

**ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 22-01-01

APPROVAL OF 2022 ADVOCACY ACTION AGENDA

WHEREAS, the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County develops and approves an Advocacy Action Agenda each year to focus its efforts and develop messages to legislators, state agencies, policy makers, clients, families, providers and the general public to advance important behavioral health issues; and,

WHEREAS, at the beginning of each year, the prior year's Advocacy Action Agenda is reviewed by the Community Relations and Advocacy Committee to determine success, a new agenda is set and recommended to the full Board by the Committee for the current year; and,

WHEREAS, the Advocacy Action Agenda for 2022 was developed with the over-arching goal of promoting recovery of individuals living with mental illness and addictions by adopting and acting on the six 2021-2025 Strategic Plan Goals, which align with the Recovery Oriented System of Care principles:

1. Strengthening Service Delivery System
2. Measuring Impact
3. Maximizing Available Funding
4. Maintaining a High-Performing Organization
5. Strengthening Behavioral Health Workforce
6. Sharing Information; and,

WHEREAS, the Advocacy Action Agenda is in addition to the advocacy and collaboration that the Board provides on a daily basis through its work of ensuring that mental health, addiction treatment and prevention and recovery services and supports are available to help children and adults reach and sustain recovery; and,

WHEREAS, adoption and implementation of the 2022 Advocacy Action Agenda will help facilitate the implementation of the Recovery Oriented System of Care by focusing Board efforts, activities, decisions and funding to advance recovery issues and initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The ADAMHS Board of Directors adopts the 2022 Advocacy Action Agenda.
2. The ADAMHS Board of Directors authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to distribute the 2022 Advocacy Action Agenda to the community.

On the motion of Katie Kern-Pilch, ATR-BC, LPC-S, seconded by Patricia James-Stewart, M.Ed., LSW, the foregoing resolution was adopted.

AYES: B. Addison, A. Bhardwaj, R. Blue, G. Boehm, R. Fowler, G. Howard,
P. James-Stewart, K. Kern-Pilch

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

DATE ADOPTED: January 26, 2022

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 substance use disorder issues. Clients, family members, providers and the public may request placement on the ADAMHS Board's email 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 substance use issues in Cuyahoga County, the state of Ohio and the United States.

To have your name placed on our email distribution list, or to obtain more information about the *Advocacy Action Agenda*, contact:

Beth Zietlow-DeJesus, Director of External Affairs
dejesus@adamhsc.org
216-241-3400, ext. 812

Find client and family information, service providers, facts about mental health and alcohol and other substance use disorders, news and legislation, Board publications and general information about the ADAMHS Board on the website: www.adamhsc.org. Be sure to follow us on Social Media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) @ADAMHSBoardCC.

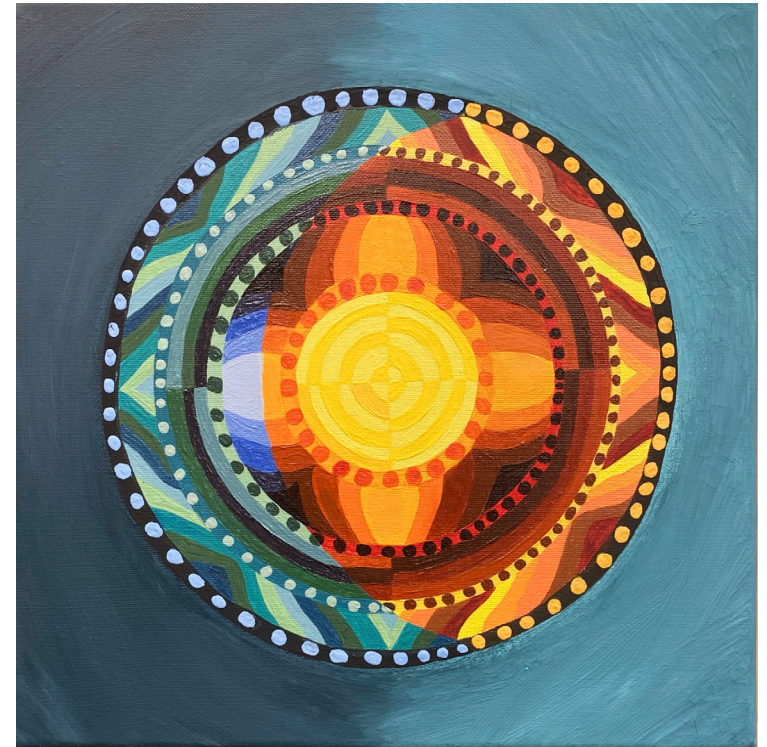


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Reverend Benjamin F. Gohlstein, Sr.
Board Chair

Scott S. Osiecki
Chief Executive Officer



2022 Advocacy Action Agenda

Cover artwork was created by a client of Far West Center's Art Helps and Heals (AHH!) art therapy program, which allows for personal expression while encouraging recovery.

Overarching Advocacy Objectives for 2022:

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 2022. This agenda was developed with the overarching goal of promoting recovery of individuals living with mental illness and substance use disorders by adopting and acting on the **six 2021-2025 Strategic Plan Goals, which align with the Recovery Oriented System of Care principles:**

1. **Strengthening Service Delivery System.**
2. **Measuring Impact.**
3. **Maximizing Available Funding.**
4. **Maintaining a High-Performing Organization.**
5. **Strengthening Behavioral Health Workforce.**
6. **Sharing Information.**

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, such as Discrimination as a Public Health Crisis, COVID-19, the opioid epidemic, suicide prevention efforts and best practices in treatment and recovery support services.

Goals:

- **NEW - Educate all stakeholders about 988**, the new number for the national suicide prevention LifeLine that begins in July, 2022.
- **NEW - Increase community-based and grassroots Suicide Prevention Education** and expand Suicide Prevention coalition membership.
- **NEW - Support Overdose Fatality Review Recommendations** that relate to public education and the behavioral healthcare system.
- **NEW - Engage all stakeholders** including clients, families, providers and the general public in the **DEI Strategic Plan work.**

- **NEW - Support OACBHA's efforts** in the modernization of Ohio Revised Code 340.
- **NEW - Educate existing and potential elected officials** about issues related to behavioral health.
- **NEW - Advocate for data sharing** with state and local agencies.
- **NEW - Collaborate** with OhioMHAS and OACBHA to **expand access to a core safety net of crisis services.**
- **Support co-responder and care response team projects.**
- **Advocate for and support provider agencies' use of a broader range of treatment modalities**, specifically including models for diverse communities.
- Support efforts to **ensure that culturally competent and specific programs are in place** to address structural discrimination in Cuyahoga County's behavioral health care system.
- Support **trauma-informed resources and care** for peer support specialists, recovery coaches, behavioral health care workers and first responders to reduce the effects of secondary trauma.

