### 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



Several board members joined the other 175 attendees of the Portage Substance Abuse & Mental Health Conference which included topics on gambling and gaming, the rise of methamphetamine and its impact on the overdose crisis, the impact of lack of sleep, harm reduction, and prescribing controlled drugs after the opioid epidemic.



The Board along with our partners at Kent State University held suicide prevention and mental health awareness trainings throughout the year during the first year of a five year SAMHSA Mental Health Awareness Training Grant. Over 575 individuals were trained in Portage County.



Officer Matthew Butcher (second from left) of Kent City Police was named the 2022 Crisis Intervention Team Officer of the Year by the Portage County Police Chief's Association and the Board. He received the honor for the assistance he gave to a suicidal woman this year. The Board trained 27 first responders in the 40-hour CIT course in 2022.

# Mental Health Recovery Board OF PORTAGE COUNTY

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

## DIRECTOR'S DESK

As our community began to emerge again after the pandemic, the Mental Health & Recovery Board and provider agencies were able to begin new programs as well as expand existing programs and much needed services.



*Handle with Care* is a new Board initiative to help Portage County children. It's a cross-system collaborative and trauma-informed program to identify

children who have been exposed to adverse events and provide them with interventions that build resilience through positive relationships with teachers and first responders. The Northeast Ohio Children's Trust Fund awarded the Board a grant to begin this work.

Coleman Health Services began a *Mobile Response Services Team* for youth and adults. The team provides mobile behavioral health services to individuals in the home, at school, the workplace, and in various other community settings for crisis intervention, information, and referral.

The *988 National Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline* launched in 2022. Townhall II is the provider for service in Portage County as well as continuing to operate their longtime board-funded 24/7 helpline phone number, 330-678-HELP.

*Celebrating Families* is a 16-week program at Children's Advantage for families struggling with addiction to come together to heal through family meals and guided discussions. The program is funded through the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services' State Opioid Response Grant.

Townhall II launched a peer-led *Mothers In Recovery Support Group* with an education componet provided by prevention specialists. Dinner and childcare is included in this popular program funded by the Board.

The *Portage Crisis Intervention Team's (CIT) Mental Health Outreach program* received the Celebrate Portage Health Initiative Award. The program is a collaboration between police officers and case managers at Coleman Health Services to improve responses to mental health crises by outreaching to individuals in the community alongside police to provide resources and to assist in service engagement.

This fiscal year, the Board had levy funds remaining from FY20 and FY21 because agencies weren't able to fully spend down their contracts due to the pandemic. The Board reinvested these funds back into the agencies to target long-term investments in infrastructure as well as work force development and uncompensated care.

As we realize the effects of the pandemic have been overwhelming, we will continue to evaluate the needs of our community. The Board's goal is to provide needed and effective mental health and addiction services, maintain financial support for the system of care, and educate the community about mental health and addiction services and issues.

John Garrity, PhD, Executive Director

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Vice Chair

**Chairman** William Nome

Albert Barber Denise DePerro LaTesha Dukes Harold Farrier n Nome Iris J. Meltzer Joanne Frick Janice Hambleton Audrey Cielinski Kessler Jeff Langstaff

Emily Schmidlin Jennifer Schumm Jamie Sitko Scott Swan

## FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

### HELPING PORTAGE COUNTY CHILDREN & ADULTS

**419** children and teens received treatment for trauma, emotional problems, mental illness and substance use disorders.

**1515** adults received treatment for trauma, emotional problems, mental illness and substance use disorders.

**32,078** contacts with people through the 24-HR crisis calls, information and referral calls, incidents of walk-in counseling, crisis outreach and screening for hospitalization.

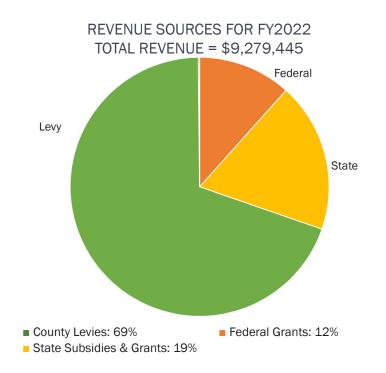
**132** admissions through the Coleman Crisis Stabilization Unit.

**6,902** youth and adults participated in prevention education programs.

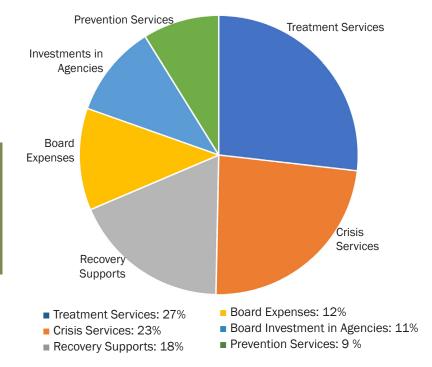
**541** students identified at risk and screened in all Portage County School Districts through a program funded by the Board. **43**% were identified as having mental health issues requiring therapy and/or psychiatry services.







TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2022 = \$8,769,851



#### www.mental-health-recovery.org • 330.673.1756 • 155 E. Main St. PO Box 743, Kent, OH 44240



We celebrated the ribbon cuttings for two board supported facilities this year — Children's Advantage's new counseling offices (left) and the Family & Community Service's King Kennedy Community Center gym in Ravenna.



Coming together to support the Recovery Community at Lights of Change.