



Mental Health & Recovery Services Board
Serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties
ACCESS TO WELLNESS FUNDING PARAMETERS

The purpose of Access to Wellness is to leverage existing resources and partnerships to develop a coordinated response that is supportive of individuals with severe and persistent mental illness who are involved in multiple systems. The overarching goal of Access to Wellness is to support community tenure, successful recovery, and positive long-term outcomes for individuals diagnosed with severe mental illness (SMI).

This strategic approach is a partnership with county ADAMHS boards and their community providers that offers financial assistance and recovery support to adults who meet eligibility criteria. Communities may choose to coordinate their own Access to Wellness-focused collaboratives or build upon existing collaboratives between community partners. Through these partnerships, a tailored network of care is created so that Ohioans have access to resources and supports they need to work, live, and thrive in the communities of their choosing, while navigating multiple systems in which they are involved.

Access to Wellness thrives on **strengthened communication and collaboration between systems** to secure available resources with a focus on sustainability. Systems collaboration is a requirement of all participating county ADAMHS boards. Once an eligible adult is identified, the collaborative or coalition would be engaged to help address the individual's needs.

Recovery supports are a type of assistance intended to help an individual initiate and sustain recovery. Recovery supports are identified on an individual basis and based upon clinical judgment and client need. **Before using Access to Wellness funds, all other local, state, and federal funds must be exhausted except for levy funds.**

Access to Wellness eligible individuals are identified through collaborations between county ADAMHS boards and local service providers. Each participating board has developed a referral process to identify eligible individuals and provide recovery support.

Collaboratives may include the following, but are not limited to:

- Area Agencies on Aging
- Behavioral Health Providers
- County Boards of Developmental Disabilities
- Courts and Supervising Authorities/Criminal Justice Professionals
- Day Service Providers
- First Responders
- Guardianship Organizations
- Homeless Serving Agencies
- Housing Providers and/or Landlords
- Jail Staff
- Law Enforcement
- NAMI
- Peer-Led Organizations
- People with Lived Experience and their Families



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- Psychiatric Hospitals
- Re-entry Coalitions
- Regional and Private Psychiatric Hospitals
- Supervising Authorities
- Veteran Services

Once an individual has been identified, the application will be completed and sent to admin@mhrs.org at the MHRS Board for review and approval by the collaborative or coalition. Board staff will provide a final review to ensure client needs and clinical necessities are met. Should any clarification be needed, board staff will contact the referring agency. The goal is to provide wraparound services that assist the client to reduce or eliminate future legal involvement, hospitalizations, and crisis services. If it is an emergency situation, please contact the Board at 740-454-8557.

This is not a lifetime program. It is meant to assist each client while working to find long-term solutions. Each client is eligible for assistance up to \$8000.00. There are guidelines established to determine what the funds may be used for. Clients must also fulfill the grant requirements listed on each application. Should a client be rearrested, re-admitted to the hospital for MH reasons or be admitted to the Crisis Center following their enrollment in the Access to Wellness program, the collaborative/coalition and Board need to be notified. This information is required for the mid-year and year-end report to ODMHAS.

The application may be found on the MHRS Board website at www.mhrs.org or by contacting the Board at 740-454-8557.