



Summary of MHRBEO Accomplishments from 2017-2021

The Mental Health and Recovery Board of Erie and Ottawa Counties (“Board”) plans, funds, directs and monitors a dynamic network that drives a continuum of behavioral health services in a relentless pursuit of person-centered wellness and a healthy community.

For the past four years, the Board has taken the leadership role in the identification, planning, and implementation of for mental health and addiction services in Erie and Ottawa Counties. To ensure that services are available to meet the needs of the community, the Board has utilized a process consisting of Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) and strategic planning exercises.

In collaboration with the University of Akron, Criminal Justice Coordination Center for Excellence, our Board, with significant, diverse stakeholder input, completed a total of four (4) Sequential Intercept Mappings (SIM): one for mental illness and one for substance use disorders (SUD) for each county. These evidence-based exercises detail how individuals with mental health and substance use disorders come into contact with, and move through, the criminal justice system. The results of these SIMS enabled the Board to identify resources and gaps in services at each intercept and develop targeted action plans.

In addition, two strategic planning exercises were completed that consisted of diverse, significant stakeholder input, community forums and data collection and analysis. Both strategic plans were adopted by unanimous vote by the Board. As a result of executing the plans from these SIM and strategic planning exercises, there have been significant improvements in the mental health and addiction services available to both counties, many of which are highlighted below.

SERVICES TO YOUTH

Evidence-based Prevention, Intervention and Treatment

- The Board allocated new funding whereby school districts submit applications describing evidence-based services that results in \$4,000 plus \$5.00 for every student in the district.
 - FY20 – \$195,000 allocated for 18 schools in Erie and Ottawa Counties impacting 9002 students
 - FY21 – \$151,500 allocated for 15 schools impacting 8713 students
 - FY 21 - \$210,000 earmarked for partnerships with 9 area schools for prevention in grades K–12

Family and Children First Council

- FY21 Executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Erie County Family and Children First Council to allocate \$50,000 toward the annual salary of a Licensed Social Worker to work with multi-system youth
- FY21 – Executed an MOU with Ottawa County Family and Children First Council to provide \$25,000 for WRAP services to families

Grandparents/Guardians

- GRANDlove Program – Contributed \$92,000 for Ottawa County case management services provided to guardians (mainly grandparents) to assist them with maneuvering through the public service system to get needed support for themselves and children. Support groups for guardians and for children

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES

Continuum of Care services

The continuum of care involves an integrated system of care that guides and tracks client care over time through a comprehensive array of mental health and addiction treatment services. Spanning all the levels of intensity of care, the levels for each client will vary depending on their unique recovery needs. Continuum of care services currently funded by the Board include:

- Firelands and Bayshore continuum of care contracts
- Partial hospitalization program established for those with substance use disorder
- Increased peer supporter availability to 24/7 for Firelands emergency room due to overdoses
- Increased the number of peer supporters trained and available

Detox Services

- \$500,000 capital funding provided to Erie County Health Department for building the detox unit
- FY20 and 21 – \$40,000 allocated to cover full per diem for detox services
- Executed regional board partnerships to provide detox services to Erie and Ottawa County residents at no cost in Findlay, Lima and Toledo.

Recovery Housing

- The Board pays a full per diem for Erie and Ottawa residents at the following facilities:
 - Light House Sober Living
 - Volunteers of Ohio
 - Road to Hope – Becky’s House
- \$100,000 in capital funding approved for Road to Hope for 16 beds for men’s recovery housing program in Erie County with an anticipated opening date of June 2021

Specialized Dockets

- The Board actively participated in specialty docket planning for certification from the Ohio Supreme Court in Erie County.
 - Erie County Drug Court certified by the Ohio Supreme Court
 - Family Dependency Treatment Court certified by the Ohio Supreme Court
- \$200,000 allocated for Erie County Drug Court drug testing
- \$80,000 allocated for Ottawa County Drug Court drug testing

MENTAL HEALTH

Continuum of Care services

The continuum of care involves an integrated system of care that guides and tracks client care over time through a comprehensive array of mental health treatment services. Spanning all the levels of intensity of care, the levels for each client will vary depending on their unique recovery needs.

- Expanded contracts with Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services and Bayshore Counseling Services

Alternative to jail and hospitalization

- Established Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program in Ottawa County through Probate Court

Adult Care Facilities and Independent Living

Rent supplemented by the Board for the following residential options:

- 33 Apartment rental placements
- 20 Adult Care Facility Beds (10 in Erie County and 10 in Ottawa County)
- Alternative placements such as nursing homes and out-of-county group home placements

Peer Run Organizations (PRO)

Contractors provide life-long learning opportunities for individuals with mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders)

- Funding provided to Erie Shore Network to hire a part-time peer supporter to facilitate a number of PRO services for members with mental health issues.
- Oak House relocated so that there is more space for consumer participation. At the direction of the MHRBEO, Oak House is also moving to an OhioMHAS supported PRO model
- Provided \$40,000 in capital funding to Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center and also assisted with application for obtaining state funding from OhioMHAS for construction on the existing building to, among other things, open the third floor, install an elevator to make the building handicap accessible and accommodate services for adolescents.

JAIL SERVICES

Mental health and substance use disorder services

The Board and OhioMHAS contribute over \$600,000 for services for jail inmates.

- Inmate Assessments
- Case management for mental health services (40 hrs. Erie County/24 hrs. Ottawa County)
- Case management services for substance use disorders (40 hrs. Erie County/24 hrs. Ottawa County)
- Reimbursement of cost for psychotropic medications
- Fund nurses to assess and administer Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Fund purchase of Vivitrol and Vivitrol injections for inmates
- Fund Jail nurses

TRAINING

Suicide Prevention Training – Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)

- FY19 – trained approximately 800 individuals in the schools
- FY20 – trained approximately 308 in the schools

40 Hour Crisis Intervention Team training (CIT) for first responders

- FY19 – Trained 54 first responders
- FY20 – Trained 51 first responders

PENDING INITIATIVES

Strategic plan partnerships – \$1 million dollars in Board funding for community entities who can assist in meeting the Board's 2020–2022 strategic plan goals

Mental Health Law Enforcement partnership – The Board, Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services (FCRS), Erie County Sheriff's Office and Ottawa County Sheriff's Office and Bowling Green State University are working collaboratively to implement a wellness check program for those consumers who have repeated admissions to the hospital and/or jail. The goal is to identify and address both risk and protective factors and provide for client care and safety in the least restrictive setting.

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program for Erie County – Evidence-based, outpatient commitment model to reduce incarcerations and hospitalizations. Board funding is available.