

ADAMHS Board Prepares for Next 5-Year Strategic Plan – Save the Date (August 31) for Strategic Planning Summit

The ADAMHS Board of Directors approved a contract with **RAMA Consulting Group, Inc.** to work on the ADAMHS Board’s next 5-year strategic plan. As part of the planning process, a Strategic Planning Summit will be held on August 31 to gather input from internal and external stakeholders. This Summit will engage external stakeholders in idea sessions and collaborative planning exercises. These efforts will allow ADAMHS Board partners to share best practices and methodologies they would like leadership to consider in planning efforts moving forward. The data and information gathered at the Summit will be used to guide the strategic plan. Input from all of our stakeholders is essential to meeting the behavioral health needs of all Cuyahoga County residents. We encourage you to save the date, August 31, and participate in the Strategic Planning Summit. Details about registration for the Summit will be sent out in the coming weeks. We look forward to your participation!

Countywide Police Training Presented to County Council’s Public Safety Committee

In partnership with **Cuyahoga Community College Public Safety Division**, the ADAMHS Board and other partners presented to the **Cuyahoga County Council’s Public Safety Committee** about a countywide police training initiative. This countywide police officer training will offer a series of modules related to community policing such as de-escalation, protests, bias-free policing, and building trust with the community. The idea was brought to the Public Safety Committee by County Councilman **Michael Gallagher** as a first look at funding to provide training for up to 2,600 police officers in the county.

Carole Ballard, MSSA, LISW, Director of Education and Training for the ADAMHS Board is slated to be one of the trainers. She provided an overview to the Public Safety Committee about the training she would present titled, *Profiles of People in Crisis: Communication and De Escalation Part One*. The full training series will include eight sessions, which will be live-streamed and available to every police officer in the county. All of the instructors are [Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy \(OPTA\)](#) certified instructors, including Carole, who is also a member of the [CIT International Board of Directors](#). At this time, there is no start date for the training, but the county has agreed to more discussion. Read more about this training opportunity in this [Cleveland.com](#) article: [Cuyahoga County, Tri-C could team up to provide community-oriented policing course countywide](#).

Do Your Part - Wear a Mask in Public

How does that saying go? When life gives you boring, plain masks, make tie-dye masks instead! Here is a photo from residents (right) at a recovery house that glammed up the masks that were donated by the **Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)**. What a great idea! Remember to grab a mask before you leave the house to help stop the spread of coronavirus.



Residents from a local recovery home show off their creativity, mask tie-dye skills and fellowship in recovery!

Don’t Miss the Ohio Crisis Academy On August 5

On August 5, join the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) for a Crisis Academy about mobile crisis teams for adults and youth. This three and a half-hour Zoom webinar will focus on crisis response systems, from models to the individual components, and how they can work in partnership. Speakers will also discuss Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) within a Children’s Crisis Continuum. [Register here.](#)

Overdose Surge Meeting with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

In response to overdose surges across the state, the **Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)** has convened a group of stakeholders to focus on immediate, short-term and long-term solutions to address rising overdoses. The ADAMHS Board participated in the kick-off meeting and will continue to serve with this group. If you have innovative ideas you would like to share with the group that you think will effectively assist in reducing overdoses, please email [Beth Zietlow-DeJesus](#), Director of External Affairs.

Training Updates

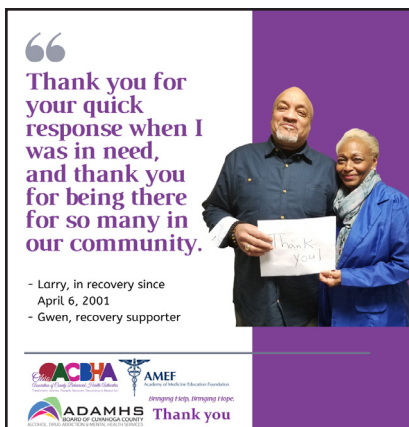
The ADAMHS Board has been busy providing trainings for system employees and its providers. Through a State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant, the ADAMHS Board has been training all of its SOR grantees on various topics from cultural competency to suicide prevention. The ADAMHS Board will also be providing free training in August to any agency in the system of care that wants to learn more about the Residential Assistance Program. Contact [Carole Ballard, MSSA, LISW](#), Director of Education and Training to learn more about these training opportunities.

Looking for Individuals in Recovery to Share Their Stories

The ADAMHS Board has been working in coordination with the HEALing communities research program and are helping create an anti-stigma awareness campaign. The goal of the campaign is to share stories of individuals in recovery who are utilizing medication assisted treatment (MAT) as part of their recovery to reduce the stigma surrounding MAT.

We are also seeking stories from individuals in recovery who have been revived with Narcan/Naloxone by a first responder. These stories will be used to say thank you to first responders during First Responder Appreciation Week September 20-26. If you would like to share your recovery story for either effort, please contact [Madison Greenspan, MNAL](#), External Affairs Officer.

A special thanks to the [Academy of Medicine Education Foundation \(AMEF\)](#) for co-sponsoring this year's week of appreciation. The purpose of AMEF is to add a charitable component to the [Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio \(AMCNO\)](#) and to partner with the AMCNO in implementing new initiatives for both physicians and the patient population through charitable, educational and scientific efforts. AMEF's mission is to enhance health care through education of the medical profession and the community at large.



The photos above are examples of recovery stories that will be shared in a Thank You Calendar that will be sent to first responders (fire, police and EMS) across Cuyahoga County. We are grateful to the individuals who have already submitted photos and thank you messages to be included in the calendar!

July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

Despite advances in health equity, disparities in mental health care persist.

The [Agency for The Agency For Healthcare](#)

[Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#) reports that racial and ethnic minority groups in the U.S. are less likely to have access to mental health services, less likely to use community mental health services, more likely to use emergency departments, and more likely to receive lower quality care. Poor mental health care access and quality of care contribute to poor mental health outcomes, including suicide, among racial and ethnic minority populations. Visit this [web page](#) during National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month for downloadable materials and resources.



Monthly Client Art Display Program is Now Virtual!

The monthly art display program that typically showcases client artwork in the Ohio Room at the ADAMHS Board office is now virtual. Thank you to **Women's Recovery Center** for displaying your artwork this month in our new [virtual platform!](#) This virtual art display program will continue through the end of 2020 and will showcase new artists each month.



Community News

Joseph's Home Names New Executive Director

Joseph's Home has named **Beth Graham** as executive director to guide the facility's medical respite care for Cleveland's homeless men and to strengthen programs to help residents on a path toward stable housing and self-sufficiency. **Scott S. Osiecki, CEO**; **Maggie Tolbert, RN, C**, Assistant Chief Clinical Officer; and **Allison Schaefer, MSW, LSW**, Adult Behavioral Specialist II (Residential), recently met with Ms. Graham to introduce her to the ADAMHS Board.

Ms. Graham has dedicated her career to creating quality, affordable housing and support services. Most recently, she was the Senior Underwriter at Enterprise Community Partners, where she helped direct more than \$160 million in Northeast Ohio to address housing insecurity, homelessness and to help create healthy communities. She also served as a Neighborhood Stabilization Program Specialist for the **US Department of Housing and Urban Development Fund** and Associate Director of the **Famicos Foundation**.

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Karen Walsh, President and CEO of the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking, Retires After Thirteen Years

At the end of 2020, **Karen Walsh**, President and CEO of the **Collaborative to End Human Trafficking**, will retire. Ms. Walsh was instrumental in founding the Collaborative in 2007 to bring awareness to the issue of human trafficking in our community. From those humble beginnings, her unwavering commitment and expertise has supported the development of the Collaborative as a thought leader as we seek to educate, advocate and link services to meet the needs of victims and to effect change that can end human trafficking in our community. Ms. Walsh will remain in a supportive role to continue sharing her expertise and passion to effect change. We thank her for her years of commitment to ending human trafficking in our community.

"When we least expect it, life sets us a challenge to test our courage and willingness to change; at such a moment, there is no point in pretending that nothing has happened or in saying that we are not ready. The challenge will not wait. Life does not look back."

– Paulo Coelho, Brazilian lyricist, 1947 - present

Welcome, Erika!



Erika Losse

Our new AmeriCorps VISTA member, **Erika Losse**, started her service with the ADAMHS Board on July 20. Erika will be assisting the External Affairs department with community outreach and engagement.

Erika enjoys kayaking on the Cuyahoga River and playing her guitar. She lives in Cleveland Heights with her partner and three fur-children Hank, Marlowe and Roger. Erika hopes to utilize the skills she gained as an Environmental Educator in her VISTA service year. She decided to serve with AmeriCorps VISTA in hopes to strengthen her engagement with the community of Northeast Ohio, while gaining positive leadership and interpersonal skills along the way. Erika's decision to serve with the ADAMHS Board was driven by her desire to help enhance the quality of life for people no matter what part of their journey they may be on. She looks forward to obtaining invaluable skills and knowledge in the areas of addiction and mental health throughout her year of service.

Voter Registration Day

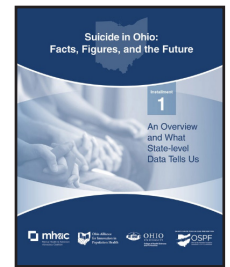
The ADAMHS Board is teaming up again this year with other local organizations to promote National Voter Registration Day (NVRD) on Tuesday, September 22. The goal is to encourage individuals who aren't registered to get registered before the November 3 General Election. Voter registrations need to be in by October 5 to vote in November. Don't forget to update your address if you've moved since last election day!

- Register or update your voter registration online [here](#). Information on registering by mail can also be found at that link.
- If your organization would like to promote NVRD, [click here](#).
- Promote NVRD now! You don't need to wait until September 22!
- Are you or your organization on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#)? Share our voter registration posts by following @ADAMHSBoardCC

Suicide in Ohio: Facts, Figures and the Future

The **Mental Health & Addiction Advocacy Coalition (MHAC)** in partnership with the **Ohio Alliance for Innovation in Population Health (The Alliance)** and the **Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF)**, produced *Suicide in Ohio: Facts, Figures, and the Future*, a report consisting of three installments that examine 2009-2018 **Ohio Department of Health (ODH)** suicide data across myriad demographics.

Suicide in Ohio: Facts, Figures, and the Future provides readers with insight about deaths by suicide across Ohio, as well as the impact of and community responses to suicide in



specific areas of Northeast and Southwest Ohio. The goal of this report is to provide information for policy makers, clinicians, and community leaders, so they will have the knowledge and motivation to take the necessary actions needed to increase a focus on suicide prevention, diminish the number of deaths by suicide, and provide relief for survivors of suicide loss. [Read the entire report](#)

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