

Scott S. Osiecki, CEO, Gave Presentation to County Council

On Wednesday, June 19, **Scott S. Osiecki**, CEO, gave a presentation to the **Cuyahoga County Council Health, Human Services and Aging Committee** to request increased funds for calendar years 2020/2021.

The ADAMHS Board has been flat funded at \$39 million per year from the Health and Human Services Levy since 2014. Its overall budget has been reduced by \$9 million in the past three years because of:

- The loss of one-time funding from a County/City of Cleveland and ADAMHS Board partnership to increase beds for treatment and access to detoxification services in light of the opioid epidemic,
- A loss of nearly \$4 million from the ending of the 1915a Medicaid Waiver for children's treatment, wraparound services and service coordination, and
- Using \$4.5 million in ADAMHS Board reserves to respond to the opioid crisis.



Scott S. Osiecki, CEO

To address this funding shortage, the ADAMHS Board had to cut all non-priority programs by 10 percent in CY2019 and made a 25 percent reduction to children's prevention services and a 10 percent cut to other children's services. This was in addition to a \$1.8 million cut made by the ADAMHS Board's previous administration to pilot and smaller, targeted programs in CY2018, and a \$1 million decrease for residential care facilities.

These funding cuts have put a strain on the workforce and providers in Cuyahoga County to serve more people with less resources. The ADAMHS Board requested an additional \$7.8 million to restore cuts to some of the hardest hit programs, which include the Residential Assistance Program, Crisis Services for Adults and Children and Addiction Continuum of Care programs such as Sober/Recovery Housing and Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder.

Josh Ruminski, a suicide attempt survivor and suicide prevention advocate, provided testimony to the Council on the necessity of crisis services and the value of increasing funding and access to care. The County Council was receptive to the increase, but warned that it may not be possible unless the Health and Human Services levy receives an increase.

Representative Sweeney Joined the ADAMHS Board for the Meet Your Legislators Series

On Monday, June 17, **Representative Bride Rose Sweeney**, Ohio House District 14 (D), came to the ADAMHS Board to meet with clients, family members, staff, providers and other community members for the **Meet Your Legislators Series**.

Representative Sweeney was the first woman elected to represent the 14th District, which includes part of Cleveland, Brooklyn, Brook Park, Parma Heights, and Middleburg Heights. She is also the youngest state lawmaker in the House Democratic Caucus.

The Ohio Senate completely removed \$18 million for K-12 prevention education and \$18 million for statewide multi-media prevention, treatment and stigma reduction campaigns from the state budget. Session attendees spoke with Representative Sweeney about how important it is that the funding get added back into the budget. Other discussions included ways to lessen the behavioral health workforce shortage through higher education reform, the need for insurance to cover hospitalization for opioid detox, and parity.

Representative Jeffrey Crossman, Ohio House District 15 (D), will be at the next Meet Your Legislators session on Monday, July 22 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the ADAMHS Board.



Providers, community members, Board Members and staff attended the Meet Your Legislators Series on June 17, 2019.

Addiction Recovery Advocacy Meeting Attendees Participated in Strategic Planning Session

On the evening of June 24, the ADAMHS Board held an Addiction Recovery Advocacy Meeting. 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.

This meeting was a strategic planning session on aligning behavioral healthcare services in Cuyahoga County with RecoveryOhio's goals. **RecoveryOhio** is a new council advising the Ohio Governor's Office on critical matters concerning mental illness and substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery support services in Ohio. **Tia Marcel Moretti, LSW, OCPC**, Deputy Director of RecoveryOhio, attended the meeting to kick-off the strategic planning session.

The strategic planning session focused on four of the eight areas from the RecoveryOhio report: Stigma and Education, Workforce Development, Prevention, and Treatment and Recovery Supports. These categories were identified by meeting attendees during registration. Session attendees worked in groups to brainstorm ideas related to these topics, categorize their ideas, determine the cost, difficulty, impact and importance of each idea, and ultimately decide on a few top ideas. At the next meeting, attendees will determine how to put the top ideas into action.



(above) Tia Marcel Moretti, LSW, OCPC spoke to attendees about RecoveryOhio.



(left) Meeting attendees worked in groups to complete a strategic planning session exercise.

ADAMHS Board Presented at the 2019 Opiate and Other Drugs Conference and a Local Firefighter Received a CARES Award

The ADAMHS Board led a panel discussion on using the arts to reduce stigma, heal trauma, and sustain recovery at **Ohio's 2019 Opiate and Other Drug Conference** June 10-11 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus. The panel was moderated by **Regina Spicer, LSW, LICDC-CS**, Training Officer for the ADAMHS Board. Panelists included **Sherri Brandon, MNO/MSSA, CDCA**, Executive Director, **Front Steps Housing and Services, Inc.**; **Ed Gemerchak, MA, MSW, LISW-S**, Executive Director, **Y-Haven**; **Karen Snyder**, Ohio Regional Director, **Improbable Players**; and **Marty Blade**, artist and member of the recovery community.

Fairview Park Firefighter Mike Kocon received a **CARES Award** at the conference. CARES Awards are presented to recognize individual efforts to go above and beyond in helping individuals, families and the community deal with the adverse effects of Ohio's addiction epidemic. **Conor O'Boyle** and his mother **Maureen O'Boyle** nominated Mike for the award to thank him for reviving **Conor** with **Narcan**. **Conor** shared with the 1,200 conference attendees that he is now living in recovery and helping others reach recovery thanks to Mike. Mike was on his honeymoon during the conference and was unable to attend to receive his award. He submitted a thank you video that was shown at the conference.



(l-r) Elaine Georgas, Executive Director, ADAS Board of Lorain County and OACBHA President; Beth Zietlow-DeJesus, Director of External Affairs; Lori Criss, Director, OhioMHAS; Maureen O'Boyle, Conor O'Boyle; Alisha Nelson, Director, RecoveryOhio; and Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost

The conference was held by the **Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities**, in partnership with the **Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services** and the **Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction**.

"Find out who you are and be that person. That's what your soul was put on this Earth to be. Find that truth, live that truth and everything else will come."
 – Ellen DeGeneres, Comedian
 1958 - present

Upcoming Events

Cuyahoga Problem Gambling Coalition Annual Symposium

June 28, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Mather Mansion, 2605 Euclid Ave.
 Register: conta.cc/2WYZfNX

Mental Health Awareness Night at Progressive Field

July 18, 7:00 pm
 To purchase tickets, contact tstenulson@indians.com
 *\$2 from every ticket sold goes to the ADAMHS Board for suicide prevention

ADAMHS Board Client Wellness Fair

July 22, 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
 Cleveland Airport Marriott

Recovery Resources Run for Recovery: ADAMHS Board Sponsored

August 17, 8:00 - 10:00 am
 Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
 Register: bit.ly/2WVcZtc

NAMI Greater Cleveland's NAMI Walks: ADAMHS Board Sponsored

September 14, 9:00 - 11:00 am
 Edgewater Park
 Register: bit.ly/2RvfAr

Press Conference Held to Restore \$36 Million for Prevention in State Budget

On June 14, suicide attempt survivors, suicide loss survivors and the **Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation** held a press conference to urge the Ohio Senate to restore the \$36 million in the **Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services** budget for statewide prevention, treatment and stigma reduction campaigns, education, curricula and services for children and adults in the Ohio Budget Bill (HB166). The Senate's budget removed \$18 million for mental health treatment and prevention for children and up to \$18 million for anti-stigma and prevention campaigns.

Speakers at the press conference included, **Tony Coder**, Executive Director, Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation; **Sandy Linehan**, who lost her son to suicide; **Michelle Price**, Program Director, Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation; **Wesley Walker**, a suicide attempt survivor; and **Carla Renaldi**, **Veterans and Suicide**.

Beth Zietlow-DeJesus, Director of External Affairs, was at the press conference representing the ADAMHS Board.



Tony Coder, Executive Director, Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, spoke at the press conference.

Media Stories on the Opioid and Suicide Crises



Scott S. Osiecki, CEO, sat down for an interview with Adrienne DiPiazza, Fox 8 News Reporter, to talk about our fentanyl test strip distribution and efforts to raise awareness about the dangers of fentanyl. Scott was also recently interviewed for two Ideastream stories, one on the opioid crisis and another on the rising suicide rates in Cuyahoga County.

A promotional poster for the 'Save the Date!' Roads to Recovery '19 Conference. The background features a scenic view of a road winding through a valley with mountains in the distance under a blue sky. The text is prominently displayed in red and white. At the bottom right, there is a logo for ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug, Addiction & Mental Health Services) Board of Cuyahoga County, celebrating 10 years (2009-2019).

Save the Date!

Roads to Recovery '19 Conference
Monday, Oct. 21, 2019 | 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Cleveland Airport Marriott, West 150th Street

Celebrating 10 Years
2009-2019
ADAMHS
BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY
ALCOHOL, DRUG, ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

ADAMHS Board and Partners Raising Awareness About Fentanyl

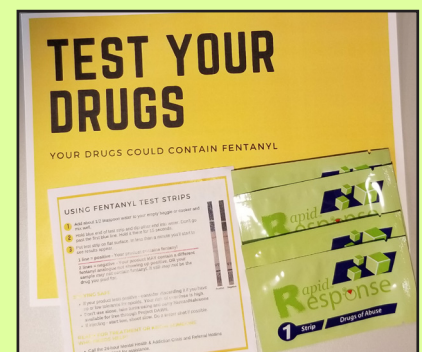
Fentanyl, a deadly synthetic opioid that is 50 times more powerful than morphine, is the leading cause of drug overdoses and overdose deaths in Cuyahoga County. Fentanyl is now being found in powdered and crack cocaine, meth and heroin. Fentanyl has also been found in illicit pills made to look like OxyContin and Xanax. In May, the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner released a warning to the public about several overdose deaths related to fentanyl in cocaine products. There were close to 20 deaths and half of those deaths were related to fentanyl in cocaine and affected African American males in Cleveland and some inner ring suburbs.

The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County has funded two fentanyl test strip distribution programs through **Circle Health Services** and **Care Alliance Health Center**. Earlier this year, County Executive **Armond Budish** allocated \$15,000 to the ADAMHS Board to purchase test strips to distribute via grassroots efforts. Shortly after Memorial Day, the ADAMHS Board received the test strips and began distributing them. We also purchased a radio campaign on several stations informing the public of the presence and danger of fentanyl in many drugs.

Fentanyl test strips are easy to use and can detect fentanyl in drug residue. Anyone using illicit drugs – heroin, cocaine, crack – can use these strips to see if the drugs they bought contain fentanyl and make an informed decision about using that drug.

We encourage everyone to help us share the message about fentanyl's presence in other drugs and the fentanyl test strip distribution. If you know someone struggling with substance use, make sure they know about fentanyl test strips and Project DAWN. Help us share the message and save lives: *Your drugs may contain fentanyl. Test your drugs, never use alone and carry Naloxone/Narcan.*

Learn more about fentanyl test strips and where to get them at: testyourdrugsc.com. If you are in crisis call the 24-hour mental health and addiction crisis and referral hotline at 216-623-6888.



Fentanyl test strips campaign distribution materials.

Training News

Summer Training Institute Schedule

The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County Training Institute announces its Summer 2019 Workshop Schedule. These workshops are a great way to learn about new topics and earn CEUs/RCHs. The following are this summer's workshops:

July 16: Diversity/Inclusion and Generational Differences

July 18: A Comprehensive Approach to Understanding Grief and Loss

July 25: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in Treatment of Substance Use Disorder

July 26: Incorporating Family in Substance Use Disorder Treatment

August 29: The Science of Supervision & Ethics in the Electronic Age: Standards for Ohio

To view the Summer Workshop Schedule, visit our website: adamhssc.org. If you have questions, contact **Carole Ballard**, Director of Training and Education, at 216-241-3400 ext. 730 or via email to ballard@adamhssc.org.

Staff News

Three New Staff Members Started in June

Christina Bohuslawsky-Brown, Clients Rights Officer II, holds dual Bachelor degrees from Ashland University in Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Administration and Psychology. She also attained her Master of Criminal Justice from Tiffin University. She previously worked at the **Cuyahoga County Corrections Center** as a Mental Health Coordinator. Christina said she looks forward to being there for clients when they really need to be heard.

Christina is very involved in her church community, sorority, and local Ukrainian organizations. She and her husband own a coffee company, Just Brew Coffee, in Medina where they live with their two kids.

She can be reached at 216-241-3400 x. 819 or cbrown@adamhssc.org.



Christina Bohuslawsky-Brown



Erin DiVincenzo, LPCC-S, Children's Behavioral Health Specialist, holds a Bachelor degree from Ohio Wesleyan University in Psychology and Master of School and Community Counseling from the University of Rochester. She is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor with Supervision Designation (LPCC-S).

Erin worked for **Crossroads** the last nine years in several capacities doing early childhood and outpatient work. She was also a Team Leader for the Lake County Trauma Response Team. Erin said she looks forward to being able to work within a larger behavioral health system to bring quality programming to children across Cuyahoga County.

Erin DiVincenzo

She enjoys spending time with family and friends. Erin is also becoming a certified yoga instructor!

She can be reached at 216-241-3400 x. 719 or edivincenzo@adamhssc.org.

Lucrecia Moss, Claims & Membership Specialist, is an accountant with years of billing experience. She is also a certified Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant (CDCA). She comes to us from the **Northern Ohio Recovery Association** (NORA). Lucrecia said she looks forward to working alongside staff members to help advance the Board's mission.

In her free time, she enjoys reading and gardening.

Lucrecia can be reached at 216-241-3400 x. 816 or lmoss@adamhssc.org.

Farewell, Lyn!

At the end of June, **Lyn DeChant**, Claims & Membership Specialist, will retire from the ADAMHS Board after nine years of dedicated service. Thank you for all your hard work over the years! Enjoy your much deserved retirement!

Also, farewell to **Lindsey McMillion**, Adult Behavioral Health Specialist II (Criminal Justice). Good luck in your future endeavors.

Community News

Congratulations, NORA!

The **Northern Ohio Recovery Association** is renovating a former neighborhood center located at 1400 E. 55th Street. Once complete, the building will be home to NORA's offices and will have space for the agency to provide community-based services.

Farewell, Ronna!

Ronna Kaplan, Chair of **The Music Settlement's Center for Music Therapy**, retired at the end of June after over 30 years with The Music Settlement. Thank you for your service and enjoy your retirement!

Talking Faith-based Programming on "Healing the Hurt" Radio Show



Marsha Blanks (left), Program Director, NAMI Greater Cleveland and Rev. Brenda Ware-Abrams (right), Faith-Based Outreach Committee member, were recently on the radio show "Healing the Hurt" on WERE-AM 1490.

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Lucrecia Moss