

**OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S TASK FORCE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
AND MENTAL ILLNESS  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 11, 2012**

***Welcome***

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine

- Welcomed attendees and offered his congratulations to Justice Stratton for her retirement.
- Introduced Colonel Tom Moe/Ohio Department of Veterans Services, who provided additional remarks regarding Justice Stratton's retirement.

Justice Stratton

- Indicated she will still serve as task force co-chair with Attorney General DeWine.

**Announcement of grants**

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine

- The Attorney General's Office received a settlement as a result of a bankruptcy discharge of Richland Hospital in Mansfield.
- The Attorney General's Office will award funding to the following projects in support of individuals with mental illness and their families:
  1. **Mercer County Sheriff's Office/Hancock County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board:** Attorney General DeWine is awarding each agency with \$25,000. The money will help fund positions to provide crisis counseling for individuals in each county's jail, as well as assist with discharge planning. The goal is to support those released from jail and help stop them from cycling back into the criminal justice system.
  2. **Statewide Regional Training:** The Attorney General is providing \$50,000 to fund several regional trainings and advanced trainings on elder abuse for first responders across the state. The trainings will teach first responders how to recognize the indicators of elder abuse and ways to effectively respond to elder abuse situations. The trainings will be coordinated through the Crime Victims Services Section of the Attorney General's Office.
  3. **Ohio Department of Youth Services:** Attorney General DeWine has awarded the Ohio Department of Youth Services \$82,500 to implement a statewide standardized screening process for Ohio's juvenile detention centers and public child service agencies. The goal of the project will help agencies to identify mental health issues in Ohio's youth and recommend appropriate treatment. Governor John Kasich's Interagency Task Force on Mental Health and Juvenile Justice recommended the mental health and trauma screenings to be used as soon as youth enter the juvenile justice system.

4. **The Supreme Court of Ohio:** Veterans Courts use peer mentor programs to provide support to veterans involved in the criminal justice system. The Attorney General is awarding \$31,000 to the Ohio Supreme Court to create a consistent, statewide curriculum for the screening and training of Veterans Court peer mentors. The standardized curriculum will enhance the existing peer mentor programs in Veterans Courts and serve as a model for other courts that run a specialty docket and seek the assistance of peer mentors.
5. **Ohio Department of Veterans Services:** More than 75% of Ohio Veterans Homes (OVH) residents in Georgetown and Sandusky are diagnosed with a mental health condition. These residents frequently disrupt fellow residents and made choices that jeopardize themselves or others. To address the issue, Attorney General DeWine is awarding \$21,238 to cover the cost of the Crisis Prevention Institute's Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training for OVH residents and staff.
6. **Ohio Housing Finance Agency:** Members of the Attorney General's task force found that without housing that is linked to services in the community, individuals with mental health issues are more likely to reoffend and suffer poor mental health outcomes. Attorney General Mike DeWine has awarded \$215,250 to the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) to help combat the problem. The funds will be used to increase OHFA's Home for Good rental subsidy program. The goal is to provide permanent supportive housing linked to community services, such as counseling, for homeless Ohioans involved in the mental health courts.

### ***Human Trafficking presentation***

*Michelle Hannan, Director Professional Community Services,  
The Salvation Army of Central Ohio*

- The system for assisting victims of trafficking has grown.
  1. Tremendous amount of emotional manipulation present in trafficking situations.
  2. Traffickers are expert at helping their victims form trauma bonds.
  3. Trauma bond and fear is so strong that victims are not able to walk out.
  4. Extreme physiological abuse in line with torcher techniques, emotional manipulation, lies and deception.
  5. Lies and deception creates real barriers for assistance.
  6. Sexual abuse and gang rape is common in both sex and labor trafficking situations and used as a technique for control.
  7. National and Ohio research indicates that the majority of American kids who are lured into sex trafficking have a history of sexual and physical abuse in the home.
  8. Significant level of substance abuse is seen.
  9. Drug use is a control technique. Often times, see victims introduced to heroin.
- Research that has come out of the Ohio Attorney General's Trafficking Commission
  1. 16% of adult victims did not ask anyone for help.
  2. 20% of adult victims did ask for help but were not believed.
  3. 48% have been raped.
  4. 32% of victims have been beaten.

5. 52% were forced to work between 20-30 days per month selling sexual services.
  6. 60% were recruited by a male who first acted as a boyfriend.
- Salvation Army has a victim services program
    1. To date, served 235 survivors total.
    2. Obtaining stable housing is a significant issue.
    3. 41 % have crisis mental health needs.
    4. The local coalition is one of 11 around the state.
    5. Handout given with contact information to connect with local anti-trafficking.
  - One main challenge to assist trafficking victims is help them access treatment for alcohol, drug and mental health issues.
  - CATCH Court Program
    1. A two year rehabilitation program for women who have been incarcerated and arrested for solicitation or other types of crimes associated and involved in the sex industry.
    2. Program reaches out to women while incarcerated, court is conducted on a weekly basis (group therapy feel).
  - Connection with victim services and law enforcement efforts
    1. Salvation Army operates a trauma and addiction group at Mary Haven. and other locations hoping to get the message across.
    2. Fall 2012 there were two indictments of trafficking cases.
    3. Strong connection with victim services and law enforcement efforts.

***Ohio Department of Mental Health update***

*Tracy Plouck, Director, Ohio Department of Mental Health*

- Tracy shared several of ODMH's areas of focus:
  1. Work with the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association on enhancing mental health and addiction services in jails.
    - a. Having case managers available in jails for transition planning with community mental health and addiction treatment services
    - b. How to potentially leverage tele-medicine to actually bring services on in order to avoid transportation cost
  2. Partner with the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections to support the plan to extend the availability of medications as individuals leave prison.
  3. Assist individuals upon release from the Department of Youth Services individuals who we know are going to need connection moving back into the community setting.
  4. Work towards establishing assertive community teams as a Medicaid reimbursable expense.
  5. Assisting with housing strategies.
  6. Effective July 2013, we will be consolidating with ODADAS to become the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

- a. Interested in emphasizing topics like trauma informed care or special populations that may be specifically engaged in criminal justice.

***SB350 meetings-update***

*Sandy Stephenson, Director of Integrated Health Care, Southeast, Inc.*

- Senate Bill 350 is a piece of proposed legislation to clarify the existing outpatient commitment law in Ohio.
- The Psychiatry and Treatment subcommittee conducted a neutral process to collect information from key groups that were in support of and opposed to the bill.
- Participating agencies were asked to identify whether they were a proponent or opponent of the proposed legislation, and respond to a list of questions.
- A summary of the process will educate readers about the various positions of key agencies regarding SB350.

Adjourn