

Investing in Recovery

Now is Ohio's Time to become a national leader in mental health and recovery research and innovation. The new budget focuses on the DeWine-Husted Administration's dedication to ensuring that those living with mental health and substance use disorders receive effective treatment and achieve long-term recovery so that they can move forward to lead productive, healthy lives.

RecoveryOhio

Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted are focused on ensuring that all Ohioans have access to mental health and addiction treatment services and supports. After taking the oath of office for his first term, Governor DeWine signed an executive order creating the **RecoveryOhio Initiative** to address critical matters concerning mental health and substance misuse prevention, treatment, and recovery support services. Ohio's new operating budget continues this steadfast commitment and strengthens Ohio's behavioral health system so that it is accessible to all Ohioans. The budget also reflects the DeWine-Husted Administration's dedication to assisting schools, law enforcement, and other agencies that are also facing the consequences of this public health crisis.

Crisis Services

Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted want Ohio to lead the nation in the availability of **mental health services and supports**. Approximately $40 million over the biennium will help grow Ohio's local crisis services and infrastructure by addressing locally identified needs and gaps in communities across the state. This

funding will be distributed to local alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health boards to support and grow mobile crisis response services, behavioral health urgent cares, and crisis centers, while also alleviating burdens on local emergency departments and jails.

Ohio's new operating budget provides $46.5 million to fund 988, the new three-digit number that connects callers to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, where compassionate, accessible care and support is available to anyone experiencing mental health-related distress or for those with a loved one who may need crisis support.

Prevention

Enhancing prevention and early identification services are key to building Ohioans' resiliency to risk factors and supporting recovery from mental illness and substance use disorders. A $13.9 million investment in prevention, early intervention activities and suicide prevention, as guided by Ohio's 2020 Suicide Prevention Plan, is focused on increasing the number of Ohioans trained to recognize warning signs and promote protective factors, resiliency, and stigma-reduction, specifically for at-risk groups.

Harm Reduction

Ohio's new operating budget provides continued support for community-based Project DAWN programs and increased naloxone distribution across the state, including continued support for Naloxone.Ohio.gov where any Ohioan can order the lifesaving medication for themselves, someone they know, or their organization. Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided with Naloxone) is a network of local opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution programs.

Treatment

Ohioans with serious mental health issues often interact with multiple support systems, including health care services, behavioral health services, human services, homeless services, and criminal justice services. This budget provides significant investments over the biennium to continue critical mental health initiatives to ensure that Ohioans are healthy and productive members of our workforce. This includes increased investment in multisystem adult collaboration to connect citizens to needed care, recovery support, stable housing, and positive community participation.

This budget will increase the capacity for Ohioans to receive care in their own communities by expanding access to wellness and recovery services. A $21.5

million investment over the biennium to improve coordinated community treatment and provide meaningful employment and recovery supports for Ohioans living with severe mental illness. The new budget also continues Ohio's investment in services for individuals with substance use disorders, so they receive more efficient and timely treatment at emergency departments.

To ensure that support is available for the mental **wellness of Ohio's college and university students**, Ohio will direct $20 million over the biennium for the Mental Health Support Program in higher education. This program allows for the expansion of telehealth options, increased awareness of phone and text care line services, expansion of certified peer educator programs, and direct aid to higher education students who cannot afford care.

Public Safety

Building on the success of the Ohio Department of Public Safety's **Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center** (ONIC), Ohio's new operating budget provides $13.1 million per fiscal year to expand ONIC and to aid more local law enforcement agencies in investigating violent, drug-related crimes through intelligence gathering and forensic evidence examination. This doubling of the support dedicated to ONIC continues the strong partnerships the state has developed with the local law enforcement community.

Innovation

Ohio's new operating budget will also focus on solidifying Ohio as a national leader in **mental health and research innovation.** With a total of $30 million, the DeWine-Husted Administration will launch a new State of Ohio Action for Resiliency (SOAR) Network to strategically research complex and diverse factors related to mental health and substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery; discover innovative strategies that result in improved recovery, health, and wellness for Ohioans; and deploy those strategies in practice, programs, and policy. The SOAR Network will guide mental health best practices to grow and strengthen this important workforce in Ohio.

This summary was compiled by the Ohio Office of Budget and Management. More information is available at obm.ohio.gov.