



Public Mental Health System Structure

The Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) is responsible to establish and support a program at the state level to promote a community support system in accordance to section 340.03 of the Ohio Revised Code to be available for every alcohol drug addiction, and mental health service district. To carry out its responsibilities, the Department funds, reviews and monitors community mental health programs, in part, through 50 county-level boards. Each board is required to submit an annual community plan to the Department. These boards, which in most cases oversee both mental health and addiction services, do not directly provide services. They act as local authorities, contracting for services provided by private organizations and the public Regional Psychiatric Hospitals operated by ODMH. These local systems of care contract with more than 400 local agencies/providers of behavioral health services.

Division and Office Descriptions

Director's Office

The ODMH Director is responsible for overall management of Ohio's mental health system, the Director's Office leads policy formulation, public mental health planning, budget development, and resource management to ensure high-quality mental-health services in Ohio. Public Affairs staff members who direct activities related to outreach, constituent services, legislation, and internal and external communications report to the director.

Medical Director

Pursuant to ORC 5119.07, the Medical Director exercises behavioral healthcare leadership and responsibility for decisions relating to medical diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, quality assurance, and the clinical aspects of Ohio's mental health system. The Medical Director provides direction across all aspects of public mental health treatment in Ohio to increase access to high quality, safe and effective mental health services across the life cycle. This position manages the chief clinical officers within Ohio's state-run Regional Psychiatric Hospitals and guides the development of clinical protocols to improve patient care.

Administrative Services

The Administrative Services Division oversees Fiscal Administration, Information Services, Capital Planning and Management, Support Services, and the Office of Health Integration.

- **Capital Planning and Management**
This office is responsible for the management of capital-improvement projects for all departmental facilities and ODMH-funded community projects. Staff members provide project management, maintenance, engineering and architectural consultation.
- **Fiscal Administration**
This office prepares the department's biennial budget; performs fiscal analysis, audits and monitoring; allocates the department's fiscal resources; and coordinates appropriation and reimbursement operations and accounting.
- **Information Services**
The Office of Information Services provides system design and operation of community mental-health information systems, hospital patient care data systems, and systems for cost accounting and reimbursement to insure that data is available for the planning, monitoring and development of quality mental health services in the community.

- **Health Integration**

The Office of Health Integration promotes state-wide efforts to coordinate behavioral health and primary care through the adoption of clinical best practices. One key initiative is the **Pediatric Psychiatry Network (PPN)**, a private-public partnership allowing for efficient, cost effective access to timely psychiatric screening, diagnosis and treatment for youth throughout Ohio within their medical homes. The office oversees local management of the Community Medicaid program by county mental health and ADAMH boards, and assures compliance with all federal and state Medicaid requirements. It also manages federal incentives to increase access to mental health providers in underserved areas of Ohio.

- **Support Services**

Support Services provides a diverse array of auxiliary services to state institutional agencies, county health departments, and selected community mental health agencies. It procures and provides pharmaceuticals and food products, as well as laboratory, medical and pharmacy supplies, medical records, forms, personal care and housekeeping products.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Division administers all workforce administration functions for the Department, this includes: human capital management and processing, labor relations, equal employment opportunity and worker's compensation. This office directly administers these functions at the central office level and provides human resources strategic leadership and operational guidance for the Department's regional psychiatric hospitals, and Community Service Network (CSN) programs.

The Division also assists with the personal service contract function for ODMH including functioning as the liaison with the State of Ohio Controlling Board. In addition, a Training and Education section maintains an accredited Continuing Education Unit (CEU) function and grants approval of CEUs for training. The training function provides a link between ODMH administration and the Hospital Services in-service educators as well as a link with Workforce Development and Professional Development programs.

Hospital Services

ODMH operates six Regional Psychiatric Hospitals that provide comprehensive in-patient treatment to people with severe mental disorders and community-support services to people served by local mental-health systems. The hospitals serve civil patients with acute care needs and forensic patients referred by criminal courts.

The Hospital Services division manages clinical safety and quality improvement activities in these state-run hospitals through a system of care. It also works with communities to help safely discharge and reintegrate patients.

A staff member in Hospital Services acts as the liaison to a federal Block Grant funded Coordinating Center of Excellence (CCOE) for Mental Illness and Developmental Disabilities (MI/DD). Approximately 40 percent of individuals with intellectual disabilities also have mental illness. This partnership of ODMH, DODD, and the Ohio DD Council develops local integrated dual diagnosis teams, assists with discharge planning from institutional care, and consults on diagnostic and treatment statewide.

Legal and Regulatory Services

- **Legal Services**

This office manages litigation affecting the department and its employees. Legal staff members advise ODMH personnel on issues including commitment procedures, patients' rights, potential and existing contracts and all policies relating to the operation of the hospitals and other department activities. ODMH also has statutory and regulatory authority over providers of mental health services to Ohio consumers.

- **Standards and Administrative Rules**

This office performs duties that are part of the regulatory process, along with its responsibility for oversight of the department's Ohio Administrative Code rules. Staff review and follow up on incident notification reports submitted by certified community mental health agencies and licensed residential facilities.

- **Licensure & Certification**

This office licenses private hospitals' psychiatric units and community-residential programs and certifies community mental-health agencies. Regulatory activities include on-site surveys, inspections and reviews to determine compliance with the applicable administrative rules. Agencies are certified every three years, private psychiatric units/hospitals are licensed annually, and residential facilities are licensed every two years. Entities in compliance are issued a certificate and/or license to conduct specific mental health services and activities.

- **Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR)**

Federally mandated in Section 1919 (E)(7) of the Social Security Act, the PASRR Office determines if an applicant seeking admission into (or seeking remainder within) a Medicaid-certified nursing facility (NF) has a serious mental illness. Subsequently, two concurrent determinations are made as to whether the applicant requires the level of services provided in a NF, and whether the applicant requires specialized services for mental illness.

Program and Policy Development

This division develops and implements programs in Ohio's mental-health system through coordination with Ohio's 50 community mental health boards and other stakeholder groups, such as child-serving entities, consumer-operated services, the criminal justice system and statewide advocacy organizations. Staff members also serve as liaisons to federal Block Grant funded Coordinating Centers of Excellence (CCOEs). These CCOEs, which are often based in university settings, have statewide responsibility to deliver best practice training and technical assistance approaches toward continuous quality improvement.

- **Children, Families & Prevention**

This office promotes comprehensive community systems of mental health care for children, youth, young adults and families statewide by involving youth and families as partners in the planning, implementing and evaluating of the system of care. With a focus on promoting mental health wellness and resiliency, staff members collaborate with other state departments to enhance the statewide prevention system. This office also partners with the **Center for Innovative Practice (CIP)** at Case Western Reserve University.

- **Community Planning, Client Rights & Recovery Initiatives**

This office supports the department's legally mandated processes of the Community Plan, the SAMHSA Community Block Grant, Allocation Guidelines, and the planning for the mental health portion of the Community Social Services Block Grant (Title XX). It also upholds an individual's rights when he or she is receiving care in a Regional Psychiatric Hospital. Staff members advocate for access to disability benefits and trauma-informed care, promote services to older adults and support suicide prevention. They also serve as liaisons with ODMH-funded consumer and a family advocacy organizations. A Toll-Free Bridge phone line operated by the office provides free information and referral to assist consumers and family members.

- **Community Supports & Emergency Preparedness**

This office develops initiatives related to employment and housing, and supports consumer benefit planning that enables people with mental illness to live and work as they choose in their communities. Staff members manage grants that support the above activities, administer the Residential State Supplement to eligible people who choose to live in adult care housing, and provide statewide leadership to address issues of cultural competence in Ohio's behavioral healthcare system. In addition, the office is responsible for developing Ohio's behavioral health care system capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from national disasters and emergencies, including man-made and natural events.

- **Forensic Services**

This office manages and supports the system of services provided to people with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system. Staff members work with Ohio communities, judges, criminal justice professionals, legislators, state agencies and the Regional Psychiatric Hospitals on issues that impact the forensic population. These include four primary areas: 1) continuity of care for people with mental illness who are entering or leaving Ohio prisons; 2) consistent and effective forensic evaluation and treatment; 3) jail diversion and reentry programs, including the **Criminal Justice CCOE**, which provides crisis intervention training for law enforcement officers; and 4) oversight of the Community Forensic Monitoring Program that tracks people on conditional release.

- **Research and Evaluation**

This office identifies questions of importance to the Department and the public mental health system, and funds research projects to address these priorities. The office conducts major statewide research on services and outcomes for adults with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance, and on factors related to the adoption of best practices. The office also evaluates Department program and policy initiatives, and manages the development and implementation of the Treatment Episode Outcomes System.

Ohio Family and Children First

The Ohio Department of Mental Health is the fiscal agency for Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF), which is part of the Governor's Office. In 1993 under the leadership of then Governor Voinovich, Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) Cabinet Council was created in statute to help families and their children by coordinating and streamlining government services, systems, and resources. Made up of eleven children, youth, and family serving state agencies (departments of Aging, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Developmental Disabilities, Education, Health, Job and Family Services, Mental Health, Rehabilitation and Correction, Youth Services, Office of Budget and Management, and the Rehabilitation Services Commission), the OFCF Cabinet Council oversees the local Family and Children First Councils (FCFC) which coordinates services in each of Ohio's 88 counties. This partnership brings community leaders together to align systems, services, and resources around a shared vision for Ohio's families and children (ages 0 to 25).