

Mental Health America of Northern Kentucky and Southwest Ohio Receives \$1.5 Million from Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services' Grant to Support Mental Health First Aid training in Ohio

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OhioMHAS Grant Funds State-Wide Training Collaboration

June 3, 2020: Mental Health America of Northern Kentucky and Southwest Ohio (MHANKYSWOH), a regional leader in mental health advocacy, recovery, and education, announced that it has been awarded a grant through the State of Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The grant funded a collaborative to develop a sustainable, state-wide strategy to focus on the efficient delivery of Mental Health First Aid for Adolescents and Transition-Age Youth, Mental Health First Aid for Older Adults, Mental Health First Aid for Minority Populations, and Mental Health First Aid for Faith and Spiritual Communities.

The non-profit collaborative created to implement the grant also includes Miami University's Center for School-Based Mental Health Programs and the University's Discovery Center for Evaluation, Research, and Professional Learning; Mental Health America of Ohio; The Ohio Mental Health Network for School Success; as well as support from regional and national MHFA experts. Combined, these organizations' successes are well documented having already certified over 7900 individuals in Mental Health First Aid and Youth Mental Health First Aid in the state of Ohio.

Both Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid (a training for adults working with adolescents) is being provided by the collaborative.

Because of social distancing recommendations, only virtual training is currently available.

Training Contacts

To schedule a class for your group or organization, or for more information, please contact:

Adult Mental Health First Aid: Tori Ivan tivan@mhaohio.org

Youth Mental Health First Aid: Kathleen Oberlin oberlink2@gmail.com

Please visit the website for further information: mhaohio.org/get-help/MHFA

About Mental Health First Aid

Connecting Mental Health First Aid to Benefit All Ohioans



Funded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Mental Health First Aid, an evidence-based program adopted by over twenty countries, is a rigorous training that teaches an individual how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. A hands-on training, participants learn to respond to an individual in need utilizing the five-step ALGEE action plan, which includes: Assessing for risk of suicide or harm, listening nonjudgmentally, giving reassurance and information, encouraging appropriate professional help, and encouraging self-help and other support strategies.

Specific MHFA training is available for individuals working with youth, adults, and seniors. To date, over 2 million people across the country have been certified in Mental Health First Aid.

About Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

The mission of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is to provide statewide leadership of a high-quality mental health and addiction prevention, treatment and recovery system that is effective and valued by all Ohioans.

About Mental Health America of Northern Kentucky and Southwest Ohio

Mental Health America of Northern Kentucky and Southwest Ohio is dedicated to promoting mental health and working to prevent mental and substance use disorders through education, advocacy, and service. Our agency provides safety net services, community and professional education, and are the regional experts in Certified Peer Support.

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