

Breaking the Chains of Addiction Mural Unveiled

The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County unveiled its “**Treatment Works... People Recover**” mural to visually promote prevention and education about the dangers of heroin and other drugs, reduce the stigma of seeking treatment, start public discussion, and celebrate recovery through public art.



The "Treatment Works... People Recover: Breaking the Chains of Addiction" Mural was unveiled at 16021 Puritas Avenue on July 17.

This mural is the culmination of a prevention pilot program funded by the ADAMHS Board and led by **Rickey Lewis** of Lewis Art called “*I Care About My Life and I Care About Your Life.*” The program was targeted to young adults ages 18-28 and had ten participants, six of whom are in treatment for heroin addiction. The project engaged core participants with individual treatment, group therapy and in mural workshops to help the individuals abstain and continue in recovery from addiction.

Scott S. Osiecki, Chief Executive Officer

of the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County explained, “The idea behind this mural is to start conversations about addiction and recovery, and hopefully spur solutions to society-wide challenges, especially the current opioid crisis. Public art can evoke dialogue, inspire change and empower individuals both living in recovery and with addictions. We know that treatment works and people recover. We want the community to know that too!” The building owner, Stephanie Lorenzi, shared a message of strength and hope. She said the mural should be “A catalyst that moves people to break the chains of addiction holding them back, bring them clarity and show them that they DO have the STRENGTH to beat this disease.”

Stand Up Together Raises Suicide Prevention Funds

Some 60 comedians took the stage on Saturday, July 21 to shine light on suicide awareness and raise funds for local and statewide suicide prevention programming. The event, **Stand Up Together: An Evening Honoring Nick Ramsey**, was organized by family and friends of Nick Ramsey, a local comedian who died by suicide earlier this year.



One of 60 comedians takes the stage to help raise funds for suicide prevention at the Stand Up Together Ohio Comedy Show

The ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County, the **Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation**, and **Comedy Connected** sponsored the show, which aimed to help change the conversation surrounding mental health and suicide. It was hosted at Lakewood Civic Auditorium and drew some **200 attendees**.

ADAMHS Board Out and About



ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County Co-Sponsored the City Club Forum: Ohio's Next Step to Modernize Medicaid: The Behavioral Health Redesign 6.29.18. Marlene Harris Taylor (left) moderated a discussion with Barbara Sears (right) Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid and Tracy J. Plouck (center), Director, Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services about the changing landscape of behavioral health care



Senator Sherrod Brown visited the Women's Recovery Center on June 29, 2018 to help dedicate its renovated facility and celebrate its expanded services. Scott S. Osiecki, ADAMHS Board CEO and Katie Kern-Pilch, ADAMHS Board member attended this event.



ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County Announces New Slate of Officers and Bids Farewell to Longtime Board Member, Ericka L. Thoms

The Board of Directors announced its new leadership positions at the June 27th General Meeting, which was held at the Women's Recovery Center. **Reverend Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr.** was elected as the new Board Chair. Former Board Chair, **Eugenia Kirkland, LSW, MSSA, CDCA** is now serving as the Vice Chair and **J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.** is now serving as the Second Vice Chair.

We would like to thank Mrs. Kirkland for her tireless service as Board Chair for the past four years and wish Rev. Gohlstin all the best in his new position.



(l-r): J. Robert Fowler, Second Vice Chair; Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., Chair; Eugenia Kirkland, Vice Chair and Scott S. Osiecki, CEO

Ms. Ericka Thoms, whose term ended June 30, 2018, was honored at the June 27, 2018 General Board Meeting.

Ms. Thoms faithfully served as an ADAMHS Board member since the consolidation of the two Boards in 2009. She also served as a Board member on the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board for several years before the merger. She received a plaque from the ADAMHS Board in appreciation for her service and contributions to the behavioral health system.



Congratulations to Ericka Thoms for concluding her final term with the Board. Thank you to Ericka for her many years of service!

CWRU Cuyahoga County Crisis Response Services Needs Assessment Results

Data from the **Cuyahoga County Crisis Response Services Needs Assessment** was presented to the Board's Joint Planning and Finance Committee on July 18, 2018. Conducted by **Case Western Reserve University's Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education**, the assessment utilized both qualitative (focus groups and interviews) and quantitative (online surveys) data to gain insight about crisis services, identify barriers and impediments in meeting the needs of people in crisis, and recognize the successes of the current crisis system.

Some findings of interest included the following:

- Recognized the importance of **Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT)** officers responding to crises and recommended that all officers within Cuyahoga County receive such training.
- Crisis response is merely a bandage/revolving door for high risk/chronic utilizers, which account for a large percentage of crisis phone calls. Appropriate types and levels of care need to be established for these individuals.
- While the importance of addressing cultural and linguistic barriers was acknowledged, challenges still need to be overcome including translators with an understanding of mental health issues.
- Successful initiatives include the **Provider Emergency Services Program (PESP)**, specialty courts, CIT law enforcement, and **Mobile Crisis Team (MCT)** phone responses and follow up.

The CWRU assessment places **FrontLine Services**, the Board's crisis service provider, at the forefront of crisis response. FrontLine Services representatives were present at the Board meeting and shared recent data, which included:

- MCT has been assessing individuals at high risk for suicide everyday over the past 20 years, yet it averages less than 1 person per year that dies by suicide within 30 days of its assessment.
- Very few of the more than 40,000 people assessed by the Mobile Crisis Team (2000 x 20 years) have subsequently died by suicide.

Client Rights Report Presented at Joint Planning & Finance Committee Meeting

Bill Hebble, MSW, Client Rights Officer II, gave a report depicting 2017 calendar year data collected by the **Clients Rights Division** at the July 18, Joint Planning and Finance Committee meeting. The report, which represents complaints and grievances data from the ADAMHS Board and its 44 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Mental Health agencies, noted that the ADAMHS Board received 1,574 calls (which included inquiries and grievances/complaints) during the period between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017. The majority of calls (956), came from clients, while the second-highest number (285) originated from family and friends.

For more information, contact **Bill Hebble** at 216.241.3400, ext. 825 or hebble@adamhsc.org. The report will also be available on the Board's website.

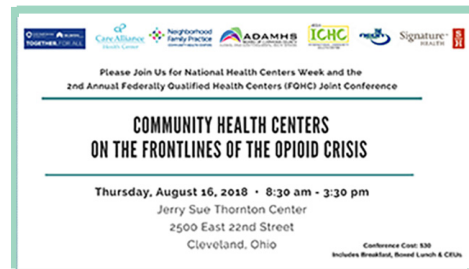
Thursday, August 16, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm | Jerry Sue Thornton Center

Join us for the **2nd Annual National Health Centers Week Conference on August 16, 2018**. Learn about the critical role Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) play in addressing opiate and other substance abuse issues as providers on the frontlines of the opioid crisis. Identify community resources and evidence-based approaches for harm reduction, treatment and recovery support to improve patient/client care and outcomes. Hear from primary and specialty care clinicians, public health specialists, community advocates, and individuals in recovery.

Keynote speakers are **Judge David Matia**, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas and **Dr. Ted Parran**, Addiction Medicine and Psychiatry specialist at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. There will be two **panels: Different Approaches to Addiction Therapy and Harm Reduction Strategies**. We will also hear from members of the **National Association of Community Health Centers** and a person living in recovery from opioid addiction.

5.25 CEUs/RCHs will be provided by the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County, no partial credits can be issued.

Tickets are \$30.00 and include continental breakfast and boxed lunch. Registration information can be found on our website **www.adamhsc.org**.



Ohio's 2018 Recovery Conference
October 1-2 at Hyatt Regency in Columbus
oacbha.org

Inter-faith Breakfast Aims to Raise Awareness of Faith-Based Outreach Initiative Program and Attract Participants

In an effort to reach all faiths and share how the Board's **Faith-Based Outreach Initiative Program** can assist with behavioral health/addiction issues within their organizations, the Board is sponsoring an Inter-Faith Breakfast on **Monday, September 17, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.** at the Ariel International Center.

Open to faith-based providers and leaders of all faiths in the community, the forum provides an opportunity to hear the needs of the faith community directly from faith leaders, and attract additional participants to the Board's Faith-Based Outreach Initiative Program.

Invitations are being sent to the faith-based community and attendance is limited. For more information, contact **Starlette Sizemore-Rice**, Director of Special Projects at 216-241-3400 or sizemore-rice@adamhsc.org.

Upcoming Events

run, jane, run
Women's Golf Tournament
August 3 at Cherokee Hills Golf Course
womensctr.org

National Association of Social Workers Ohio Chapter
Recovery, Advocacy & Voting
August 6, 2018 5:00-7:00 at the East Cleveland Public Library
naswoh.site-ym.com

Recovery Resources
Run For Recovery
August 18
 at Cleveland MetroParks Zoo
recres.org/RunforRecovery

U.S. District Attorney's Opioid Conference
September 6
 at the Intercontinental Hotel
<http://survey.clevelandclinic.org/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=m6Lom8mLK>

2018 VA Mental Health Summit
September 7, 2018 8:00-4:00
 at Embassy Suites Cleveland/Independence
www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545a4a623abfe3-2018

The Edna House
Edna House Race to the Lake
September 14 at Edgewater
ednhouse.org

NAMI Greater Cleveland
NAMIWalks Cleveland
September 15 at Edgewater
namigreatercleveland.org

6th Annual Celebrating Recovery Walk/Run
September 16 at 9:00 a.m.
Lower Pavilion at Edgewater Park
hermescleland.com/roadracing/events/recovery.asp

Northeast Ohio Recovery Residence Network (NEORRN) Symposium
 "Getting to Know Us: Recovery Housing in Northeast Ohio"
September 19, 2018 8:30-12:30
neornn.org

Circle Health Services and The Centers for Families and Children
Annual Benefit Luncheon
October 16, 2018 11:30-1:00
 at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott at Key Center
circlehealthservices.org
thecentersohio.org

ADAMHS Board Welcomes New Employees

Please join us in welcoming the newest ADAMHS Board employees:

Natalie Schrimpf, *External Affairs Officer*

Natalie Schrimpf joined the ADAMHS Board in July as External Affairs Officer. She most recently served as Marketing and Development Manager at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Cleveland. Her professional background includes experience in public relations, journalism, media relations, radio production, social media, grant writing and development.



Natalie Schrimpf

Natalie received a bachelor's degree in Communications from Cleveland State University. When asked about her work, Natalie said, "I am driven by a desire to make a difference and help others in need. I look forward to working with the wonderful ADAMHS Board staff and volunteers to promote the organization's mission and efforts in helping community members receive mental health and addiction treatment and recovery services that enhance and save lives."

Natalie can be reached at 216-241-3400, ext. 827 or via email at schrimpf@adamhsc.org.

Madison Scagnetti, *Community Relations and Engagement Specialist, AmeriCorps VISTA*

Madison Scagnetti is an AmeriCorps VISTA member serving a one-year term with the Board on behalf of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA). She is working to strengthen community efforts to combat the opioid epidemic.



Madison Scagnetti

Madison is a recent graduate of Cleveland State University (CSU) where she received two undergraduate degrees in nonprofit administration and journalism/promotional communication. She is earning her Master of Nonprofit Administration and Leadership (MNAL) also from CSU. Her work experience is with a local nonprofit, The Fund for Our Economic Future, where she did communications and development work.

Madison can be reached at 216-363-1051 or via email at scagnetti@adamhsc.org.

Gwendolyn A. Howard Appointed to Board

Ms. Gwendolyn A. Howard was sworn in as the newest ADAMHS Board member at the General Board Meeting on July 25, 2018. Ms. Howard is a Licensed Social Worker and an instructor at the high school and college levels. Her community affiliations include service as the Director of Christian Education and the Director of the Ministry of Hope at her church, as well as participation on several boards, including the ADAMHS Board's Faith-based Outreach Committee.

Join us in welcoming Ms. Gwendolyn A. Howard!



Gwendolyn A. Howard, LSW,
MSSA

Board of Directors

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

Reginald C. Blue, Ph.D.
Elsie Caraballo
Cassi Handler
Gwendolyn A. Howard, LSW, MSSA
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Max M. Rodas, MA
Sharon Rosenbaum, MBA
Hugh B. Shannon
Harvey A. Snider, Esq.
Mary M. Step, Ph.D.

Scott S. Osiecki, CEO



The Board celebrated Michael Baskin (center), retiring Executive Director of NAMI of Greater Cleveland, with a farewell party on July 17. He is joined by (l-r): CEO Scott Osiecki, Tami Fischer, Chief Administrative Officer and Starlette Sizemore-Rice, Director of Special Projects

**"Believe you can and you're
halfway there."
– Theodore Roosevelt**