Ohio’s Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Boards
Community Boards Responding to Community Needs
Ohio’s Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Boards

Ohio’s Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health (ADAMH) Boards are statutorily empowered to plan, develop, fund, administer, and evaluate the local system of mental health and addiction services. Local Boards, governed by volunteer Board members appointed by the state and the county commissioners, do this work with a mix of federal, state, and local funds. Ohio’s 51 Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Boards, covering all 88 counties, provide community members with access to a statutorily defined continuum of care, inclusive of prevention, treatment, and recovery supports in communities throughout the state.

What Boards Do:

As outlined in section 340 of the Ohio Revised Code, ADAMH Boards:

- Establish a unified system of treatment for mentally ill persons and persons with addictions;
- Establish a community support system available for every alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district;
- Protect the personal liberty of mentally ill persons so that they may be treated in the least restrictive environment;
- Encourage the development of high quality, cost effective, and comprehensive services, including culturally sensitive services;
- Foster the development of comprehensive community mental health services, based on recognized local needs, especially for severely mentally disabled children, adolescents, and adults;
- Ensure that services provided meet minimum standards established by the director of mental health and addiction services;
- Promote the delivery of high quality and cost-effective addiction and mental health services;
- Promote the participation of persons receiving mental health services and addiction services in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of these services.
- Administer the county hub program to combat opioid addiction designed to strengthen county and community efforts to prevent and treat opioid addiction in each Ohio county.
Powers and Duties of Local ADAMH Boards

The powers and duties of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Boards are outlined in Ohio Revised Code section 340. As the State’s statutory partner, each ADAMH Board is charged with serving as the community addiction and mental health planning agency for the county or counties under its jurisdiction. Among other responsibilities, the Boards are called upon to:

- Evaluate local mental health and addiction needs;
- Cooperate with community partners to identify strengths and challenges and set local priorities;
- Recruit and promote local financial support from private and public sources;
- Promote, arrange, and implement working agreements with partner agencies; and
- Audit all programs, services, and supports provided under contract with the Board.

**ADAMH Boards work with individuals in recovery, family members, and community partners to respond to community needs.**

**ADAMH Boards ensure that individuals and families effected by mental illness and/or addiction have access to a high-quality, Recovery-Oriented System of Care.**

**ADAMH Boards, as the go-to community experts, serve as the hub of their local communities, facilitating partnerships and relationships with organizations throughout the community representing individuals in recovery, families, law enforcement, criminal justice, faith-based entities, education, child welfare, human services, and more.**

**Local Boards are uniquely positioned to rapidly identify changing community needs, respond to crisis situations, and serve as catalysts for change.**

**Local Boards are able to generate revenue through local levies (77 of 88 counties have levy support for mental health and addiction services). Through partnerships, grants, and other collaborations Boards are able to blend local, state, and federal funds to support community-based programs and services.**

**ADAMH Boards, through strong community partnerships, will continue to lead and advance efforts to ensure Ohio’s communities are healthy, safe, and drug-free, while assuring accountability and effectiveness in client care.**
Treatment Works. People Recover. Recovery Is Beautiful!

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