



Happy November, Everyone! A special welcome to cohort 3 counties! We are so excited to add cohort 3 to the START family. It has been an exceptionally busy time here at PCSAO and I am sure it has been for you too. This month we are excited to launch our new website with START document portal (see more information below), continue technical assistance site visits, build our training program and assist our new counties with implementation plans. In the next few weeks, we will offer a finance training for those who are interested in learning more about Ohio START financing and roll out a county-to-county coaching program. Stay tuned for more information. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving!

Fawn

HIGHLAND COUNTY

Highland County is celebrating a successful case closure after both parents were reunified with their children! Both parents have worked independently, as well as together, on their addiction, and have demonstrated sobriety, stability, and improved parenting skills.

STARK COUNTY

While Stark County continues their search for a family peer mentor, they have conducted monthly meetings with START workers, fostered connections with local substance use treatment providers, and worked closely with behavioral health specialists.

ASHTABULA COUNTY

Ashtabula County has been conducting case review meetings with local providers. These meetings have been a huge benefit in the progress of their families!

New Ohio-Based Peer Recovery Organization Launched Oct. 15

The Ohio Peer Recovery Organizations (OhioPRO) launched on October 15, 2019. OhioPRO is a statewide network for organizations and programs that provide peer recovery services. According to OhioMHAS, OhioPRO will seek to build relationships, promote best practices, and provide anti-stigma trainings.

OhioPRO can be found on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/OhioPeerRecoveryOrganizations/>

COUNTY BULLETIN BOARD

- (Summit County) Colleen Harris, Social Services Supervisor, has developed tracking and information forms for their START program. For more details, contact charris@summitkids.org
- (Trumbull County) The Cultural Diversity Committee is offering addiction training to all staff.

Introducing the New Ohio START Website

Visit the Ohio START website at <https://ohiostart.org/>

Registration for trainings will now be conducted through the website. A list of current trainings can be found by visiting <https://ohiostart.org/training-assistance/>.

The website also includes a document portal for START counties, which contains all necessary forms and resources. It can be accessed at <https://ohiostart.org/document-portal/>.

Ohio START Recognized by the Addiction Policy Forum

Ohio START received a 2019 Innovation Now Award from the Addiction Policy Forum, a leading national nonprofit. Ohio START's director, Fawn Gadel, accepted the award. The program was recognized along with several others included in the Forum's *Ohio Innovations to Address Addiction* report.



Training & TA

All of the currently scheduled trainings with descriptions, dates, and locations are listed on the Ohio START website on the Upcoming Trainings page that may be found here: <https://ohiostart.org/training-assistance/>

Here are a few of the upcoming trainings:

- 12/10: Ohio START Foundations #2 - Hiring & Onboarding Family Peer Mentors
Northeast Ohio Regional Training Center
264 South Arlington St, Akron OH 44306
 - 12/11: Ohio START Foundations #2 - Hiring & Onboarding Family Peer Mentors
Allen County Children Services
123 W Spring St, Lima, OH 45801
- *Cohort 3 Counties only need to register for either 12/10 or 12/11 (not both).
- 12/12: Ohio START Foundations #2 Refresher - Hiring & Onboarding Family Peer Mentors - Cohorts 1 & 2 (Columbus, OH)

SESAME STREET INTRODUCES RESOURCES FOR PARENTAL ADDICTION

Using the story of Karli, a resilient 6 ½ year old Muppet whose mom is struggling with addiction, Sesame Street developed a set of resources designed to offer resilience, hope, and optimism to children and families.

Learn more at:

<https://ssic.org/topics/parental-addiction/>



OHIO START FEATURED ON CBS EVENING NEWS



Ohio START was featured in a CBS Evening News segment about the opioid crisis in Ohio. The segment also included an interview with Governor DeWine.

View the segment here:
<https://tinyurl.com/yyd6bdho>

The American Society of Addiction Medicine Released a New Definition of Addiction

The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) released an updated definition of addiction last month. The new definition recognizes the interaction between biology and environment and emphasizes recovery.

The definition now states:

“Addiction is a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual’s life experiences. People with addiction use substances or engage in behaviors that become compulsive and often continue despite harmful consequences. Prevention efforts and treatment approaches for addiction are generally as successful as those for other chronic diseases.”



RecoveryOhio created a pledge to end stigma against individuals with mental health and substance use experiences. Sign the pledge at
<https://recoveryohio.gov/>

PEER MENTOR LISTENING SESSIONS

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Bureau of Recovery will host listening sessions during the months of November and December. The sessions will include discussions about peer supporter training and certification. For more information contact:
peerservices@mha.ohio.gov

- Nov. 15 - Hope Recovery Center (Medina)
- Dec. 13 - Recovery Center (Cincinnati)
- Dec. 18 - Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center (Sandusky)
- Dec. 20 - The P.E.E.R. Center (Columbus)