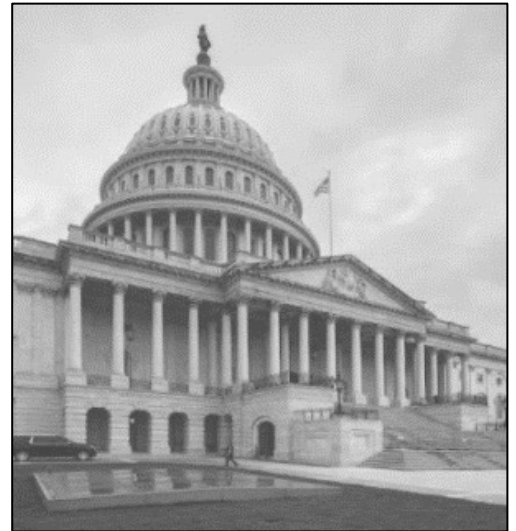


Ohio SOR Initiatives

Addressing Opioid and Stimulant Misuse & Use Disorders: The Impact of State Opioid Response (SOR) Grants

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) administers the SOR grant program. SOR addresses the opioid overdose crisis by providing resources to states and territories to increase access to Federal Drug Administration-approved medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and to reduce unmet treatment needs and opioid-related overdose deaths with prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery supports. In 2020, SOR expanded to support evidence-based services for stimulant misuse and use disorders (StUD), including cocaine and methamphetamine.

This brief was developed by the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) in collaboration with the Opioid Response Network (ORN) as part of a series of state reports intended to showcase initiatives across the continuum of care that states have implemented with SOR funds. The ORN is a SAMHSA-funded technical assistance and training center that works with states, health professionals, community organizations, the justice system, and individuals in all 50 states and nine territories to support efforts to address the opioid and stimulant crisis.



Single State Agency (SSA): Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Office of Community Planning and Collaboration, Bureau of Grants Administration (OhioMHAS)

OhioMHAS has received \$502,159,041 in SOR funding from FY18 through FY23. For FY23–24, it received \$100,750,866. Ohio's SOR grant aligns state-level efforts with community partnerships, engaging a focused, data-driven approach. Targeting investments in communities with high overdose rates, OhioMHAS plans to serve 22,000 Ohioans with opioid use disorder (OUD) and substance use disorder (SUD) under SOR 3.0.

Successful management of SUDs requires acknowledging their complexity as clinical conditions influenced by psychosocial, biochemical, genetic, and environmental factors. At the core of Ohio's goal is its multi-level state opioid strategy and success in developing an integrated SUD and mental health system of care. OhioMHAS collaborates with 50 local alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health (ADAMH) boards, which have statutory authority for planning services in 88 county catchment areas. These boards contract with local entities to provide Ohio's core SUD and mental health treatment, prevention, and recovery supports. Ohio's primary objectives for the SOR 3.0





funding aim to support access to MOUD, harm reduction, prevention, psychosocial, and recovery services. These services not only save lives but also help individuals, their children, and families better manage long-term community recovery.

To accomplish these goals, Ohio will employ several strategies. The top priority is Ohio's focus on high-risk, vulnerable populations, including older, younger, and minority groups that lead in the number of deaths attributable to overdoses. Ohio's needs assessment has identified several "hot spot" areas, comprising urban, rural, and Appalachian communities. In these communities and throughout the state, Ohio will partner with primary health prescribers to sustain a 60% reduction in physician-prescribed doses of opioids and pain relievers. Ohio will also expand the availability of mobile crisis teams and trained quick-response teams, enabling first responders to increase access to lifesaving overdose reversal medications. Furthermore, Ohio will continue its collaboration with public safety to prevent overdose deaths by interdicting illicit drugs before they reach communities. The state will ensure that culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach and treatment approaches address the diverse and socially complex needs of individuals in these communities. To achieve the goal of more individuals in long-term recovery, Ohio will emphasize the importance of peer support navigators, increase the availability of recovery housing, and implement recovery-based employment business partnerships and practices.

OhioMHAS has coordinated with statewide partners, sister state agencies, and Governor Mike DeWine's RecoveryOhio initiative to identify Ohio's goals in addressing substance misuse and SUD. These goals include:

- Reduce unintentional overdose deaths
- Increase access to addiction treatment
- Prevent youth alcohol and drug use
- Increase recovery supports
- Support responsible prescribing practices
- Promote harm reduction practices

These goals and strategies have been aligned to provide a coordinated response to Ohio's opioid epidemic. Various data collection methods, including surveys, focus groups, round tables, interviews with state leadership, individuals with lived experience, providers, and advocacy organizations, as well as the collection and analysis of national, state, and local secondary data, were employed to gather information for this plan.

Preventing Opioid and Stimulant Misuse Before It Starts

Ohio has used SOR to support community-based educational events, collaboration training efforts with hospital networks and universities, media campaigns, and other evidence-based prevention programs.

Prevention and Educational Events Targeting Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities

The Ohio Commission on Minority Health (OCMH) is supporting community-based educational events aimed at reaching racial and ethnic minority communities to promote awareness of and prevent SUD and co-occurring mental conditions. This includes an increased focus on addressing minority health disparities. Through a competitive award process, OCMH has partnered with local organizations to implement prevention and education strategies. These strategies encompass culturally and linguistically appropriate local media campaigns, prevention education, and outreach to at-risk individuals, as well as a community-based education workshop series aimed at raising awareness and reducing stigma about OUD and co-occurring conditions.



Enhancing Ohio’s Model for Implementing and Sustaining PAX

PAX Good Behavior Game (GBG) and PAX Tools are universal, evidence-based prevention models that improve self-regulation skills in children and establish an equitable, trauma-informed environment. Nationwide children’s hospitals are partnering with Ohio’s Center of Excellence for School-Based Prevention and Early Intervention to implement a sustainable infrastructure and support for PAX GBG and PAX Tools through development of a consultation model in statewide and regional networks of support. The statewide and regional networks will offer PAX trainings, a community of practice approach for PAX providers, and consultation for schools implementing PAX GBG.

Health and Opioid Abuse Education (HOPE)

HOPE is a K–12 curriculum developed for schools to meet the requirements of Ohio House Bill 367 of the 130th General Assembly, requiring health education to include instruction in prescription opioid misuse prevention, with an emphasis on the connection between prescription opioid misuse and addiction to other drugs, such as heroin. The curriculum is a series of lessons, assessments, and learning materials to develop students’ functional knowledge, attitudes, and necessary skills to prevent drug misuse. Through SOR, Wright State University is developing an expansion to HOPE and updated training plan. This expansion addresses opioids, other substances, and risk behaviors, including depression and suicide. Along with the curriculum, Wright State University is developing a comprehensive web-based training module that will address opioid and substance misuse education along with suicide prevention, mental health, bullying, violence, and other risk behaviors.

Cultural Competence Training

Through technology use and SOR funding, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence developed cultural competency training and an e-learning hub to provide SUD and mental health professionals with resources to support better linkages across the continuum of care specific to OUD and StUD prevention, treatment, and recovery support. The cultural competency trainings address racial disparities to support positive treatment outcomes for Ohioans.

Project LEAD High Expectations (PLHE) Opioid Awareness

The Columbus Chapter of “The Links,” an organization comprised of distinguished women making a difference in their communities, used SOR to implement the PLHE program within middle and high schools in Columbus, Ohio. PLHE compliments their “No Thank You” campaign aimed to reach school-aged children and their families. The goal is to prevent and reduce opioid misuse while strengthening participants connections to treatment and recovery resources, improving social, emotional, and health outcomes. The organization has partnered with 11 schools and various community organizations within Franklin County, including local barber shops, churches, and SUD and mental health agencies, to implement PLHE and the “No Thank You” campaign. During the project period of September 30, 2022, to September 29, 2023, the Columbus Chapter of The Links served 3,569 community members and students through PLHE.

Overdose Reversal Efforts: Saving Lives

Ohio uses several mechanisms to provide overdose reversal agent distribution and education. Ohio’s efforts using SOR and other funding sources have resulted in the distribution of **201,659 naloxone kits**.



Central Registry Integration With the Ohio Prescription Drug Management Program (PDMP)

Ohio's PMDP, known as the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS), collects information on the distribution of prescription-controlled substances and two non-controlled drugs (gabapentin and naltrexone) to Ohio patients. To assist state and local partners in better understanding the distribution of these medications, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy (BOP) developed a PDMP Interactive Data Tool. The SOR–BOP project integrated the Ohio Central Registry with the Ohio PDMP to add an opioid treatment indicator in OARRS to indicate if a patient is currently enrolled in an Opioid Treatment Program and is receiving controlled substance medications for OUD treatment.

This enhancement serves as a mechanism to provide prescribers and pharmacists with information to support clinical decisions and promote coordination of care. The indicator appears on the patient's OARRS report when a prescriber or pharmacist queries a report for their patients. The State Medical Board of Ohio regulations require a prescriber to offer a patient a naloxone prescription in the following scenarios:

1. The patient has a history of prior opioid overdose
2. The dosage prescribed exceeds a daily average of 80 MED, or at lower doses if the patient is co-prescribed a benzodiazepine, sedative hypnotic drug, carisoprodol, tramadol, or gabapentin
3. The patient has a concurrent SUD

To support healthcare providers adhering to this policy, BOP plans to enhance OARRS with a prompt (or flag) to alert the providers to give an overdose reversal medication to patients prescribed high-dose opioid medication, with a SUD or history of a nonfatal overdose.

Naloxone Training and Distribution Through Project DAWN

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is supporting statewide naloxone distribution through Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone). Project DAWN is a network of opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution programs in Ohio. As of October 2023, there are 182 registered Project DAWN programs with partnerships in multiple settings, including local health departments, syringe service programs (SSPs), community grassroot organizations, emergency departments, correctional facilities, leave-behind programs with emergency medical services (EMS), online/mail-order services, and street outreach. The SOR partnership with ODH also supports new community-based programs to operate comprehensive SSPs, implement innovative service delivery models for harm reduction, and institute naloxone dispensing machines, including emergency cabinets and automated dispensing machines.

During the project period from September 30, 2022, to September 29, 2023, ODH distributed 197,006 naloxone kits through Project DAWN sites.

Counterfeit Pills College Campaign

ODH leveraged SOR to implement a Counterfeit Pill Campaign reaching Ohio college students and households to increase awareness of the dangers of counterfeit pills and where to access naloxone. The campaign was delivered through social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube, OTT, and Snapchat. Within the project period, the campaign made a total of 52,106,536 impressions.

Lifesaving Naloxone Kits Installed in Public Spaces

The Franklin County ADAMH Board utilized SOR to purchase 150 NaloxBox kits and installed the boxes in public spaces within zip codes experiencing high numbers of opioid overdose. The NaloxBoxes were installed at Columbus Metropolitan Library locations, community center locations, and a community house. Each NaloxBox contains two doses of naloxone (nasal spray), an English and Spanish instructional guide, a QR code



to the ADAMH website with an instructional video and resources for recovery, and a rescue breathing barrier device. During the quarterly reporting period of July 1, 2023, through September 29, 2023, ADAMH distributed 4,653 naloxone kits.

Implementing Harm Reduction Strategies

Ohio has also used SOR to support allowable harm reduction strategies.

The SOAR Initiative: Deadly Batch Alert System

The SOAR Initiative created a first-of-its-kind platform to anonymously connect public health decision-makers, outreach workers, and individuals who use drugs to share knowledge in real-time to prevent overdose deaths. This system promotes data sharing and overdose prevention by informing individuals with OUD and co-occurring mental conditions about potential overdose surges and fentanyl contamination. The SOAR Initiative also promotes fentanyl test strip distribution. The website includes an interactive map of Columbus with the local bus line that pinpoints where to access naloxone, sterile use supplies, and HIV and hepatitis C (HCV) testing.

During the project period from 09/30/2022 to 09/29/2023, the SOAR Initiative served 9,254 individuals through outreach efforts and provided fentanyl test strips to 12,045 people.

County Harm Reduction Efforts

The Butler County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services (MHRS) Board partners with the Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative as part of their SOR efforts. The Regional Harm Reduction Collaborative aims to introduce, support the implementation of, and expand harm reduction strategies and services through Butler, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, and Warren counties to improve the health of individuals and communities by reducing the negative impacts of substance use. The county harm reduction services include SSPs, naloxone distribution via naloxone vending machines, and connection to local resources, such as health departments, SUD and mental health services, and medical care.

The MHRS Board of Seneca, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Wyandot counties partners with the Sandusky Public Health Department to promote local harm reduction efforts, including the distribution of drug disposal bags, medication lock boxes, naloxone, and NaloxBoxes in northwest Ohio. Within the project of period September 30, 2022, to September 29, 2023, the organization distributed more than 800 prescription medication lock boxes, pouches, and bags, and over 1,000 Detera medication disposal bags, in the community. Sandusky Public Health Department also trained 15 agencies on naloxone use and installed NaloxBoxes at these places of business to reach individuals most at-risk for overdose.

The Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Board partnered with Stark County's Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities to embed a peer support specialist in a weekly SSP to engage individuals who are in active use and link them to services, as needed. Experiencing historical barriers engaging this population, the peer support specialist's weekly participation in the harm reduction program successfully increased involvement and engagement during the project period of September 30, 2022, to September 29, 2023.

Culturally Specific Community Awareness

Cleveland Treatment Center leverages SOR to disseminate culturally specific prevention and harm reduction information to reach African American, Hispanic, LGBTQIA2S+, and Appalachian Ohioans most at-risk for

overdose. The organization attends community-based events to reach local residents and distribute information about naloxone, fentanyl test strips, and treatment options, including MOUD.

Increasing Access to Treatment

Ohio has used SOR to expand treatment access for OUD, including MOUD. Through collective efforts, the state has provided MOUD treatment for 335 clients.

Community-Based MOUD for Pregnant Women

The Alcohol and Drug Freedom Center of Knox County is an outpatient SUD and mental health treatment and prevention organization that receives SOR funding. This funding aims to expand the community's access to FDA-approved MOUD, overdose prevention education, naloxone distribution, and SUD case management. The Freedom Center offers treatment options for all ages and special populations, including pregnant women. Patients have access to health education and screenings for HIV, HCV, pregnancy, and diabetes, as well as links to medical services and infectious disease specialists for HCV treatment.

The Freedom Center's MOUD program implements clinical protocols and uses evidence-based treatments to address pregnant women with OUD. This is done in accordance with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Society of Addiction Medicine. The program includes education on the risks of neonatal abstinence syndrome and coordination of clinical care with the participant's OB/GYN provider.



County-Based Treatment Expansion

OneEighty, Inc. offers SUD and mental health crisis services across the full continuum of care within Wayne and Holmes counties. Services at the organization include MOUD, peer recovery support services, transitional housing, recovery housing, and residential treatment. OneEighty uses SOR to expand and increase access to evidence-based treatment and reduce social determinants of health. The organization successfully implemented an electronic health record with a feature to remind clients of treatment appointments through text, email, or phone call. If a client does not confirm their appointment, program staff continue outreach attempts to resolve potential barriers by offering telehealth appointments, transportation assistance, and/or rescheduling. To effectively treat individuals with StUD, OneEighty is expanding its treatment offerings to include evidence-based contingency management programming.

Ohio's SUD Center of Excellence (SUD COE)

Ohio's SUD COE is building and expanding infrastructure to support the adoption, implementation, and evaluation of evidence-based and evidence-supported practices and policies regarding SUDs associated with high mortality, including OUD, StUD, and alcohol use disorder. Over the coming year, SUD COE will provide guidance and support for these practices to community-based organizations across the state. It is in the process of collaborating with state organizations, ADAMH boards, and community stakeholders to provide training and the most relevant research on evidence-based and evidence-supported practices related to substance misuse, information on their sustainability, and background on their relevance to culturally diverse clients. Currently, there are four trainings SUD COE offers, including "Overview of Best Practices in the



Supervision of Substance Use Treatment Providers,” “Foundational Principles of Substance Use Disorders Treatment,” “Ethics and Boundaries for Substance Use Disorder Professionals,” and “Engagement & Retention in Substance Use Disorder Treatment.” Trainings on motivational interviewing, contingency management, and other best practices will follow throughout 2024 and 2025. This initiative is funded with other sources, but the resources are available to all Ohio SOR-funded organizations.

Hospital-Based Medications for the Treatment of OUD

OhioHealth Grant Medical Center hospital is located in downtown Columbus and offers a full range of adult medical services and specialties. Through SOR, the organization is providing evidence-based and innovative strategies to increase SUD treatment access. The program implements a comprehensive approach, including access to FDA-approved MOUD, a patient-centered treatment plan, behavioral therapies, harm reduction, contingency management, and addressing social determinants of health. The program successfully coordinated with Riverside Hospital through SOR 2.0 funding to implement an inpatient addiction consult service and is replicating the program at OhioHealth Doctors Hospital with SOR 3.0. As a result, Doctors Hospital medical staff have reported increased knowledge and support of OhioHealth’s SUD services, leading to more consultations on how to initiate MOUD and more individuals beginning MOUD while in emergency medical care with transition to outpatient care.

Maternal Opiate Medical Supports (MOMS) Program

First Step Home, Inc. is a SUD treatment center located in Cincinnati. Its SOR-funded MOMS program supports an integrated system of care that addresses SUD treatment with onsite housing support for mothers and their children. Onsite MOUD, childcare while attending treatment, comprehensive nursing services, vocational programming, pregnancy and postpartum support services, and pediatric services are available to all clients.

Supporting Long-Term Recovery

Ohio has used SOR to assist **830 individuals in active recovery** by providing peer support services, recovery housing services, and specialized recovery supports to infants and families impacted by OUD.

Faith-Based Recovery Home: Farm Training Program

Andrew’s House of Hope, located in rural Allen County, is a faith-based recovery house that focuses on agricultural vocational training. Clients are referred to Andrew’s House of Hope by local courts, hospitals, treatment centers, or self-referral. The SOR program provides access to recovery housing and peer recovery support for residents enrolled in its Agricultural Training Program. The goals of the program are to empower women by building self-esteem, restoring integrity, and helping them recognize self-worth. Agriculture training programs include a community garden and holistic skill-building through the Greenhouse & Chicken Coop operation. Andrew’s House of Hope collaborates with community partners, including Lima Community Church and United Way of Allen County.

Reaching Babies and Families

Located in Montgomery County, Brigid’s Path provides care coordination and recovery support to infants and families impacted by OUD. The SOR program specifically reaches mothers with OUD and infants experiencing neonatal abstinence syndrome within a residential setting to provide medical and therapeutic care. The family advocates and peer coaches at Brigid’s Path engage the full family to promote long-term recovery and ensure participants have access to needed services pre- and post-delivery through implementing plans of safe care.

The family advocacy team serves families by working alongside children services, attending court and probationary hearings, coordinating recovery care, and connecting families to community resources, including how to obtain a state identification card and housing.

Peer Support to Reach the LGBTQIA2S+ Community

People, Places, and Dreams provides peer recovery support with a focus on reaching racial minorities and members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. The organization uses SOR funding to expand peer support services, recovery housing, advocacy, and education in Cuyahoga County. The program also introduced smoking cessation education and peer support services for individuals with co-occurring OUD and nicotine disorders. The peer support services focus on connecting individuals with OUD to community resources, vocational assistance, withdrawal management with MOUD, and ongoing treatment. From the reporting period of September 30, 2021, to March 30, 2022, People, Places, and Dreams served 410 individuals through the peer support program.



Brother You're on My Mind Toolkit for the African American Community

Recovery Solutions of Northeast Ohio located in Cuyahoga County provides recovery housing to men engaged in treatment services for and/or in recovery from SUD. The organization specifically aims to reach African Americans and address social determinants of health in the recovery system of care. Through the SOR program, Recovery Solutions of Northeast Ohio is implementing the “Brother You’re on My Mind” toolkit to educate the African American community about SUD and co-occurring mental conditions with emphasis on OUD. The program aims to reach Ohio residents through community outreach and train SUD and mental health practitioners and stakeholders on culturally appropriate treatment and recovery practices. During the reporting period of January 1, 2023, to March 30, 2023, Recovery Solutions of Northeast Ohio successfully reached 687 individuals through the “Brother You’re on My Mind” toolkit.

Short-Term Refuge

The Living With Testimony (LIT) Movement in Cincinnati is a recovery ministry to help people with SUD. SOR funding supports safe, short-term housing and connects individuals immediately to treatment services to address barriers in accessing care. The LIT Movement Short-Term Refuge Program provides treatment connection for individuals with SUD and maintains relationships with local treatment centers at all levels of care to streamline services and close system gaps. The program employs peer recovery coaches to create a recovery community and promote treatment.

Ohio Connections for Recovery App

Thrive Peer Support provides comprehensive mental health and substance use peer recovery services to promote long-term recovery for Ohioans. As part of the SOR grant, Thrive Peer Support is implementing “Ohio Connections for Recovery” in partnership with CHES Health, which involves innovative technology to provide evidence-based peer support in communities significantly impacted by the SUD crisis. The Connections app offers 24/7 digital resources and live peer support through community discussion forums, support group meetings, a content library, digital cognitive behavioral therapy programming, daily check-in questions, weekly

assessments, and appointment and prescription reminders. The organization has deployed the Spanish version of the app “Conexiones” to reach immigrants and non-English speakers. During the project period of September 30, 2022, to September 29, 2023, Thrive Peer Support reached 600 individuals through the English and Spanish versions of the Connections/Conexiones app.

Reaching & Serving Populations of Focus

Ohio has identified several subpopulations for targeted initiatives: African and Hispanic/Latinx Americans; pregnant and postpartum women; veterans; LGBTQ+ populations; individuals in rural and isolated areas; and immigrants and non-English speakers.

Think, Act, Live Campaign Reaching African American and Hispanic Communities

The Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program (UMADAOP) was originally established in 1980 to aid in the prevention of alcohol misuse among African and Hispanic Americans throughout Ohio. Now, MHAS supports 11 UMADAOPs and one specialized program across Ohio. These organizations are a vital force in meeting the substance misuse education, prevention, and treatment needs of African and Hispanic/Latinx Americans throughout the state. As part of SOR, the UMADAOP of Lucas County collaborated with other UMADAOP organizations and local agencies to deliver a comprehensive multi-media education campaign geared to reduce overdose deaths related to fentanyl, fake opioid pills, and the misuse of prescription pain medication. The campaign is called “Think, Act, Live” and is targeted to African American and Hispanic communities through two key messages: “Know the Real, One Pill Can Kill” and “Naloxone Can Save Lives and Help Prevent Deaths Related to Drug Overdoses.”

The UMADAOP organizations launched the culturally specific campaign in 83 Ohio zip codes, reaching an estimated 75% of African and Hispanic Americans residing in Ohio.

Embrace Program for Maternal Care Home for Women and Infants

Coleman Health Services offers comprehensive SUD and mental health services, residential treatment, employment, and supportive services to 10 Ohio counties. As part of the SOR grant, Coleman Health Services partners with Mercy Health St. Rita’s Medical Center to provide the “Embrace Program,” a maternal care home for women and infants impacted by OUD and StUD. The program offers comprehensive medical, SUD, and mental health services to address service gaps for pregnant and postpartum women. Care coordination uses an extensive network of community partners to remove barriers and improve engagement, retention, abstinence, and overall care for this at-risk population. A peer recovery coach, case manager, therapist, and full-time care coordinator work to address the range of supports the target population needs, including transportation to treatment, safe infant care education, MOUD, and housing stabilization.

Operation Protect and Serve for Veterans and Active-Duty Service Members

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) is supporting recovery supports, education, and certified peer support training for veterans and active-duty service members through SOR. The innovative collaboration titled “Operation Protect and Serve” is implemented in the ODVS Domiciliary (DOM) and led by the veteran voice to support a culture shift toward veterans, their families, and community support systems in achieving long-term SUD recovery. This initiative works within state and federal systems to support best practices, including trauma- and recovery-informed approaches. This program has expanded services for DOM residents with OUD, StUD, and other concurrent SUD through veteran-certified peer recovery supporters. The SOR



initiative with ODVS also supports peer recovery support certification training for veterans. The certified training program uses an approved Veterans Affairs curriculum and promotes workforce development, increased recovery supports for veteran audiences, and implementation of best practices.

Serving LGBTQ+ Populations

The ADAMH Board of Cuyahoga County partners with B. Riley House under SOR. The B. Riley House is an LGBTQIA2S+ drug and alcohol treatment facility in Cleveland that offers inpatient treatment, partial hospitalization programming, intensive outpatient programming, and peer recovery support services. The organization strives to help members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community achieve long-term sobriety, reduce recidivism, and provide continued support to individuals in their recovery journey.

Serving Appalachian and Rural Ohioans

The Muskingum Area MHRS Board serves a six-county area in Appalachian Ohio, including Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, and Perry counties. Due to high poverty and rural geography, transportation to treatment is a reported barrier for many seeking services within the area. Through SOR, the board collaborated with local providers to expand treatment service offerings while addressing barriers to care, including transportation needs. Within the reporting period of January 1, 2023, to March 30, 2023, the board reached 215 Appalachian and rural Ohioans through treatment and recovery support activities.



About the Opioid Response Network (ORN): ORN is a group of diverse individuals and organizations working collaboratively to address the opioid and stimulant crisis. Funded by SAMHSA's SOR/Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) Technical Assistance (TA) grant, ORN works with states, health professionals, community organizations, the justice system, and individuals in all 50 states and nine territories to provide education and training. **Visit the ORN website [here](#) or request training or TA [here](#).**

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