

Local Community Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Boards

*Providing Hope. Improving Health. Empowering Individuals.
Creating Healthy and Safe Communities.*

Ohio's Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Boards are the "HUB" of the local Recovery-Oriented System of Care. Boards engage local partners to educate, advocate, coordinate, and facilitate the programs, services, and supports needed for individuals, families, and communities. In order to meet their statutory duties, Boards are responsible for the following:

Services to clients and families:

Complete Continuum of Care: As required by HB 483, Boards assess community needs, identify and develop programs and services to meet those needs, and evaluate those programs and services. Boards, either directly or by contract, ensure access to the following services and supports as they work to optimize the ability of clients and families to live healthy and full lives as contributing members of their local communities.

- ◇ Prevention and wellness programs
- ◇ Crisis services
- ◇ Treatment services
- ◇ Recovery supports, including housing, employment supports, and peer supports

Boards are also directly responsible for the following:

Client Protection: Boards protect and enhance the rights of individuals with a mental illness and/or addiction, promoting clients rights by:

- ◇ Investigating abuse and neglect allegations and complaints
- ◇ Responding to clients rights complaints and grievances

Care Coordination: Boards ensure that clients are served in the most appropriate and least restrictive environment through:

- ◇ Public and private hospital utilization review/ management
- ◇ Clinical case consultation
- ◇ Hospital discharge planning
- ◇ Review and planning for residential placement
- ◇ Outpatient and inpatient commitments
- ◇ Reentry and criminal justice planning
- ◇ Forensic tracking and monitoring
- ◇ Residency determinations

Housing Development/Management: Boards work to provide adequate housing (recovery housing, adult care facilities, group homes, independent living, permanent supportive housing, etc.) for individuals with a mental illness and/or addiction. Boards do this by:

- ◇ Funding housing by blending local, state and federal funds
- ◇ Purchasing/building and/or renovating housing
- ◇ Contracting for housing
- ◇ Providing property management

Community Education and Awareness: Boards provide education and awareness on mental illness and addiction across communities to reduce stigma and remove barriers to care. Types of training provided include:

- ◇ Mental Health First Aid training
- ◇ Crisis Intervention Team training
- ◇ School-Based Prevention Programs

Critical Incident Management: Boards respond to the behavioral health needs in a crisis by:

- ◇ Working with other partners to develop response plans
- ◇ Deploying critical incident responders

Increasing access to services through the effective and efficient use of resources.

Consolidation

There are only 53 Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and/or Mental Health Boards as opposed to 88 which is the norm with other local governments. Since 2006, the number of Boards has gone from 57 to 53, and as of July 1, 2015 Ohio will be down to 52 local Boards.

Inter-Board Collaboration

Boards have a long history of collaborating with one another in order to most efficiently and effectively utilize funding for the purpose of running their local systems of care. Today, 100 percent of all Boards collaborate with other Boards for the purpose of providing services and ensuring a complete continuum of care to meet the mental health and addiction needs of their local citizens. Boards collaborate for the following types of programs and services:

- ◇ Recovery housing, group homes, adult care facilities, and independent living
- ◇ Crisis beds and services, hotlines
- ◇ Inpatient and outpatient detox as well as medication-assisted treatment
- ◇ Residential treatment
- ◇ Forensic monitoring, jail and reentry services
- ◇ Child and adolescent prevention and treatment services
- ◇ Telemedicine

Additionally, to further ensure the effective and efficient administration of their Board, 89 percent of all Boards have administrative agreements with at least one other Board for the purpose of the following types of activities:

- ◇ Enrollment, eligibility verification, and claims processing
- ◇ Audits and other reviews/monitoring functions
- ◇ Grant writing and administration
- ◇ IT functions, such as web services, data-mining, telecommunications, etc.
- ◇ Finances, human resources, and other day-to-day administrative functions



Local Community Collaboration and Coordination

Boards, as the community leaders for mental health and addiction programs, services, and supports, act as the local “HUB” in coordinating with local partners to ensure that local citizens have access to the necessary programs, services, and supports to promote healthy, safe, and drug-free communities. Examples are:

- ◇ Sharing space with other county entities, local NAMIs, consumer and peer support organizations, Suicide Prevention Coalitions, AA and NA meetings, etc.
- ◇ Acting as fiscal agents for local Task Forces, Collaboratives, Family and Children First Councils, consumer and peer support organizations, etc.
- ◇ Coordinating with local courts and jails to support individuals with mental illness and addiction
- ◇ Working with local hospitals, children services, developmental disabilities, schools, and others to maximize services and help individuals in need
- ◇ Working with other local governments and businesses to provide a drug-free and mentally healthy workforce