

Board Update

Mental Health & Recovery Services (MHRS) Board
Serving Coshocton, Guemsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties
1500 Coal Run Road, Zanesville, Ohio 43701
Phone: 740-454-8557

Regular Board Meeting
Highlights
May 14, 2026

FinancialMatters

Under the guidance of Finance/Audit Committee Chair Dr. Dan Scheerer, members reviewed and acted upon the following issues:

- **Reconciliation Report:** Approved the April 2026 Reconciliation Report that showed deposits, checks written for MHRS Board operations, payments to in-network contract service providers and out-of-network community partners, and journal entries.
- **Other Financial Reports:** Reviewed the following April 2026 fiscal reports: 1) Balance Sheet through April 30, 2026; 2) Monthly Report of Funding Reserves; 3) Year-to-Date Status Report for the MHRS Board's Operating Budget; and 4) a Dashboard Report that provides a high-level overview of key fiscal indicators.
- **FY 2027 Funding Allocations for Contract Organizations:** Approved FY 2027 Funding Allocations for Contract Organizations, totaling \$4,407,824.49.
- **'Then and Now' Certificate:** Approved a 'then and now' certificate for Micheli, Baldwin, Mortimer, McLendon, & Whitacre LLP, – Purchase Order #26-121618 in the amount of \$4,750.00.
- **Special Allocation Request FY 2025-2026 Contract for Genesis YCSC:** Approved Special Allocation to Genesis Healthcare System for up to \$1.3 million for the operation of the Youth Crisis Stabilization Unit.



Executive Director
Misty Cromwell

Board of Directors
Sean Brady

Reid Carpenter

Abby Corder

Leondra Davis

Randi Earnest

Dennis Hitchcock

Sue Hoover

William Johnson

Tony Mayle, Jr.

Dave Peoples, Cambridge
Police Chief

Dan Scheerer, M.D.

Wendy Starlin

Ben Taylor

Bonnie Taylor

Board President
Leondra Davis

Board Vice President
Ben Taylor

Mission Statement

Our mission is to distribute federal, state, and local funding to community mental health providers in a way that facilitates the existence of (and access to) high-quality mental health and substance use recovery services in our six counties.

Strengthening Prevention Across the Muskingum Area: Coalition Updates and Regional Trends

Across the Muskingum Area MHRS Board's six-county region, prevention coalitions and community partnerships continue to play a critical role in addressing suicide, overdose deaths, mental health concerns, and other behavioral health challenges. Recent coalition updates highlighted both growth and ongoing challenges within local prevention efforts. Perry County's Prevention Coalition has expanded community education, QPR trainings, youth engagement initiatives, and cross-sector collaboration by uniting suicide prevention, substance use prevention, and anti-human trafficking efforts under one coordinated structure. Coshocton County has also begun rebuilding its coalition network after several years of inactivity, focusing on creating a broader prevention model centered on collaboration, education, and early intervention.

The presentation also highlighted the continued importance of Overdose Fatality Reviews (OFRs) and Suicide Fatality Reviews (SFRs), which bring together multidisciplinary partners to identify trends, service gaps, and prevention opportunities following overdose and suicide deaths. These reviews help communities move beyond reacting to tragedy and toward building stronger, data-informed prevention and response systems. Local review processes have supported efforts to improve crisis coordination, strengthen community partnerships, expand education initiatives, and identify areas where additional support and intervention may be needed.

Regional data presented during the update reinforced the urgency of continued prevention work throughout Southeastern Ohio. Between 2023 and 2025, the six-county region recorded 111 confirmed suicide deaths, with regional totals increasing steadily during the reporting period. Overdose data also showed that while finalized overdose deaths declined regionally from 2021 to 2023, communities continue to experience significant impact from substance use and overdose-related incidents. Despite these challenges, coalition leaders, community agencies, schools, healthcare partners, law enforcement, and local organizations continue working collaboratively to strengthen prevention, increase awareness, reduce stigma, and connect residents with lifesaving resources and support throughout the region.



SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY IMPACT – SHENANDOAH “ROOTED IN FATHERHOOD” BREAKFAST

NOBLE COUNTY DADS: ROOTED IN FATHERHOOD officially launched with a community pancake breakfast that brought fathers and their children together for a morning of connection, conversation, and fun at the school.

The kickoff event welcomed dads and kids from Shenandoah Elementary, offering a relaxed and welcoming space focused on strengthening father-child relationships and building a supportive network for fathers. Families shared breakfast, laughter, and time together setting the tone for a new initiative centered on engaged, present, and supported fatherhood.

Noble County Dads: Rooted in Fatherhood is designed to support fathers through relationship-building, peer support, and opportunities to grow as parents and community members. The initiative recognizes the critical role fathers play in family stability, child development, and community well-being.

Our work is rooted in showing up, building relationships, and growing together-because strong dads help build strong families and a stronger community. Thank you to every dad and child who joined us for our first gathering.

The pancake breakfast marks the first of many planned activities. Future events will include gatherings, educational opportunities, and resources aimed at strengthening father-child relationships and building a strong community of dads.

