addiction, news and legislation, Board publications and general information about the Board. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

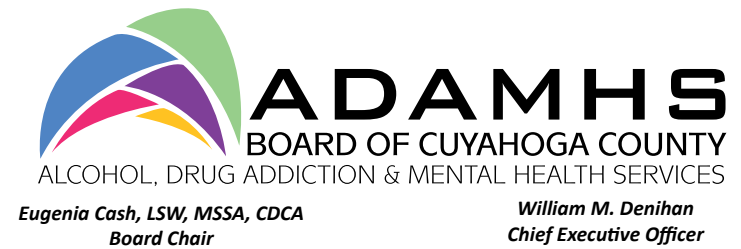
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*Cover artwork was created by a client of New Directions . The keychain with the Narcotics Anonymous initials and the Just for Today slogan represents the artists's current recovery mindset - if I can do it just for today I will have the strength to go on tomorrow - taking recovery one day at a time.*

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**2017 Advocacy Action Agenda**

## Overarching Advocacy Goal for 2017:

The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County has developed this **Advocacy Action Agenda** to guide its advocacy efforts for 2017. This agenda was developed with the overarching goal of promoting **recovery of individuals living with mental illness and addictions by adopting and acting on the five Recovery Oriented System of Care principles:**

1. **Focusing on Clients and Families.**
2. **Ensuring Timely Access to Care.**
3. **Promoting Healthy, Safe, and Drug-Free Communities**
4. **Prioritizing Accountable and Outcome-Driven Financing**
5. **Locally Managing Systems of Care**

The ADAMHS Board uses the Advocacy Action Agenda to develop messages to legislators, state agencies, policy makers, clients, families, providers and the general public to advance important behavioral health issues.

## System of Care Goals:

- Support the **State-wide *Recovery is Beautiful*** movement and the **ADAMHS Board Implementation Plan** to ensure that a **Recovery Oriented System of Care** is developed and implemented in Cuyahoga County, through **client and family involvement; community education; integrated behavioral health, spirituality and wellness; peer support; timely access to services; quality of care and performance-based contracting and financing.**
- Support efforts to promote:
  - **Mental illness and addiction are chronic diseases.**
  - **Treatment works and people recover.**
  - **Recovery is to be celebrated!**
- Support efforts to **eradicate the heroin/opiate/fentanyl epidemic in Cuyahoga County and the State of Ohio.**
- Support efforts for the development of **AoD Residential Treatment, Recovery Housing, Sober Beds and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).**
- Support efforts to **increase the number of practitioners** available to provide mental health and addiction services, including MAT and psychiatric services for both youth and adults and **assist provider network in recruiting staff.**
- Support **prevention activities, public awareness efforts and training to reduce the stigma of mental illness and/or addictions and educate the community by featuring client personal recovery success stories.**

- Support **police reforms as part of the Settlement Agreement** between the **Department of Justice** and the **City of Cleveland** through continued **leadership of the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee.**
- Support efforts for **youth participation** in Board activities and issues through the ADAMHS Board **Youth Advisory Council** to ensure **sustainability, vitality and long-term success of the Board and its programs, while preventing stigma, addictions and suicide.**
- Support efforts to **increase employment for people living with mental illness and/or addictions**, including **certified Recovery Coaches**, with the **Board provider agencies.**
- Support **spirituality in the recovery process and efforts** of the **Faith-based Outreach Committee and initiatives.**
- Support efforts to **increase coordination with managed care organizations** to help **integrate services.**
- Support **state and federal legislation** that **benefit people living with mental illness and/or addictions.**
- Support efforts to **promote the delivery of high quality, cost effective mental health and addiction treatment and recovery support services**, including promotion of the **ADAMHS Board as establishing a unified system of care.**
- Support efforts to position the ADAMHS Board as the **authority on behavioral health issues and convener of stakeholders to address the local mental health and addiction recovery needs** of the community, including the continuation of the **Addiction Recovery Advocacy Meetings.**

## Funding Goals:

- Support **efforts to achieve dedicated local funding** for mental health and addiction support services by examining opportunities for a **dedicated ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services levy.**
- Support the **Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) 2018/19 Biennial Budget platform** that focuses of increasing state funding to **support a Recovery Oriented System of Care.**
- Support efforts for the **utilization of standardized provider performance measures** to **establish funding priorities.**