



**For Immediate Release:** December 15, 2012

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Cuyahoga County, Ohio -- The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County is deeply saddened by the tragic events and loss of innocent life at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

William M. Denihan, CEO of the ADAMHS Board, expressed, "First of all, our thoughts and prayers are with the families of those who lost their lives and the children who witnessed this tragedy."

Denihan continued, "We have just experienced yet another catastrophe that might have been caused by a person with mental illness who may not have been receiving adequate care. As a society we must work together to make mental illness a civic priority to eliminate the stigma that keeps many from seeking and receiving treatment."

Denihan calls upon the community to come together to take the necessary steps to avert future tragedy by addressing the importance of mental health and ending the stigma associated with seeking services.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, call the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County 24-hour Suicide Prevention, Mental Health Crisis, Information and Referral Line at 216-623-6888, or Crisis Chat online daily from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., at [www.adamhsc.org](http://www.adamhsc.org). Both services are operated by Mental Health Services, Inc.

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