



Staff Updates: August 2024

New Initiatives

- Board staff worked with the Athens County Foundation and HAPCAP on their funding application for an emergency shelter in Athens county.
- Board staff along with the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the Ohio Children's Alliance have scheduled an initial informational session to discuss youth behavioral respite models with local providers. This meeting will be held Sept 4th.

Training/Staff Development

- Marissa was re-certified in Mental Health First Aid on June 30 by Ruth Russell and Janice Wright of NAMI Athens.
- Marissa began attending the three-part virtual Morning Coffee Break series focused on Gabapentin misuse and prevention hosted by Ohio University's Rural Communities Opioid Response Program.
- Diane attended the Board Association membership meeting. Director Cornyn attended and provided updates. Diane also attended trainings on "Cracking the Code: Unraveling School Avoidance for Classroom Teachers" and "Recovery Oriented Systems of Care".
- Kim C. attended "Eviction Prevention: Strategies for Supporting Individuals with Serious Mental Illness" and "Substance Use Disorders and Public Housing and Serious Mental Illness: Practical Recommendations for Housing Providers" both trainings were hosted by SAMHSA.
- Diane and Svea attended a Small Communities Big Impact Summit in Marietta on August 20th. The summit explored topics related to transformational projects in Southeast Ohio communities and provided information that will be useful for development of the Woods at Dairy Lane housing project.

Grant Management and Planning

- Staff aided coalitions in utilizing nearly \$14,000 in SOS funding to support recovery initiatives and Overdose Awareness Day events in all three counties.
- Board staff held monthly meetings with HHC, HRS and ISBH.

Collaboration and Relationship Building

- Marissa distributed 988, LocalHelpNow, and Crisis Text Line resources at the Vinton County Health Fair at Vinton County High School on August 3.
- Marissa partnered with HRS to have the Hocking County Prevention & Recovery Task Force distribute resources at the Logan Church of the Nazarene's back-to-school giveaway on August 10.
- Amanda, Kim R., and Marissa distributed 988, LocalHelpNow, and Crisis Text Line resources and set up the Board's coloring mural at the Athens County Back-to-School Bash on Nelsonville's square on July 31.
- Marissa attended the virtual Appalachian Ohio Suicide Prevention Alliance hosted by representatives at the Chillicothe VA on August 7.
- Board staff met with Jennifer Lackey, Psychologist at Hopewell Health Centers, to learn about the psychologists on staff at HHC and the skills and expertise they bring to the

network of care. HHC serves as a practicum site for psychology residents where they typically host 4-8 students across a number of clinical settings.

- Diane attended Family and Children First Council meetings in Hocking and Athens counties, and the Hocking County Common Pleas Drug Court graduation; there were six graduates.
- Diane participated in a conversation with staff from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Region 5 that was hosted by Hocking Valley Community Hospital.
- Kim C. attended a Vinton Co. AA resource meeting held 8/15/24 in McArthur.
- Kim C. continues to serve on the Athens Family and Children First Service Mechanism Workgroup, this group's purpose is to review and update the current Family and Children First Council's Service Coordination Mechanism. This document was last edited in 2018.

Care Coordination

- Kim C. continues to work closely with community mental health providers, Adam & Amanda Respite house and Appalachian Behavioral Health staff to assist in care coordination and discharge needs. Kim C. provides guardianship navigation and group home placement assistance.
- Svea, Sherri, and tbd Solutions participated in the Crisis Partnership meetings in Athens, Hocking, and Vinton Counties on August 14th. The meetings were held to discuss agencies sharing outcome data, collectively identify system improvement opportunities and collaboratively offer solutions to improve the crisis system and better serve their counties.

Operations

- Marissa and Svea began the application process and review of potential candidates for an AmeriCorps COMCorps member to support outreach efforts at the Board.
- Diane, Svea and Amanda met with Reed and Bauer to review the Board's insurance coverage.