



Happy September to all. This month we sadly say goodbye to Sarah Irvin, our Ohio START AmeriCorps VISTA for the past year as her tenure with the VISTA program is over. We will miss Sarah's love of data and evaluation and dry sense of humor but wish her the best in her future endeavors. As Sarah is leaving, we are also excited to welcome our new VISTA, Karalyn Wright who you can learn more about below. Later this month, please join us for the PCSAO Conference, which will be held virtually; registration can be found on the PCSAO website. We are also hosting a few great Ohio START related trainings that may be of interest.

Fawn

ATHENS COUNTY

Athens County is celebrating the return of an infant child to their biological parent's care after many months of negative drug screens following an intervention and partnership with ACCS, Ohio START, and ISBH!

BUTLER COUNTY

Several Butler County clients had employment-related successes this month! Two clients obtained employment after several years of unemployment. Another client received praise and a raise from their employer.

PICKAWAY COUNTY

Pickaway County is celebrating two successful case closures, as well as a reunification for a mother who continued to work hard even during the pandemic. Congratulations!

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 interviews 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.

A participant recruitment flyer can be found on the Document Portal in the Evaluation folder.

Bias and Opioid Use Disorder Training

OMHAS is sponsoring a free virtual training for physical and behavioral health professionals. The training will focus on ways to address bias towards people with opioid use disorder. There will be two versions of the training offered. The first is for all health professionals and the second will focus on health professionals with lived experience of opioid use disorder. CEUs will be offered.

Addressing Bias and Opioid Use Disorder

September 21 - 1:00 pm - 3:45 pm
September 29 - 1:00 pm - 3:45 pm

[Register here for either date.](#)

Addressing Bias with Lived Experience of Opioid Use Disorder

September 9 - 1:00 pm - 3:45 pm

[Register here.](#)



OHIO START WELCOMES A NEW AMERICORPS VISTA

Karalyn Wright recently graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a minor in Communication Studies. She is originally from a small town in Connecticut and is brand new to the Columbus area. She has a strong interest in studying human rights both domestically and internationally and is hoping to pursue a related master's degree in 2021. In her free time, she enjoys reading, working out, and painting.

OHIO START SPOTLIGHT

South Central's Ross County location had an outdoor celebration in a local park for their first successful Ohio START graduate!

The mother spoke at the graduation. She began using substances at 12 years old and had previously gone to rehab five times. She has 3 children in the custody of relatives, who she was able to reconnect with as she worked through the START program. Through Ohio START, she completed an 18-month program and is managing her sobriety with community supports.

Congratulations!

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/>

09/11: Break the Cycle: Understanding and Treating Generational Trauma

09/23: Secondary Traumatic Stress & Provider Resilience

09/25: Introduction to Motivational Interviewing

09/29: Foundations 4: START Child Welfare Practices