

## ADAMHS Board Takes Part in the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) Annual Legislative Day in Columbus

On Tuesday, January 29, OACBHA held its **Annual Legislative Day** in Columbus, which included the OACBHA General Membership Meeting, an awards luncheon, individual visits with our legislators and a legislative reception held in the Statehouse Museum Gallery. Staff met with **Senators Nickie Antonio, Matt Dolan and Kenny Yuko** and **Representatives Kent Smith, Stephanie Howse, Juanita Brent, Jeff Crossman and Bride Rose Sweeney**. It was a great opportunity to advocate for mental health and addiction recovery issues, set the stage for budget requests, meet our legislators, foster relationships, and discuss local issues that impact the Board.



Governor DeWine (left) with Lori Criss (middle), Director of The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) and Alisha Nelson (right), Director of RecoveryOhio.



Speaker Householder

Legislative Day attendees heard from Governor DeWine about his priorities for mental health and addiction treatment and recovery supports. Attendees also heard from **Speaker Householder** during the awards luncheon.



(l-r) Scott S. Osiecki, CEO; Madison Scagnetti, External Affairs Officer; and Jeff Crossman, Representative of the 15<sup>th</sup> District



(l-r) Madison Scagnetti, External Affairs Officer; Senator Nickie Antonio; and Scott S. Osiecki, CEO



(l-r) Senator Kenny Yuko and Scott S. Osiecki, CEO



(l-r) Bride Rose Sweeney, Representative of the 14<sup>th</sup> District and Scott S. Osiecki, CEO



(l-r) Beth Zietlow-DeJesus, Director of External Affairs and Stephanie Howse, Representative of the 11<sup>th</sup> District.



(l-r) Madison Scagnetti, External Affairs Officer and Juanita Brent, Representative of the 12<sup>th</sup> District



(l-r) Kent Smith, Representative of the 8<sup>th</sup> District and Scott S. Osiecki, CEO

Stay tuned for information on our **Meet Your Legislators** series!

## Board's 2019 Program Funding Highlighted During January's Addiction Recovery Advocacy Meeting

On the evening of January 14, the Board held its first Addiction Recovery Advocacy meeting of the year. Hosted quarterly, the meetings are a convening of family members who have lost a loved one to addiction, individuals with a loved one struggling with addiction, recovery advocates, professionals, and family support groups. These meetings provide an opportunity to unite the powerful voices of individuals and advocacy groups to create change through action.

**Scott S. Osiecki**, CEO, started off the meeting by providing highlights of new initiatives in 2019. Scott discussed a fentanyl test strip initiative the Board is working on with its partners to get fentanyl test strips into the hands of cocaine users. In 2017, the ADAMHS Board provided 15,000 fentanyl test strips to **Circle Health Services** to distribute alongside its syringe exchange program. The Board is expanding its fentanyl test strip funding, providing 15,000 test strips to **Care Alliance Health Center** to hand out to its clients.

The Board received a 3-year **COAP data sharing grant** to coordinate information sharing of fatal and nonfatal overdose information and **6,000 free Deterra drug deactivation bags** to distribute throughout the community.

The Board increased funding for **peer support services**, **women's recovery housing**, and **Y-Haven's Rising Hope** program, which provides recovery housing and a **continuum of care for people experiencing homelessness**. The Board is also funding a **children's shelter** at **Providence House** for children whose parents or guardians need inpatient treatment. A new **acupuncture recovery support program** at **University Hospitals** will train ten acupuncture providers and serve approximately 4,000 clients. Full program highlights can be found on the Board's website under *About Us, CY2019 Budget*.

Presenters at the meeting included, **Julia Ellifritt** from **Cornerstone of Hope** who talked about a **traumatic loss survivor group** the ADAMHS Board is helping to fund; **Orlando Howard** of **Rosary Hall at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center** who shared information about its new **walk-in admissions for detox**; **Karen Snyder** of **Improbable Players** shared information about this new **theater prevention program** in Cleveland kicking off its first season in February; and **Maureen O'Boyle** shared her recovery story as a family member.



(l-r) Tami A. Fischer, Chief Administrative Officer; Katie Kern-Pilch, board member; Scott S. Osiecki, CEO; Dr. Nancy Duff-Boehm; Dr. Gregory X. Boehm, board member



### ADAMHS Board Partners with Progressive Insurance Company and Business Volunteers Unlimited to Develop

**Progressive Insurance Company** hosts a **Senior Leader Development Program** to develop future business leaders and help them excel at strategic planning, building strategic coalitions and leading change. To expand their experience, Progressive set out to partner with a local non-profit to help solve complex issues identified by the organizations.

Through a partnership with **Business Volunteers Unlimited (BVU)**, the **ADAMHS Board and Progressive** tasked the leaders in this program to work on two complicated county behavioral health system-wide issues, workforce development/talent acquisition and retention and the quantity and quality of housing for adult clients with mental illness.

On January 24 and 25, the senior leaders were at the ADAMHS Board working through the system-wide issues, interviewing staff and putting the finishing touches on recommendations. On January 25, the teams presented potential solutions to Board Members, staff and representatives from Progressive.

Thank you to participants of the Senior Leadership Development Program for your hard work the last few months working through some of the issues facing our behavioral healthcare system.



Participants of Progressive's Senior Leadership Development Program hear from staff about the system-wide issues we face.

## Holiday Season Wrap-up

### Food, Dancing and Fun at the Annual Client Holiday Party!

On December 18, the ADAMHS Board held its **annual client holiday party** at **Cleveland Airport Marriott**. There was dancing, great fellowship and a wonderful meal! **Bill Hebble**, Client Rights Officer II, and **Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin**, Adult Behavioral Health Specialist I, provided clients with highlights from the **Coping with the Holidays** brochure.



(top left) (l-r) Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Chair; guest; guest; Scott S. Osiecki, CEO; and Tami A. Fischer, Chief Administrative Officer



(top right) Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer; LaVedia Smith, Adult Clinical Utilization Review Specialist; J. Robert Fowler, Second Vice Chair



(middle) (l-r) Katie Kern-Pilch, board member; Vicki Roemer, Administrative Assistant II; guests; Elsie Caraballo, Board member



(bottom) Guests pose for a quick photo during the celebration.

### Coping with the Holidays Brochure a Huge Success Again During the Holiday Season

The ADAMHS Board's **Coping with the Holidays** brochure was a great success again this holiday season with hundreds of copies being distributed throughout the community! The brochures were handed out at our annual client holiday party. **A huge thank you to the Cuyahoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition for helping create this year's Coping with the Holidays brochure!**



ADAMHS Board's own Jenita Simmons (middle) and Beth Zietlow-DeJesus (right) were on the Ideastream show "Ideas" talking with host Rick Jackson about coping with the holidays.



At Beech Brook, this door decoration, inspired by the "Coping with the Holidays" brochure, allowed clients to write encouraging messages to one another during the holiday season. Coping with the Holidays brochures were available next to the door!

## Upcoming Events

### 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Black History Flag Raising Ceremony

February 9, 12:00 pm (doors open 11:00 am)

Cleveland City Hall Rotunda and Front Steps

601 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland

### Cuyahoga County Opiate Task Force Meeting

February 12, 9:00-11:00 am

Cuyahoga County Board of Health

5550 Venture Dr., Parma

### Survivors of Suicide Loss Friday Night Series

Fridays March 1- April 5, 6-8:00 pm

Cornerstone of Hope

5905 Brecksville Rd., Independence

Register at [cornerstoneofhope.org](http://cornerstoneofhope.org)

### Want to see the Improbable Players perform? There are four FREE community shows in February:

- **Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Maelstrom Collaborative Arts** (45 seats) 5403 Detroit Ave., Cleveland

- **Wednesday, Feb. 20 from 7:00-9:00 pm at North Olmsted Auditorium** (850 seats) 27301 Butternut Ridge Rd., North Olmsted

- **Thursday, Feb. 21 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Parma-Snow Branch of Cuyahoga County Library** (350 seats) 2121 Snow Rd., Parma

- **Friday, Feb. 20 from 9:30-10:30 pm for the Westshore Young Leaders High School Lock In at the Westlake Recreation Center** (open to parents and community members also) 8955 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake

### **Provider Agencies Attend Cultural Competency/Personalized Behavioral Health Care Breakfast**

The ADAMHS Board held a **Cultural Competency/Personalized Behavioral Health Care Breakfast** for its providers to learn more about culturally competent programming and personalized behavioral health care from **Ciara Dennis Morgan, Ph.D., the Clinical Coordinator of Minority Behavioral Health Group.**

The Board is committed to providing person-centered care for mental health and addictions. By providing learning opportunities such as this, the Board can help its providers better understand the physical, spiritual and cultural needs of the communities they are serving.



*Ciara Dennis Morgan*

### **Members of the Cuyahoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition Receive Postvention Training at the ADAMHS Board**

The ADAMHS Board hosted a postvention training for members of the **Cuyahoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition.** At the training, coalition members learned about the unique challenges faced by survivors of suicide loss and how to respond in practical, meaningful ways. **Pete Bliss, Associate at Busch Funeral and Crematory Services and the Founder/Coordinator of the Cuyahoga County Suicide Postvention Response Team,** led the training.

The Cuyahoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition is composed of organizations, community members and survivors dedicated to instilling hope, raising awareness, providing education and promoting resources in an effort to reduce the incidence of suicide and suicidal behavior in Cuyahoga County.

### **Local Students Work to Find Solutions to the Opioid Epidemic**

Students from **Hawken School** interviewed ADAMHS Board External Affairs department staff for a school project to learn more about the opioid epidemic and possible solutions. The students were exploring prevention and the science behind addiction.



*Scott S. Osiecki (left), CEO of the ADAMHS Board, spoke on a panel on December 11 at a community event - Heroin, Fentanyl, Carfentanil: The Triple Threat on Our Doorstep. Also on the panel was (l-r) Dr. Judith Welsh, Cleveland Clinic; Scott Petersen, Cleveland Clinic; and Judge David T. Matia, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Drug Court.*



*In December, Bob Garrity, Director of Risk Management for the ADAMHS Board, weighed in on new rules for Ohio doctors prescribing opioids in a Fox 8 news story. Bob shared his perspective as a former pharmacist and as a person in recovery.*

### **Talking Community Impact on The Sound of Ideas**

**CEO Scott S. Osiecki** was on **The Sound of Ideas** to discuss one of **Governor Mike DeWine's** top priorities: the opioid crisis and what impact it could have on our local community.

### **Congratulations, Erin!**

Congratulations to **Erin Helms** of the **Woodrow Project** and the **Briermost Foundation.** There was a great story published by **cleveland.com** about their North Royalton recovery house and farm and the stability and training it provides for the women in recovery there. Great job, Erin and everyone involved!

### **Welcome, Daniel!**

Provider agency **Stella Maris** named **Daniel Lettenberger-Klein** as its new executive director. He has extensive experience in addiction treatment and recovery and is a great addition to our treatment community here in Cuyahoga County.

### **Human Services Advocacy Network Meeting Held at the ADAMHS Board**

On December 14, **The Center for Community Solutions** held its **Human Services Advocacy Network (HSAN) meeting** at the ADAMHS Board in the Ohio Room. **State Senators Nickie Antonio and John Eklund** discussed the environment facing the General Assembly during the state budget cycle and shared information as two legislators actively involved in the state budget process. Thank you Community Solutions for hosting your meeting at the ADAMHS Board!

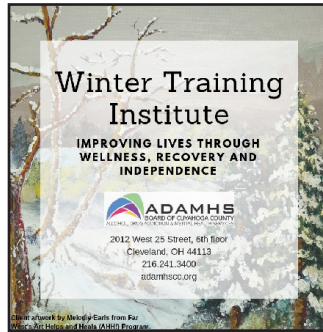
### **The Art of Giving**

At the end of November, **Front Steps Housing and Services** was the exhibitor for **The Progressive Insurance Foundation's** event the **"Art of Giving"** in which the foundation pairs with a nonprofit organization to help them raise funds for their valuable programs. The exhibit showcased original artwork created by members of Front Steps Housing and Services art therapy program. At the event, attendees met the artists, heard from a panel, viewed the gallery, and purchased one-of-a-kind art. The artwork nearly sold out! Congratulations to Front Steps for a successful event.

## Training News

### Winter Training Institute Underway

The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County Training Institute announced its **Winter 2019 workshop schedule** in December. The trainings began in January and run through March. All workshops offer CEUs/RCHs. Please register via Eventbrite. The full training schedule can be found on our website adamhscc.org. The January 30 training, which was cancelled due to weather, is now scheduled for March 20.



### Training Department Offering Free Quarterly Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training for Community

The training department is offering **free quarterly Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) suicide prevention training**. This training is for people who live and work in Cuyahoga County, and are in a position to recognize a crisis and warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. **The Winter QPR Training is full.**

## Staff News

### Staff on the Move

**Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin**, previously the ADAMHS Board's **Clients Affairs Officer**, accepted a position as the new **Adult Behavioral Health Specialist I** for the Board.

**Jessica M. Torres**, previously the Board's **Data Quality Analyst**, is now the **Project Manager for the Opiate Data Analysis Sharing and Integration Initiative**.

**Madison Scagnetti**, an **AmeriCorps VISTA** member serving with the Board as a **Community Relations and Engagement Specialist**, accepted a position as the new **External Affairs Officer**.

**Tonya Birney**, Behavioral Health Prevention Specialist, and **Maggie Spellman**, Children's Behavioral Health Specialist, resigned from the Board. Good luck to both in their new endeavors!

Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Chair  
Eugenia Kirkland, LSW, MSSA, CDCA, Vice Chair  
J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D., Second Vice Chair

Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D.  
Gregory X. Boehm, M.D.  
Erskine Cade, MBA  
Elsie Caraballo  
Gwendolyn A. Howard, LSW, MSSA  
Katie Kern-Pilch, MA, ATR-BC, LPC-S, HLM (BATA)  
Steve Killpack, MS  
Max M. Rodas, MA  
Sharon Rosenbaum, MBA  
Hugh B. Shannon  
Harvey A. Snider, Esq.  
Mary M. Step, Ph.D.

Scott S. Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer

**Michelle A. Myers, Adult Behavioral Specialist II**, for the ADAMHS Board, retired at the end of January after working for the Board for over 20 years. Staff celebrated her retirement at a December staff training. Michelle took a few moments to speak about her time at the Board, highlighting how rewarding it was to be able to work one-on-one with clients and see the impact her everyday work had on their lives. Thank you for your over 20 years of service with the Board, Michelle! Enjoy retirement!



Michelle poses for a photo with her cake at the December staff training.

**"A hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles."**

**– Christopher Reeve**

## Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Our Board Chair!



Staff members attended the 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration for Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Board Chair

(top l-r) Carol A. Krajewski, Executive Specialist; Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Chair; Scott S. Osiecki, CEO; (bottom l-r) Tami A. Fischer, Chief Administrative Officer; Bill Hebble, Client Rights Officer II; and Felicia Harrison, Chief Financial Officer

### Best Wishes to Board Member Cassi Handler

**Cassi Handler** recently resigned from the Board of Directors. She and her husband moved out of state so she is no longer able to serve. Thank you to Cassi for her service to the Board since her appointment in August of 2014. Best wishes!

