



mental health &
recovery board
UNION COUNTY



FY25 IMPACT REPORT

JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Partners,



As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with gratitude for the people of Union County and the many ways our community has come together to strengthen the mental health and recovery system. The work is never easy, but the progress we've made is a testament to the resilience, compassion, and determination that define this community.

Our 2024–2026 Strategic Plan set out 25 objectives to guide our work. Already, 60% are complete and another 10 are underway. Together with our partners, we have expanded community planning and collaboration, provided training and tools to professionals, enhanced systems-level assessments, introduced innovative programs in schools, secured funding to grow our crisis system, and increased capacity for permanent supportive housing.

This year we also hosted our second annual Changemaker's Conference, which brought together educators, providers, and community leaders to share ideas, build partnerships, and inspire one another. The energy and collaboration at this event showcased the very best of Union County as neighbors working together to become healthier and more connected.

Even as we celebrate this progress, we must also face funding uncertainty. Shifts in federal priorities and proposed changes to local government funding create real challenges to sustaining this work. Union County is growing quickly, and with growth comes increased demand for services. Meeting that demand will require creativity, advocacy, and most importantly, the steadfast partnership of our community.

Despite these challenges, I remain hopeful. I see it daily in the dedication of our providers, the courage of those seeking help, and the generosity of neighbors committed to a healthier, stronger Union County. Our mission is clear: to ensure every resident has access to prevention, crisis care, treatment, recovery supports, and housing. With your continued support, I know we will rise to this challenge together.

Thank you for walking alongside us on this journey.

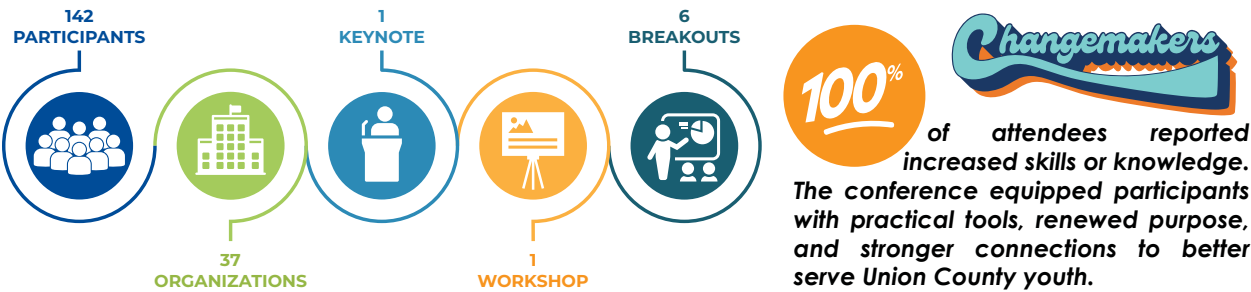
With gratitude,

Adam Negley

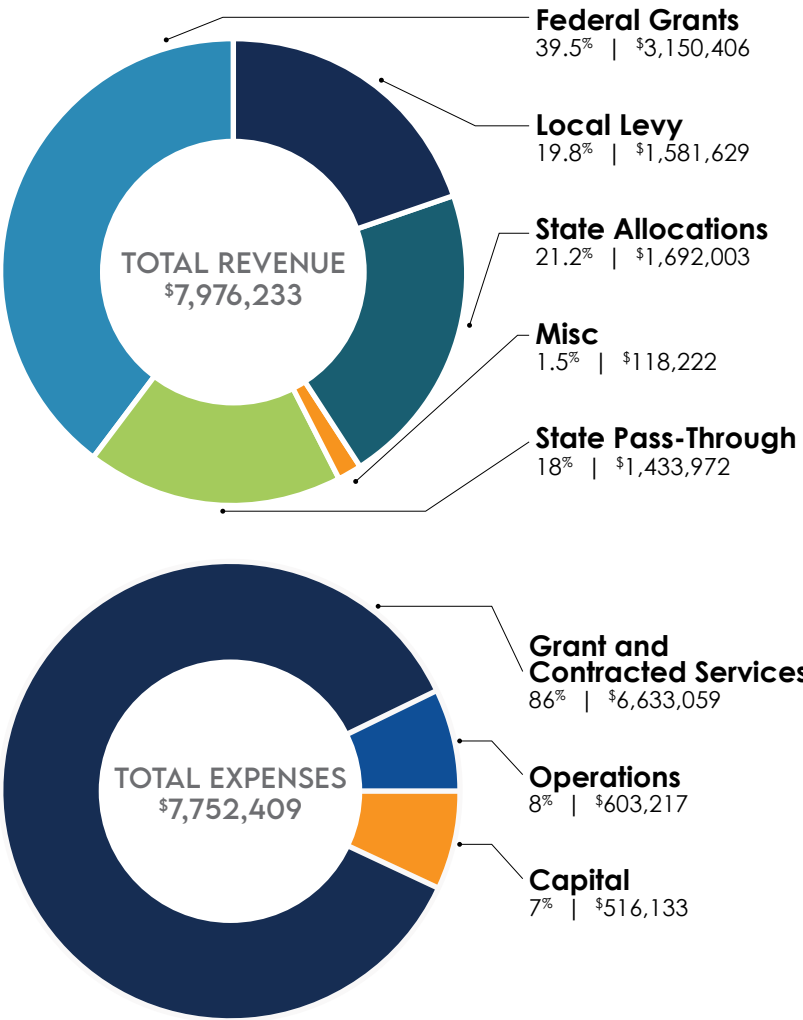
Adam Negley
Executive Director

CHANGEMAKERS CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

INSPIRING GROWTH, BUILDING CONNECTIONS



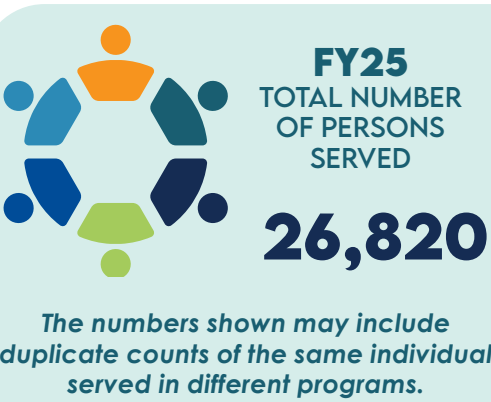
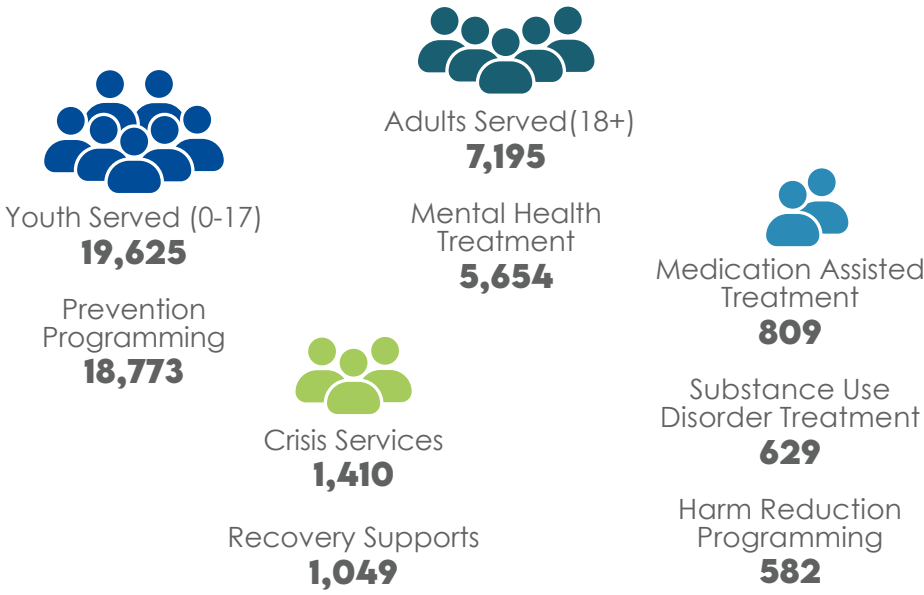
FY25 FINANCIALS



DEFINITIONS

- Local Levy**
Receipts from 0.8 mil property tax levy
- State Allocations**
Receipts from the State of Ohio to support behavioral health services
- State Pass-Through**
Federal funds that flow through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to local communities
- Federal Grants**
Funding awarded directly through competitive grants
- Miscellaneous**
Receipts from the collection of rent and other sources
- Grant and Contracted Services**
Expenditures for community behavioral health services and supports provided by a network of care
- Operations**
Salaries and benefits for staff and other operating expenses
- Capital**
Expenditures for acquiring property used to provide behavioral health services and supports

BY THE NUMBERS



YOUTH IMPACT

CHANGING OUTCOMES, CHANGING LIVES

bryt's First Year at North Union Middle School (2024 – 2025 School Year)

The first year of Bridge for Resilient Youth in Transition (*bryt*) at North Union Middle School was a tremendous success. As a Tier 3 intervention, *bryt* provides short-term, clinically-informed support for students facing serious mental health challenges. Through individualized academic and wellbeing plans, strong family engagement, and close collaboration with staff, the program helps students stay connected to learning while building skills for long-term success.

Year One Highlights:

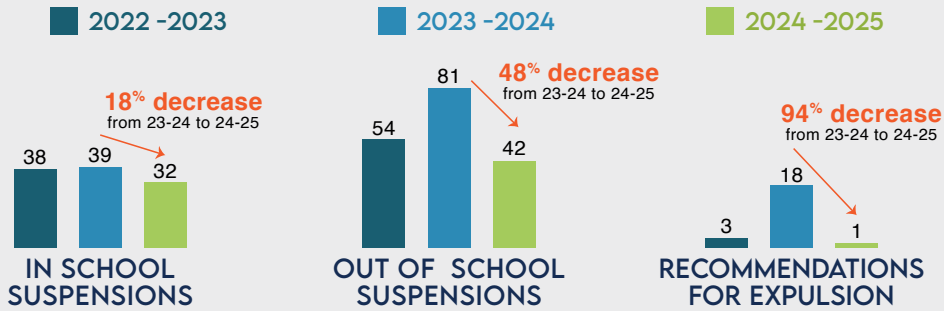
Student Achievement: 80% of enrolled students earned a 70% or higher in all or all but one of their classes.

School Climate & Discipline: With *bryt*'s support, North Union Middle School achieved remarkable reductions in disciplinary actions.

These results demonstrate the transformative potential of *bryt* to meet the needs of students with significant behavioral health challenges while strengthening the entire school community.



SCHOOLWIDE DISCIPLINE DATA



Student Spotlight

"After struggling for several years following the death of his father, this student found the support he needed in *bryt*. With consistent guidance and encouragement, he set and exceeded personal academic goals, developed self-awareness, and began reaching out for help. This has been his most successful year yet—both academically and personally."



Voices from the School

"We've seen a powerful shift in student engagement through *bryt*. Students who once resisted coming to school are now showing up because they want to be there. They're learning to manage their time and behavior in ways that support their growth and make reintegration into the classroom not only possible, but successful." — Educator



PANTHER READY

BUILDING LIFELONG SKILLS AT FAIRBANKS ELEMENTARY (2024-2025 School Year)

Voices from the School

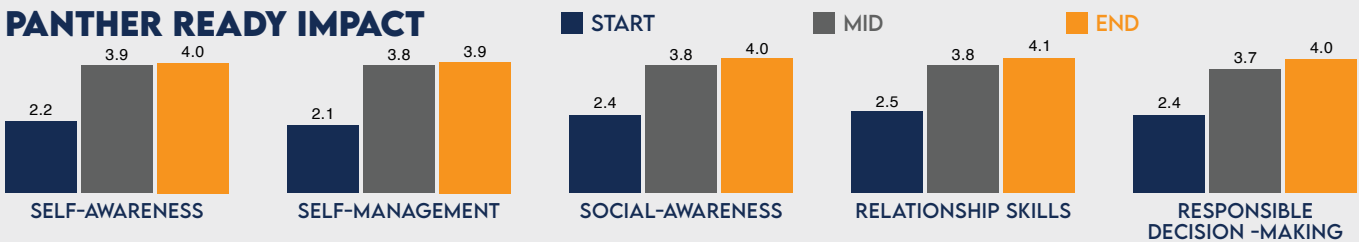
"Panther Ready has equipped my students with tangible things to do and say to help process big or small situations." — Educator



All K-5 students at Fairbanks Elementary take part in **Panther Ready**, a weekly social-emotional learning class built on the evidence-based **CharacterStrong** curriculum and delivered by a Certified Prevention Specialist with Project AWARE funding.

Teachers measured student growth using the **Elementary Social-Emotional Competencies Scale** at the start, middle, and end of the school year. Results showed large, significant gains across all five **Ohio SEL Standards**—self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. These outcomes show that Panther Ready is helping Union County students strengthen the life skills they need for learning, relationships, and long-term wellbeing.

PANTHER READY IMPACT



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Ohio

CRISIS IMPACT

CRISIS SYSTEM OF CARE: OVERVIEW AND PRIORITIES

The MHRBUC is committed to developing a strong, community-based crisis response system. In FY25, MHRBUC conducted a comprehensive review of the local crisis care system. This evaluation identified service gaps and areas for improvement, and involved collaboration with key partners including law enforcement, behavioral health providers, and Memorial Hospital.

Crisis support often begins when an individual reaches out for help—through 911, 988, or by walking into the emergency department. Regardless of how someone enters the system, they are assessed and connected to care based on their specific needs.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRISIS INTERVENTION

Nearly all law enforcement officers in Union County are trained in the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model. This training equips them to safely de-escalate situations, connect individuals to care, and transport them to the hospital when necessary.

In FY25, Union County responded to **over 300** CIT-related calls—a 121% increase since FY23.

CRISIS INTERVENTION CALLS



EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT UTILIZATION



430 ER VISITS

Memorial Hospital reported 430 mental health-related emergency department visits in FY25. Notably, over **40%** of these visits were initiated by individuals themselves, not via EMS or law enforcement.

However, the emergency department may not be the most appropriate level of care if the crisis can be de-escalated in the community and individuals can be connected to follow-up care. To reduce additional stress, time and money, mobile response is often a more effective way to address a crisis.



MOBILE RESPONSE SERVICES

For individuals aged 21 and under, Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) provides rapid, team-based support in homes, schools, and other community settings. Over the past three years, youth mental health needs have grown—but so have resources. The expansion of MRSS and school-based services has led to a **20.5%** reduction in mental health emergency department visits for youth ages 0-17 since FY23.

In FY25, MHRBUC secured a \$264,000 grant from the state OneOhio Foundation to expand mobile crisis response to all ages. Building on our previous investments, MHRBUC plans to launch Adult Mobile Crisis services in FY26. The co-responder model places a behavioral health clinician on scene with law enforcement to provide de-escalation, assessment, short-term intervention, and connection to follow-up care. This approach reduces reliance on emergency departments and improves access to ongoing support.

At the heart of mobile crisis response is a simple but powerful concept to meet people where they are at the time of crisis for a more effective outcome for everyone involved.

Union County invests early to support children, empower parents, and prepare students for learning.



ECMH CONSULTATION
47 STUDENTS



ECMH CLASSROOM CONSULTATION
6 CLASSROOMS
(128 STUDENTS)



EC FAMILY PEER SUPPORT
27 FAMILIES

EARLY CHILDHOOD IMPACT

In FY25, the MHRBUC launched Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) services to support Union County's young children, families, and educators. We recognize that social-emotional well-being and school readiness are essential for children from birth to age eight. In its first year, ECMH Consultation and Early Childhood Family Peer Support have reached dozens of children and families, offering tailored strategies, brief interventions, and connections to community resources.

These services go beyond guidance alone. Consultants work closely with families and school staff to strengthen relationships, build confidence, and provide practical tools that support healthy development at home and in the classroom. Peer support connects families with someone who understands the challenges of parenting and offers encouragement and practical strategies.

Our goal is to continue expanding these services so every young child and family in Union County has the support they need to thrive.

We've found real help without judgment, and support that delivers results. My confidence as a parent has grown, and my son feels more secure and understood.

-Parent who participated in both consultation and FPS

Through Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation, I have gained tools to better support my students' social-emotional growth. This partnership has made my classroom a more supportive and nurturing space.

-Teacher who participated in consultation

NAMI IMPACT

NAMI Mid-Ohio Brings Hope and Support Union County residents are discovering hope and a stronger sense of connection through local mental health support, thanks to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Mid-Ohio. NAMI Mid-Ohio is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support and education to individuals and families affected by mental illness. What sets them apart is its staff and volunteers – many of whom have firsthand experience caring for someone with a mental health condition.

"We want Union County residents to know that they can find support locally and not feel alone," said Holly Novak, Executive Director of NAMI Mid-Ohio. "Reducing stigma and advocating for individuals living with mental health conditions is some of the most important work we can do."

In FY25 MHRBUC's increased investment in NAMI Mid-Ohio allowed them to reach more than 1,000 Union County residents through classes, support groups, awareness events, and educational presentations. The Family Support Group provides a safe space for loved ones to share their experiences and find encouragement. The Family-to-Family education program helps caregivers move from feeling overwhelmed to empowered over the course of eight weeks. Additionally, the Hearts+Minds wellness course connects participants with strategies to care for both their physical and mental well-being.

To learn more, visit www.namimidohio.org or call 740-815-1767



FY25 CONTINUUM OF CARE INVESTMENTS

The behavioral health continuum of care provides a comprehensive framework that ensures individuals have access to supports across every stage of need. It includes prevention efforts to reduce risk, crisis services to provide immediate intervention, treatment options for mental health and substance use disorders, recovery supports that sustain long-term wellness, and housing as a foundation for stability and successful outcomes. The table below summarizes MHRBUC's investments in our local continuum of care in fiscal year 2025.

SYSTEM OF CARE	INVESTMENT
PREVENTION Proactive strategies and programs that are designed to reduce the likelihood of developing mental health or substance use challenges. Examples: School-based prevention, drug-free coalition, community education	\$540,296
CRISIS SERVICES Immediate interventions that provide support, stabilization, and safety for individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use emergency. These services are designed to de-escalate situations, reduce harm, and connect people quickly to appropriate levels of care. Examples: Crisis hotline, crisis walk-in assessment, Mobile Response and Stabilization Services for youth	\$388,538
TREATMENT A range of clinical and therapeutic services that address mental health and substance use disorders. It includes evidence-based practices such as counseling, medication management, outpatient programs, intensive outpatient or partial hospitalization services, residential care, and inpatient psychiatric or detoxification services.	\$811,594
RECOVERY SUPPORTS Non-clinical services that help individuals maintain wellness, build independence, and sustain long-term recovery from mental health and substance use disorders. Examples: Peer support services, peer drop-in center, connection to community resources	\$583,644
HOUSING Safe, stable, and affordable living arrangements that provide the foundation for recovery and overall well-being. Examples: Transitional housing, recovery housing, permanent supportive housing	\$628,654
COMMUNITY SERVICES In addition to funding services across the behavioral health continuum of care, the Board also invests in a broader set of community-based supports. These investments are made possible by federal grants and local levy dollars and play a vital role in strengthening the overall system. They include resources for school districts to better support student mental health, early childhood services, training and assistance for first responders managing behavioral health crises, and funding for NAMI and other community partners who provide education, advocacy, and outreach. Together, these initiatives enhance community resilience, build capacity, and ensure that behavioral health is supported across multiple settings where people live, learn, and work.	\$3,680,334

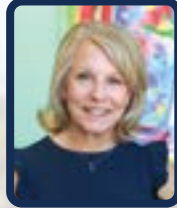


mental health & recovery board UNION COUNTY

STAFF



Adam Negley
Executive Director



Holly Zweizig
Associate Director



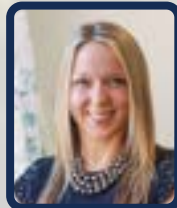
Dr. Randi Bargo-Smith
Youth Systems of Care Director



MacKenzie Poling
Clinical Outcomes Director



Halle DuMoulin-Camella
Youth Systems of Care
Assistant Director



Kathryn Tummino
Project AWARE
Coordinator



Lindsay Allizer
Finance Director



Allison Bruner
Administrative Assistant

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