



## Take Our 3 Question Survey!

The Mental Health & Recovery Board would like to know what the community needs are regarding mental health and substance use disorder treatment and prevention services in Portage County. Your feedback is important.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LNT5BVF>



## Family Conference on Addiction Presentations



Over 75 people attended the family conference on addiction organized by the Portage Substance Abuse Community Coalition. Attendees listened to presentations on legal issues and the Portage County drug court, brain disease of addiction, pathways to treatment, secondary trauma and self-care, supporting loved ones struggling with addiction, and recovery stories.

Presenters at the conference included: Sara Roberts, Hope Village; Kelly Hart; Abigail Schock, Portage County Public Defender's Office; Jennifer Jones; Rob Young and Bridget Stuntz, Townhall II; Becky Lehman, Portage County Health District; and Theresa Spiker, Portage County Adult Probation.

<https://www.mental-health-recovery.org/family-conference-on-addiction>

## Friend of Public Health

The Mental Health & Recovery Board's Director of Community Relations, Karyn Hall, was recognized as the 2018 Friend of Public Health Award from the Portage County Health District.

The award is given to individuals who demonstrate commitment to the health of Portage County residents through actions that prove leadership or advocacy regarding issues that impact the health and safety of Portage County residents.



Hall was recognized at the annual Combined General Health District Advisory Council Meeting, held March 21 at the Ravenna Elks Lodge. She was chosen “due to her tireless demonstration of leadership and advocacy to the health of Portage County residents,” according to the health district.

Hall is the director of community relations for the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County. In this role, she devises public relations campaigns, performs community outreach and education and works to connect people to needed resources. Karyn has more than 15 years’ experience in marketing, communication and event management in non-profit, university and corporate settings.

Hall “tirelessly leads and participates on many coalitions and committees that serve the residents of Portage County,” according to the health district. She was instrumental in the development of the partnership between Portage County Health District and the Mental Health and Recovery Board for the Project DAWN, or Deaths Avoided with Naloxone, program.

In 2016, the Health District and Mental Health & Recovery Board won the Portage County Public Health & Safety Initiative award from Celebrate Portage for their partnership in the community-based Project DAWN program.

## **Bringing Help, Bringing Hope. Thank you.**

A letter from Joel Mowrey, PhD, executive director thanking all who are helping those struggling with addiction, as part of Ohio's Week of Appreciation.

*As we continue to face a drug issue of epidemic proportion in our community, I want to take a moment to show appreciation for all people who are involved on the front lines of this fight.*

*With the message of “Bringing Help, Bringing Hope. Thank You.” this week of April 6-13, across Ohio, communities are expressing thanks and gratitude to the people who spend their days working tirelessly to help save lives fighting the opiate epidemic. From police, EMS/Fire, mental health and addiction agencies, teachers, courts, probation officers, hospitals, primary care physicians and nurses, case workers, and many others who are in the helping professions, these individuals directly assist those that they serve engage in treatment and achieve recovery, support children and families impacted by this disease, promote prevention activities, and build strong, resilient communities.*

*In addition, we want to especially recognize the family members who struggle on a daily basis to help their loved ones get healthy and stay in recovery. The love and support from family members is often the most important factor in someone obtaining help for their substance use disorder.*

*Every sector of society is impacted by addiction and this epidemic and it’s going to take every part of every community to develop a solution to this problem. In our county, the Portage Substance Abuse Community Coalition works to address this community health issue.*

*Through this work, we’ll continue to bring hope to our community and build the understanding that Treatment Works and People Recover.*

## Read our 2017 Annual Report

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The Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County's annual report is available on our website: [www.mental-health-recovery.org/newsletters-annual-reports](http://www.mental-health-recovery.org/newsletters-annual-reports)

## Upcoming Events

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May 19: OhioCAN's Steps of Change, Ravenna City Park

June 11: Mental Health & Recovery Board Meeting, Kent

June 14: Community Addiction & Drug Awareness, Portage Community Chapel

June 18 & 19: Mental Health First Aid, Coleman Ravenna

October 23: Portage Substance Abuse Coalition Conference, NEOMED, **Save the date!**

## NETWORK OF CARE



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