

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-03-01**

**APPROVAL OF 2023 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 2023 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**, Advocacy Action Agenda takes into action the steps of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Strategic Implementation Plan, which is designed to overlay the bullets above through the lens of DEI; 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 2023 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 2023 Advocacy Action Agenda.
2. The ADAMHS Board of Directors authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to distribute the 2023 Advocacy Action Agenda to the community.

On the motion of Rev. Benjamin F. Gohlstin, Sr., seconded by Sharon Rosenbaum, MBA, the foregoing resolution was adopted.

**AYES:** B. Addison, R. Blue, G. Boehm, B. Gohlstin, P. James-Stewart, M. Rodas,  
S. Rosenbaum, H. Snider

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**DATE ADOPTED:** March 22, 2023

## 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](http://www.adamhsc.org). Be sure to follow us on Social Media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) @ADAMHSBoardCC.



J. Robert Fowler, Ph.D.  
Board Chair

Scott S. Osiecki  
Chief Executive Officer



## 2023 Advocacy Action Agenda

*Art in this booklet was created by Cynthia S.*



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## Overarching Advocacy Objectives for 2023:

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 2023. 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 and are overlaid in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Implementation Plan:**

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.

## Goals:

- ***NEW - Support OhioMHAS and OACBHA's State Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Recommendations.***
- ***NEW - Advocate for Problem Gambling Awareness related to online sports betting and suicide prevention.***
- ***NEW - Support efforts for the development of a behavioral health crisis center with local and state partners.***
- ***NEW - Advocate with providers, partners and OhioMHAS for increased Medicaid rates.***
- ***NEW - Ensure systemwide education and awareness of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative.***

- **Educate all stakeholders about 988**, the new number for the national suicide prevention LifeLine.
- **Increase community-based and grassroots Suicide Prevention Education** and expand Suicide Prevention coalition membership.
- **Support OACBHA's efforts in the modernization of Ohio Revised Code 340.**
- **Advocate for data sharing** with state and local agencies.
- **Collaborate** with OhioMHAS and OACBHA **to expand access to a core safety net of crisis services.**
- **Support co-responder and care response team projects.**

