



Investing in Recovery

RecoveryOhio

Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted are focused on ensuring that each Ohioan has access to mental health and addiction treatment services and supports. After taking the oath of office for his first term, Governor DeWine signed an executive order creating the **RecoveryOhio Initiative** to address critical matters concerning mental illness and substance misuse prevention, treatment, and recovery support services. The executive budget continues this steadfast commitment and strengthens Ohio's behavioral health system so that it is visible and accessible to all Ohioans. The budget also reflects their dedication to assisting schools, law enforcement, and other agencies that are also facing the consequences of this public health crisis.

Crisis Services

This budget provides \$46.5 million to fund **988**, the new three-digit number that connects callers to the existing **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**, where compassionate, accessible care and support is available to anyone experiencing mental health-related distress or for those with concerns for a loved one who may need crisis support. Additionally, this budget provides further opportunity to grow Ohio's local crisis services and infrastructure through locally identified needs and gaps in communities across the state. This funding is distributed through local alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health boards to support and grow mobile crisis response services, behavioral health urgent cares, and crisis centers, providing Ohioans in a behavioral health crisis with an appropriate response and safe place to have their needs met, while also alleviating burdens on local emergency departments and jails.

Prevention

Enhancing prevention and early identification services and supports are key to **building Ohioans' resiliency** to risk factors and supporting recovery from mental illness and substance use disorders. A \$23.2 million dollar investment in prevention, early intervention activities, and suicide prevention as guided by Ohio's 2020 Suicide Prevention Plan, is focused on increasing the number of Ohioans trained to recognize warning signs and **promote protective factors**, resiliency, and stigma-reduction, specifically for at-risk groups.

Harm Reduction

This budget provides continued support for community-based Project DAWN programs and increases **naloxone distribution** throughout the state. Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided with Naloxone) is a network of opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution programs located in communities throughout the state.



Treatment

Ohioans with serious mental health issues often interact with multiple support systems, including health care, behavioral health, support services, homeless services, and criminal justice services. This budget provides significant investments to continue **critical mental health initiatives** to ensure that Ohioans are healthy and productive members of our workforce, including increased investment in multisystem adult collaboration to connect our citizens to needed care, recovery supports, stable housing, and positive community participation.

This budget will increase the capacity for Ohioans to receive care in their own communities by expanding access to **wellness and recovery services** through a \$20.5 million investment over the biennium to improve **coordinated community treatment, provide meaningful employment, and recovery supports** for Ohioans living with severe mental illness. The executive budget also continues Ohio's investment in services for individuals who go to emergency departments with a substance use disorder, helping them to receive more efficient and timely treatment for their substance use disorder.

To provide for the **mental health of our college and university students**, the budget focuses \$20 million over the biennium for the Mental Health Support Program in higher education. This program allows for the expansion of telehealth options, increased awareness of phone and text care line services, expansion of certified peer educator programs, and direct aid to higher education students who cannot afford care.

Public Safety

Building upon our prior success with the Ohio Department of Public Safety's **Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center (ONIC)**, the executive budget provides \$13.1 million per fiscal year to expand ONIC and support the investigation of drug-related violent crimes and increase support to local, state, and federal agencies and public sector partners throughout the state. Doubling the support dedicated to ONIC continues the strong partnerships the state has developed with the local law enforcement community.

Innovation

With \$110 million from the budget, a new **State of Ohio Action for Resiliency Network or SOAR Network**, will solidify Ohio as a national leader in **mental health research and innovation**. The center will strategically research complex and diverse factors related to the prevention and treatment of, and recovery from, mental illness and substance use disorders; reveal innovative strategies that result in improved recovery, health, and wellness for Ohioans; and deploy those strategies in practice, programs, and policy. The SOAR Network will guide mental health best practices to grow and strengthen this important workforce in Ohio.