



Growth and change seem to be two frequently used terms in Union County over the past year. At the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Union County, those words continue to ring true and are actually part of our tag line, "Lives change and possibilities grow."

Early in FY22, the Board of Directors and staff gathered as part of a planning meeting to discuss this growth of our county and how we can plan to address it. Many organizations are faced with the same questions. Indeed, the population change will impact our behavioral health system of care and how we must adapt to support families in need. Since 2019, the number of adults and youth who received behavioral health services from one of our contracted providers increased 36%. One of the largest challenges facing this growth is a shortage of behavioral health workforce. Changing how we engage and support families is critical during these times.

In 2021, in partnership with Maryhaven, the MHRBUC funded the Mobile Response and Support Stabilization (MRSS) service. This program offers rapid response by phone or in-person for families experiencing crisis in Union County. This innovative and evidence-based service has been a tremendous lift in our community, allowing families to get the help they need when and where they need it.

Another expanding initiative is follow-up engagement from the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) which is supported by the MHRBUC in partnership with the Union County Sheriff's Office and Wings Support & Recovery. This service enables a trained CIT officer and a peer support specialist to touch base with individuals who have recently experienced a crisis, hospitalization, or an overdose. This simple act extends support, information about local resources, and hope.

One of the biggest changes to the MHRBUC is the Executive Director. Dr. Phil Atkins resigned his position after seven years of service to Union County. The Board of Directors began their search in June 2021. With much anticipation, we look forward to growth and expanded possibilities under the leadership of a new director and the invaluable support of our community.

In Service,

Helly Zweizig

Holly Zweizig



Staff Members .





Holly Zweizig Interim Director





Wren Hawkins Lead Family Coordinator

Debra Schaner Administrative & Finance Assistant

Janell Alexander Vice Chair Michael Barton Roberta Behrens Karen Chuvalas Kimberly Cutler Annette Doughty

Funded Partners









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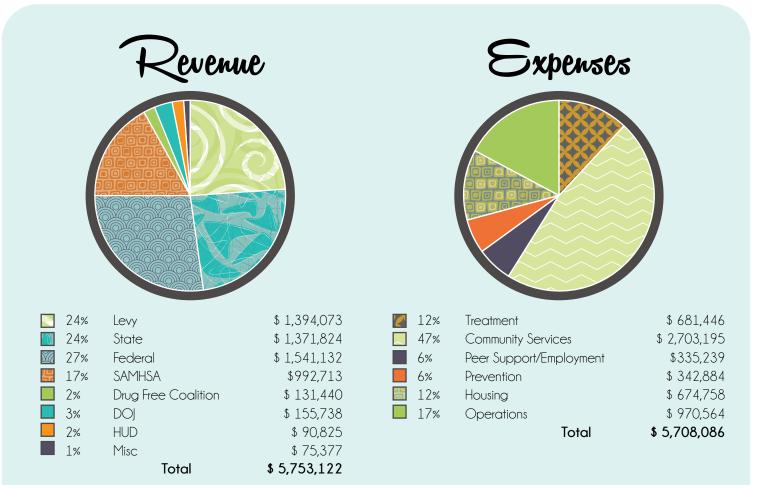












Did you know?

Just over 2,000 Union County residents received behavioral health treatment or recovery support services in FY22. Since FY19, this is a 36% increase in the number of consumers. Of those, 70% are adults and 30% youth.

About 1 in 5 adults will experience a mental illness each year. In Union County, over 1,300 adults received services for an identified mental health disorder through one of our contracted providers. The most common mental health disorders among adults remain depressive disorders (24%) and bi-polar disorders (12%) of the clients represented. Adults with more chronic mental health disorders represent a much smaller percentage. Crisis services for mental health remain critical. Sadly, in FY22, there were 11 completed suicides in Union County.

In Union County, 434 adults were treated with a substance use disorder. Of those, over half were opioid use disorders. The cost of opioid use disorders were over \$1.3 million dollars. FY22, there were 61 opiate overdoses, 10 of which were fatal.

Improving crisis services, follow-up engagement, peer support, walk-in crisis and medication assisted treatment are just some of the ways our local providers are trying to offer help to those in need.

For youth, the most common diagnosis remains adjustment (32%) and depressive disorders (18%). Anxiety disorders increased after COVID in FY21 and continued to tic upward to 15%. Services such as mobile response support services, Family Peer Support, school-based behavioral health navigators, and wraparound are just some of the ways youth behavioral health is improved in Union County. In FY22, there were 117 calls to the MRSS helpline and over 350 youth served by school navigators.



funded and launched the Mosaic Project Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) team on September 1, 2021. The MRSS Team provides assistance to families and youth up to age 21 who are experiencing difficulties or distress and need immediate assistance. The team is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and can

In partnership with Maryhaven, the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Union County MOSAIC PROJECT respond to families homes in 60 minutes or less. The team includes a family peer supporter and a licensed therapist who can respond to any distressing situation where a family feels they need help. Situations could include emotional or escalated behaviors, mental health challenaes, substance use concerns, arief and loss, trauma, suicidal thoughts, transitions, truancy, parent/child conflict, and more. From the September 1 launch until lune 30, 2022, there were a total of 117 calls to the Mosaic Line, 22 immediate MRSS team responses, 22 scheduled MRSS team responses, and a total of 237 follow-up appointments with families. In June of 2022, the Mental Health and Recovery Board conducted individual interviews with youth and families that had utilized the service, and when asked to rate their level of satisfaction with the service on a scale of 1-5, the average satisfaction rate was 4.7. The families noted de-escalation, regular check-ins, and connection to ongoing services as strengths of the program. Union County families can be connected with the Mobile Response and Stabilization Services team by calling the Mosaic Helping People Restore Their Lives Line at 833-MOSAICU (833-667-2428).



ights! Camera! Action!

On March 23, 2022, the Mental Health and Recovery Board hosted a Youth Crisis Summit at The Avalon Theatre in uptown Marysville. The full day event included a celebration of the youth crisis work happening in Union County and collective visioning for the future. The stellar turnout was a testament to the collaboration of all of the youth-serving agencies in Union County and their collective commitment to supporting youth and families. There were 88 attendees and more than 35 youth-serving agencies, both state and local, represented. Highlights of the day included a welcome from the Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services Director, Lori Criss, a keynote presentation from global human rights advocate, William Kellibrew, presentations from Denise Sulzbach and Elizabeth Manley of the Institute for Innovation at University of Maryland, Dr. Gretchen Hammond's revisiting of the sequential intercept map and points of intervention for youth crisis, a Union County



youth crisis scenario and panel, and honoring our Champions for Change Award winners including the Maryhaven Team, Mark Gallagher of Marysville Schools, Marysville PrideFest Committee, and Dr. Phil Atkins of the MHRBUC. This event was an exciting opportunity to shine the spotlight on the innovative work happening in Union County every day!









Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training started in Union County in 2012. CIT increases law enforcement officers' understanding of mental illness and how best to communicate and connect individuals to services. Union County has about 90% of all law enforcement officers trained in CIT. On average, there are about 180 CIT calls in Union County in a given year. To help support this work, MHRBUC



partnered with the Union County Sheriff's Office in 2020 to fund a full-time deputy to serve as the CIT Coordinator.

This position serves as a liaison between

our criminal justice systems and behavioral health providers and was created after the Sequential Intercept Mapping process in 2018 where the gap around CIT was discovered. This position tracks data related to CIT, assesses for future training needs, and provides follow-up and connection to care for individuals involved in a CIT response. In FY22, the CIT Coordinator has completed 89 follow-ups for CIT consumers to ensure they are connected to resources and to reduce future crisis interactions. The position has arown to allow for the CIT Coordinator to be involved in the Felony Drug Court team, multiple Adult Wraparound teams, and

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participate in various committees. The CIT Coordinator and MHRBUC has presented at conferences both at the national and state level to share about the success of the position as well as our CIT data system. The partnership between MHRBUC and local law enforcement allows for continued growth of our CIT program with safe effective interactions between CIT consumers and officers.

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With support from the MHRBUC, Wings Support and Recovery has provided new and exciting social opportunities for clients and the community in FY2022. We recognize that social support and engagement is a large part of wellness for our consumers. Wings hosted the first annual Adult Prom, held a Fatherhood Festival, and a Block Party. Wings has also started hosting monthly outings that provide

clients a group to have safe and sober fun in public settings. These outings have included trips to the Franklin Park Conservatory, the Columbus Museum of Art, a movie at the Ohio Theatre, and mini golf. In addition to events and outings, Wings has also collaborated with Chef Kibby to host monthly family cooking classes. The cooking classes teach family's tips and tricks in the kitchen and the value that cooking together can improve relationships with one another. Wings also offers weekly art and chair yoga classes with local instructors.





The Teen Prevention Leadership program completed its second year. The leadership program involves students from Union County through the school year to learn more about prevention initiatives, local concerns, and leadership. Students identified vaping as being a priority issue among peers. To learn more about the issue, the team members conducted a survey of area convenience stores and other outlets and noted the placement, promotion, and types of vape products being sold. They also identified the new Delta 8, and Delta 10 THC products that are legally sold and heavily marketed. The team developed presentations based on their survey and presented



their findings to community leaders and civic organizations. The Teen Prevention Leadership Program engages students while teaching team building, data collection, presentation skills, and solutions for increasing drug-free lives in Union County.

In May 2022, the Man Assistance Program or M.A.P. was launched in Union County as a website for men about alcohol use. This unique website allows local residents to learn more about resources. low risk drinking guidelines and how to access clinical help for concerns about alcohol abuse. After COVID-19, there has been a national increase of alcohol use that can relate to significant health risks. Locally, Union County has higher than state averages for binge drinking among adults. The MHRBUC recognizes that men are often more at risk for alcohol use disorders, and less likely to seek out resources on their own. For that reason, the M.A.P. program directs individuals and their loved ones in a free and confidential online platform. M.A.P. was developed ...



## **TEEN PREVENTION** LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Emily Williams, Jillian Smith, Nevin Digney, Jarred Larriuz Not present: Gigi Bix, Emmalee Willis

### Man Assistance Program

"Because there is no shame in asking for directions."

For more information, visit manassistance.org.



# mental health & recovery board UNION COUNTY

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### mhrbuc.org

The Mental Health and Recovery Board of Union County is comprised of citizens, commissioned under Ohio law to serve as the local mental health and substance abuse authority, responsible for planning, funding, and evaluating services. Our mission is to bring about positive mental health and to prevent, reduce, or eliminate the limiting effects of mental illness and addictive behaviors through a community-wide effort.

