

INVESTING in Ohio's FUTURE

BUDGET OF THE STATE OF OHIO | FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023

Investing in Ohio's Future: Healthy People

Healthy people lead to renewed communities and a thriving economy.

The health of Ohioans and the health of our state's economy are unquestionably connected. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us directly how physical health, mental health, accessibility to wellness services, and healthcare inequities are intertwined with the health of our economy. Ohio's economy is rebounding because of our focus on keeping residents healthy.

Health Programs

As our economic recovery continues, it is crucial that Ohio builds on its momentum in priority health programs to ensure that Ohio children grow up healthy and that adults are strong and job-ready. The Operating Budget will:

- **Increase funding for Help Me Grow**, Ohio's evidence-based home visiting program. The program serves more than 8,200 families, encouraging early prenatal and well-baby care, as well as parenting education to promote the comprehensive health and development of children. The Budget invests an additional \$1.9 million each fiscal year - for a total investment of **\$41.2 million** in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 - for home visiting services for at-risk, expectant mothers, and families of young children at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Home visiting is proven to reduce infant mortality and promote child development and school readiness.
- **Increase support for the lead hazard control programs, \$25 million**, to make Ohio's homes and communities lead-safe. The Ohio Department of Health will conduct lead hazard control and abatement services on hundreds of Ohio homes, conduct public outreach and education, and increase the number of lead hazard workers through the Lead Worker/Contractor Licensure Repayment Program. A new, statewide Lead-Safe Housing Fund will provide competitive grants to Ohio communities to abate lead hazards in their housing, promoting revitalized, renewed communities.
- **Support the FQHC Primary Care Workforce Initiative, \$4.4 million**, which addresses the need for more qualified health professionals by providing medical, dental, behavioral health, advanced practice nursing, and physician assistant students with clinical rotations in Federally Qualified Health Centers that are recognized as Patient-Centered Medical Homes. Funds are distributed to the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers.
- **Invest \$5.5 million** to improve the health of infants and women. The Governor's Children's Initiative will support the programming of community and local faith-based service providers who provide services and support to pregnant mothers to improve both maternal and infant health outcomes. In addition, the Departments of Health and Medicaid will develop a universal needs assessment for traditionally underserved women to identify and provide needed health and wrap-around supports.

- **Provide \$2.25 million** for housing for pregnant mothers. The Development Services Agency, along with the Department of Health and the Governor's Children's Initiative, will support stable housing initiatives for pregnant mothers to improve maternal and infant health outcomes.
- **Allocate \$1.6 million** for the Technology First Initiative. The Department of Developmental Disabilities will invest in projects to increase technology access for individuals with developmental disabilities through the Technology First Initiative. This initiative strives to use technology to better support individuals with developmental disabilities and ensure they have opportunities to live, work, and thrive in their communities.

Nursing Home Initiatives: Protecting Ohio's Most Vulnerable

This budget includes improvements to Ohio's nursing home and long-term care system including increased oversight and enforcement to ensure the health and safety of older Ohioans. Additionally, this budget will:

- **Invest \$490 million** into quality outcome incentives for Medicaid nursing home services. The Quality Driven Reimbursement structure includes an increase of \$150 million in additional quality incentive payments designed to reward nursing homes for providing high-quality care, based on meaningful, outcome-driven, industry-leading metrics.

Continuing RecoveryOhio

RecoveryOhio is Governor DeWine's initiative to address the crisis of substance use disorders and support the mental health and well-being of Ohio's residents. The goals of the initiative are to create a system to help make treatment available to Ohioans in need, provide support services for those in recovery and their families, and offer direction for the state's prevention and education efforts. These budget highlights underscore the comprehensive, collaborative work that is happening across Ohio's state agencies, boards, and commissions. The investment from the Operating Budget will:

- **Expand early identification programs, \$4.5 million**, to increase screening, provide early intervention, and connect people to treatment.
- **Support forensic services, \$3.5 million**, to reduce the stress on the hospital and criminal justice systems that interact with people with serious mental health issues and expand treatment capacity for those incarcerated with critical mental illnesses by providing access to the medicine they need.
- **Support programs to address disparities and disproportionate negative impacts on minority, poor, and underserved populations, \$3.0 million**, including African Americans, Hispanics and Latinos, immigrant populations, refugee and traumatized groups, and other special communities, including those who are veterans, deaf, hard of hearing, disabled, and elderly,
- **Continue the support of crisis services, \$41 million**, to meet the mental health and substance abuse disorder needs of children, youth, families, and adults.

- **Expand access to the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program, \$29 million**, for all Ohioans. The program provides and promotes tobacco control activities that support the three primary objectives of 1) decreasing the initiation of tobacco use, including e-cigarettes and vaping products; 2) increasing tobacco cessation; 3) protecting Ohioans from exposure to secondhand smoke. Furthermore, the My Life, My Quit youth-centered quit program also seeks to educate Ohio youths of the risks of vaping/e-cigarette use.
- **Fund the expansion of Specialized Dockets, \$10 million**, with new courts that seek to connect individuals with support services around mental health, substance use disorder, trauma care, and other services to better the individual's wellbeing. There are currently 183 specialized court dockets across 57 counties, serving more than 8,000 Ohioans, seeking to ensure public safety by identifying individuals with mental health needs involved in the criminal justice system and supporting them via diversion or linkage to trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and consumer-directed services and supports when appropriate.
- **Fund \$3.25 million** for emergency department diversion and harm reduction efforts. Governor DeWine's RecoveryOhio Initiative will support the continuation of the Emergency Department Comprehensive Care Initiative to enhance Ohio's response to the addiction crisis by creating a comprehensive system of care for patients who present to emergency departments with addiction. In addition, the Governor's RecoveryOhio Initiative will support local health providers' harm reduction efforts for accidental drug overdose rates and deaths.

Mental Health Collaboration Expansions

People with serious mental health issues often interact with multiple systems, including health care, behavioral health, human services, homeless services, and criminal justice. Expanded investment in multi-system adult collaboration will help connect these individuals to needed care, recovery supports, stable housing, and positive community participation. This investment of over **\$11 million** will strengthen cross-system collaboration and expand access to services and supports that promote continued stability and recovery outside of institutions for adults with serious mental illness.

Mental Health and Rehabilitation Partnership

Incarcerated Ohioans struggling with substance use disorders need access to reliable resources for recovery. Sixty-seven percent of incarcerated people have a moderate or severe need for recovery services. This investment will expand access to treatment within Ohio's correctional facilities, including counseling, peer support, technology, and medication. Recovery services provided during incarceration significantly increase the likelihood that these individuals become productive members of society when released. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services partnership with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction is funded at **\$33.8 million** in fiscal year 2022 and **\$34.4 million** in fiscal year 2023.

Medicaid Highlights

Medicaid serves many vulnerable Ohioans. The Ohio Department of Medicaid and its priority programs will continue to meet Ohioans' needs through an investment in the Operating Budget of **\$31.0 billion** for fiscal year 2022 and **\$32.2 billion** for fiscal year 2023. It is crucial that this safety net program incentivize sufficiency.

Just prior to the onset of the pandemic, Ohio's Medicaid work requirement had been approved by federal regulators; however, current federal law prohibits the state from implementing the requirement during the ongoing federal public health emergency. To continue our momentum, the Budget includes a voluntary Medicaid work program to bridge the gap until the new work requirements can be implemented. Additionally, the Budget will:

- **Support the procurement of Ohio's managed care system** to improve wellness and health outcomes while emphasizing a personalized care experience. This next generation of managed care includes a package of reforms and cost savings measures, including the implementation of a new and innovative specialized managed care program for children with complex behavioral health and multi-system needs. Additionally, the budget supports the implementation of a single pharmacy benefit manager (SPBM) that will improve transparency, accountability, and efficiency.
- **Increase access to and care for Medicaid members** with significant behavioral health needs through continued funding of Medicaid's Behavioral Health Care Coordination program.
- **Expand access to personalized care** through Medicaid's Emergency Telehealth program, which made access to care easier and more flexible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through partnerships with the Governor's office, Ohio agencies, managed care plans, providers, and consumers, this budget continues the expansion of telehealth services for medical, clinical, and behavioral health, and ensures continued access to vital healthcare for vulnerable Ohioans.
- **Prevent custody relinquishment of multi-system youth children** with an additional **\$4 million** per fiscal year. Multi-system youth utilize various services beyond public children's service agencies such as mental and behavioral health and health care.

