

Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services

Serving Darke, Miami and Shelby Counties since 1968

MAY 2014

Provider Points

- Approximately 150 supporters attended SafeHaven Inc.'s first "Evening of Impact" fundraiser April 5 in Piqua. Attendees enjoyed dinner, a silent auction, and entertainment from The Eric Jerardi Band. Entertainment was sponsored by Klein, Tomb, and Eberly LLC and Jeremy Tomb. The fundraiser supports the SafeHaven mission of providing educational, social, and vocational support opportunities for adults in need of mental health support across three locations in the Tri-County service region.
- Cynthia Cook has been appointed as the Interim Executive Director for Darke County Recovery Services, Inc. Ms. Cook has been with the agency since 1995 and is currently the Associate Director and the supervisor for all of the agency's Substance Abuse Treatment Providers. Please join us in welcoming Ms. Cook to her new position.

Grant to fund youth resiliency in Piqua schools

Piqua City Schools and project partners were notified of a \$35,000 grant awarded April 1 by the Office of Ohio First Lady Karen W. Kasich, in partnership with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based Initiatives and the Departments of Aging, Job and Family Services, and Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Piqua school officials and other grant partners recorded a video roundtable April 4 to discuss the program, titled "Building Resilient Youth in Piqua City Schools." The video will air on Piqua TV5 and will be available through the Piqua school website.

The grant was written by the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services on behalf of the school district. The school will contract with Miami County Recovery Council to provide a prevention specialist to deliver Botvin LifeSkills curriculum to all fifth and sixth grade students in the Piqua schools during the 2014-15 school year.

Also supporting the grant is the Piqua Juvenile Education Fund, and the Piqua Police Department. Piqua Police Chief Bruce Jamison is the uncompensated Executive Director of the PJEF.



(Left to right) Kim Piper, Piqua City Schools Director of Student Services; Jodi Long, Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services Director of Clinical Services and Evaluation; Bruce Jamison, Piqua Chief of Police; Rick Hanes, Piqua City Schools Superintendent. The panel taped a segment to air on Piqua TV5

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Provider Points

Miami County Recovery Council expands

In an effort to improve access and availability of client care, Miami County Recovery Council has opened an office in Piqua.

In March, MCRC began providing services at the UVMC Outpatient facility located on North Looney Road. Through a collaborative grant from the UVMC Community Benefit Fund with Samaritan Behavioral Health, Inc. and Upper Valley Medical Center, MCRC has placed licensed clinicians in a suite of offices with a primary care physician to begin offering integrated care.

In keeping with the Tri-County Board's strategic Plan and SAMHSA's "Description of a Modern Behavioral Health System" this co-location approach will allow for seamless consultation and referral between primary healthcare (physical medicine) and behavioral healthcare (mental health and substance abuse). Over the course of time, clients will be able to address their healthcare needs in a more holistic fashion. |

Tri-County Board resolution asserts local priorities

At its March 19, 2014, meeting, the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services passed a resolution to express "deep concern about the lack of consideration for local" assessment, planning, contracting, funding, monitoring and evaluating of mental health and addiction services in Darke, Miami and Shelby counties.

The resolution is in response to proposed funding shifts by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services prompted by Governor John Kasich's Mid-Biennium Review budget adjustments. OMHAS has indicated it will re-allocate a significant amount of funds planned by local boards for local priorities into projects of statewide scope.

Tri-County Board Executive Director Mark McDaniel, in a letter accompanying the resolution sent to legislators representing the three counties, said, "We are alarmed at the efforts underway by OMHAS to redirect resources away from these locally driven initiatives to state priorities."

McDaniel pointed to a number of initiatives in late-stage planning or already under way that are at risk of curtailment if the OMHAS funding shifts occur. Local priorities relate to opiate programming such as detox and residential programming, Vivitrol and Narcan projects, and greater access to physicians.

According to McDaniel, local boards have learned that the redistribution would be used to purchase electronic health records software for State Hospitals; fund statewide prevention efforts above and beyond statewide efforts funded by casino revenue sharing; and use \$30 million to create five regional crisis stabilization units. He said it is not clear how these projects would be funded beyond Fiscal Year 2015.

In the letter to legislators, McDaniel identified other local priorities at risk that have reduced the use of State Hospital bed days. "These local programs have reduced civil bed usage of the State Hospital by 860 bed days in FY13 and 733 bed days so far in FY14," McDaniel said. "That's over \$1 million less of state hospital bed days used in the past two years by the Tri-

County area."

McDaniel added: "This is an excellent example of why local behavioral health resources should be increased and supported and not reduced or reprioritized. And by the way, OMHAS gets to enjoy the significant savings as a result of our local work; we receive none of it!"

The State of Ohio operates under a two-year,

or biennial, budget. Historically, the Mid-Biennium review, or MBR, has been a housekeeping measure to correct errors or make minor adjustments to the two-year budget. However, in recent years the MBR has become a significant budgeting process unto its own. In March, Gov. Kasich introduced House Bill 472, a 1600-page bill that members of the Ohio House are considering splitting into as many as 20 separate bills. |



Tri-County Board
of Recovery & Mental Health Services

1100 Wayne Street | Suite 4000 | Troy, OH 45373 | (937) 335-7727 | 1-800-589-2853 | FAX (937) 335-8816

RESOLUTION: For continued local control of community mental health and addiction services assessing, planning, contracting, funding, monitoring, and evaluating.

WHEREAS, the members of the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services are committed to assuring that residents of Darke, Miami and Shelby counties live healthier lives through access to quality mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and support services; and

WHEREAS, historically local volunteer citizens of the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services have identified our local needs and empowered community action through local partnerships with schools, courts, county commissioners, human service agencies, and other stakeholders on issues concerning mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery supports to provide the services necessary to meet Darke, Miami and Shelby counties' needs; and

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services being closest to the people in need of mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery supports in Darke, Miami and Shelby counties are the most accountable level of government and we will be held responsible for any decisions we make; and

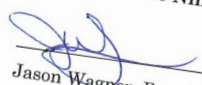
WHEREAS, in Chapter 340 of the Ohio Revised Code, local ADAMH Boards have both the right and responsibility to assess the community addiction and mental health needs, evaluate strengths and challenges, and set priorities for community addiction and mental health services; and

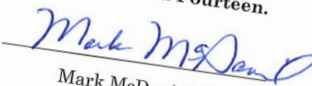
WHEREAS, attempts are being made at the Executive level to restrict funding by reprioritizing local investment and program decisions for Darke, Miami and Shelby counties; and

WHEREAS, behavioral health care services are best planned for, managed, and delivered locally, Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services opposes any action which would curb, limit, or remove local authority for mental health and addiction services from the volunteer citizen controlled Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services on behalf of Darke, Miami and Shelby counties urge the Ohio General Assembly to keep intact local control, and not allow the targeting of state funds that were appropriated to meet the needs of our local citizens.

Ratified on the Nineteenth Day of March, Two Thousand and Fourteen.


Jason Wagner, Board Chair


Mark McDaniel, Executive Director

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LifeSkills (continued from Page 1)

Resiliency is a term used in behavioral health and prevention to describe a broad set of skills, behaviors, attitudes and information that enables individuals to make healthy choices even when faced with pressures from media, marketers, peers and others to use harmful substances such as tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs.

"Resiliency goes beyond 'just say no' kinds of programming," said Brad Reed, the Tri-County Board's Director of Community Resource Development and lead author of the grant. "Resiliency explores why to say no, and how to say no, and how to be confident and assertive about saying no. Developing resiliency also develops positive behaviors and attitudes for social interaction. It's a skill set that can be used for a lifetime."

Ideal Fit

According to Jodi Long, the Tri-County Board's Director of Clinical Services and Evaluation, the LifeSkills program is an ideal fit. "After talking to Bruce Jamison and Kim Piper from the school district and hearing their ideas about moving toward evidence-based practice in school prevention activities, this came along at exactly the right time," she said. Long was listening to a teleconference about Governor John Kasich's "Start Talking" programs for youth drug prevention, part of which was the grant funding opportunity, when she heard Jamison's voice on the conference call asking a question. Long's follow-up call to Jamison started the conversation with the schools and the decision to pursue the grant.

Chief Jamison envisions a consistent message throughout the students' school, home and online environments. "We need something that incorporates parents - there are a lot of parents that really care and want to deliver the right message to their children and just don't know how," Jamison said during the TV taping.

"We recognize there are partners in the prevention programs within the schools," Jamison continued. "Wouldn't it be cool if there was something that could go right into the curriculum... more of an integrated message that is a lot of places - in the classroom, in the home, in the media, on FaceBook, on Twitter - wherever they are getting their messages, what if we could have the same right message all those places? And all of a sudden this initiative came out of the state called 'Start Talking' ... and it was everything that we've been working towards, including a funding mechanism."

All the Pieces

Long said that from her meeting with the PJEF, they had all the pieces to "begin putting together what was Bruce's dream - to implement evidence-based practice prevention services in place of D.A.R.E." Long explained that "evidence-based practices" are programs that are supported by research to have proven outcomes, "that they change the choices our youth make around drugs, alcohol, violence and other social issues."

Revamp and Revitalize

Superintendent Hanes explained that the "D.A.R.E. program was a phenomenal program that was serving students well, but as we continue to move, things change. What [Chief Jamison and I] talked about was how to transition a program. What excites me ... is that this does provide a mechanism for us to be able to shift gears for better meeting the needs of students today. We were working from a curriculum for D.A.R.E. that was quite old, and it was time to revamp and revitalize."

The eight Botvin LifeSkills modules in the middle school curriculum will be embedded into the Piqua schools "Specials" rotation. Kim Piper explained that the Specials are subjects such as Physical Education, Art, Music, "so this will be added into that rotation." She added that school officials "are excited about the parent component and the teacher component." Part of the grant-funded activities is to train teachers and counselors in the LifeSkills curriculum.

Community-Wide Approach

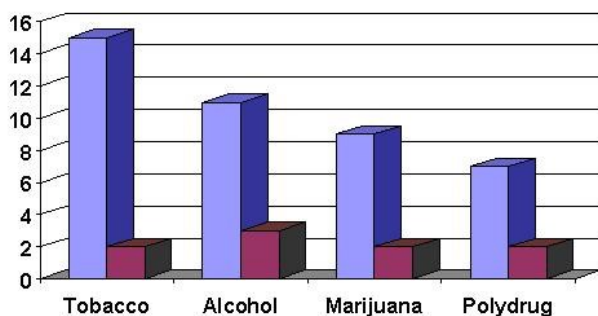
Jamison said the grant-funded program "lays some groundwork - to me it's just the basis for a community-wide approach." Jamison said, "We have a bunch of drug abuse in Piqua. It's one of our biggest problems. It's not something we can arrest our way out of. It's probably not even something we can treat ourselves out of. What if we could do some social norming that made the whole community look at some of these issues differently?"

Jamison added that "this lays the groundwork to begin bringing in some faith-based initiatives, to expand to other grade levels, and we could look at any neat ideas anybody might have." He emphasized that a systematic approach is needed so that different groups aren't duplicating efforts.

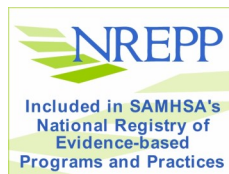
Hanes said the \$35,000 grant provides a "catalyst for all of us to start working together. We've been strong partners with the Police Department. We're looking forward to bringing the Tri-County Board into working more with us and becoming even more of a partner in offering good programming for our students. That's what this is all about." |



Follow-up Results from 4 Published Studies
(8th grade drug use and 12th grade polydrug use)

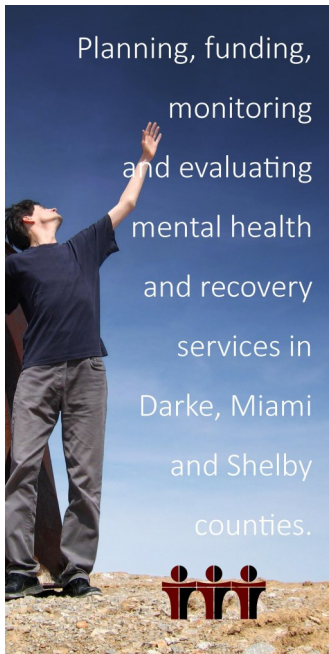


Botvin LifeSkills Training's effectiveness is well-documented by research, and is included in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices.



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1100 Wayne St., Suite 4000
Troy, OH 45373
937-335-7727
www.mdsadamhs.mh.state.oh.us



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May is Mental Health Month

Mental Health America, a community-based network dedicated to helping all Americans achieve wellness by living mentally healthier lives, celebrates May as Mental Health Month.

A variety of public information activities and promotions are planned.

Keep up with Mental Health Month at MentalHealthAmerica.net or the Tri-County Board's website.

Follow on Twitter with hashtag #mhmonth2014 |

