



I hope everyone is enjoying the fall weather and the changing leaves. This month at Ohio START, we are looking forward to the launch of the new Needs Portal system; a project the evaluation team has been working diligently on for many months. Be sure to look for communications on the listserv about the launch and corresponding trainings. Have a great October!

*Fawn*

### OTTAWA COUNTY

Ottawa County has a case they are recommending for closure successfully. The team was able to engage with a caretaker who has now celebrated six months of sobriety!

### WARREN COUNTY

Warren County is expanding their programming and will be able to serve even more families moving forward with the addition of a second dyad well underway.

### PORTAGE COUNTY

Portage County recently filled their last vacancy and hired a Family Peer Mentor to join their team!

### Ohio START Parent Interviews

- Ohio START Evaluators are hoping to conduct phone or Zoom interviews with parents who have completed Ohio START within the past month. Parents can reside in any START county and can have been served by any cohort.
- The interview will ask about their experiences in START as well as their perceptions of parenting with a SUD. Parents can receive a \$75 gift card for participating in an interview. Interviews will last approximately 45 minutes.
- For more information, email Margaret Hutzel at [hutzel@ohio.edu](mailto:hutzel@ohio.edu)
- A participant recruitment flyer can be found in the Document Portal in the Evaluation Folder.



## MIDWEST SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT

September was the National Suicide Prevention Month, an annual month-long campaign to raise awareness about suicide prevention, reduce stigma around the topic, and encourage those in need to utilize available resources. The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation is hosting the 2020 Midwest Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Summit on October 20-23. This free four-day summit will focus on providers of suicide prevention across the Midwest dedicated to community solutions to address the public health problem of suicide.

For more information/to register online visit [HERE](#).

### IMPROVING ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR HISPANICS/LATINX COMMUNITY

The National Hispanic and Latino Mental Health Technology Transfer Center and the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission are offering a free virtual training on Culturally Responsive Programs to Improve Access to Mental Health Services for Hispanics and the LatinX Community. The training will be held on October 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 - 4:30 pm and will be led by Marilyn Sampilo, Ph.D., M.P.H. The training will also discuss the concept of cultural brokering and its use across different settings.

For more information/to register online click [HERE](#).

### 35<sup>th</sup> Annual PCSAO Conference a Virtual Success

Wednesday's keynote speaker, Denise Goodman, discussed the new tactics and partnerships COVID-19 has required for successful child welfare work during this time. On Thursday, Karen Vadino spoke about how laughter can give us what we need to survive the tough parts of life.

Beatrice Flett was named Outstanding Caseworker of the Year for her commitment to family search and engagement. Outstanding Supervisor of the year went to Kelly Pape, who has been involved with programs such as START and ShadowBox. Kourtney Hill, who currently serves as a unit support worker, was awarded Outstanding Support Staff of the Year.

Additional awards included the Rising Up and Moving On awards and the Family of the Year awards. Congratulations to all the awardees!

## Training & TA

All trainings have moved to a virtual platform due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Scheduled trainings are listed on the Ohio START website on the Upcoming Trainings page that may be found here:

<https://ohiostart.org/training-assistance/>

- Currently there are no trainings scheduled for October, keep checking the Ohio START page for updates!