



"Our mission is sharing hope and caring to achieve recovery from mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction."

**Information for the Community
February 2012**

About MHRS

Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren & Clinton Counties (MHRS) is the local Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) board that plans, funds, monitors and evaluates services and programs for residents with serious mental and emotional disorders and/or substance addictions.

(513) 695-1695
www.mhrsonline.org/

Provider Agencies

[Solutions Community Counseling and Recovery Centers](#)

[New Housing Ohio, Inc.](#)

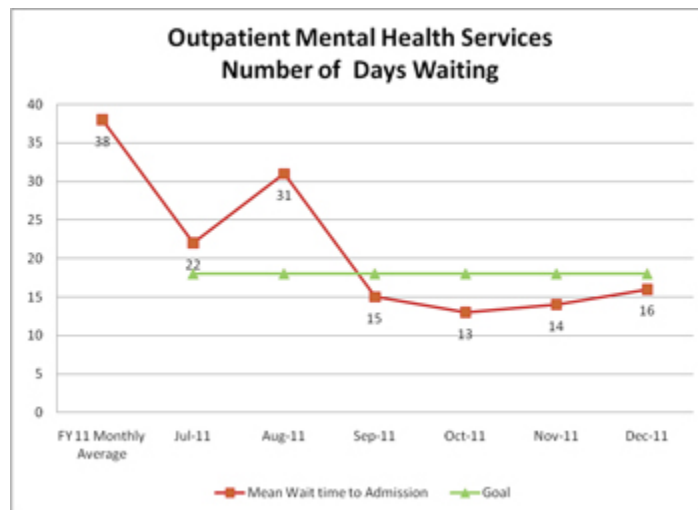
[National Alliance on Mental Illness - Warren County](#)

[Mental Health America of Southwest Ohio, Inc.](#)

[Women's Recovery Center](#)

General Outpatient Waiting List Declines

The wait list for outpatient mental health services has sharply declined in the second quarter of FY 12 (Fall 2011). The current system goal is for consumers to begin receiving services in 18 days or less. The average wait time for those admitted in December was only 16 days. While this is an average time, it should be noted that applicants with urgent needs are always prioritized.



As of the beginning of December, 2011, only 5 individuals were waiting for outpatient mental health services across the entire Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren and Clinton Counties system. This was achieved despite the fact the total number of clients receiving General Outpatient Mental Health Services has increased by 77% from FY07 to FY11 (now over 2500 are served annually).

[Talbert House: Warren Outpatient Services](#)

Crisis Line
1-877-695-NEED
(6333)

Quick Links

Each month MHRS will pass along links to additional resources on specific topics

Binge Drinking Facts

New estimates show that more than 38 million US adults binge drink, indicating it is a bigger problem than previously thought. Binge drinking is defined for men as 5 or more alcoholic drinks within a short period of time or for women, 4 or more drinks within a short period of time. Drinking too much, including binge drinking, causes 80,000 deaths in the US each year. This is a nationwide, dangerous and costly public health problem. For additional information and recommended community prevention strategies, please [click here](#)

National and State Entities

[NAMI Ohio](#)

[National Alliance for the Mentally Ill \(NAMI\)](#)

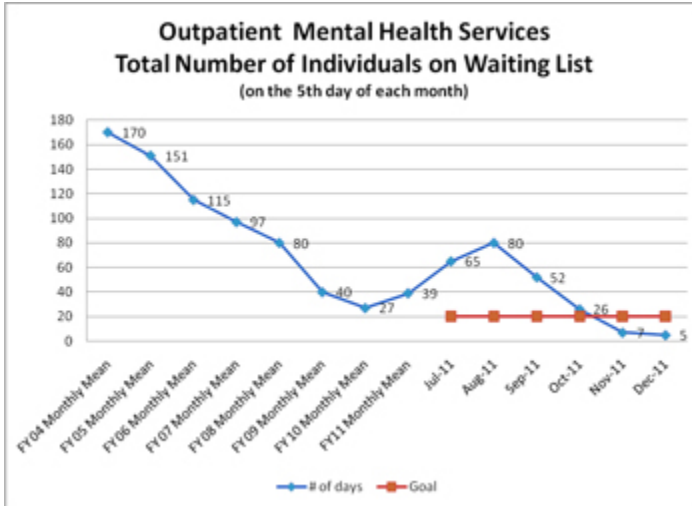
[Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities](#)

[Ohio Department of Mental Health](#)

[Ohio Dept. of Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services](#)

[Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation](#)

[Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration](#)



"Wait times are a very good indicator of access to our services," said MHRS Executive Director Brent Lawyer. "Over the past few years our agencies have worked hard to reduce wait times, as well as put measures in place should increases occur like they did a few months ago. By closely monitoring the situation we are able to make the needed adjustments rapidly."

Lawyer also notes that other access measures are also closely monitored monthly so action can be taken proactively to better serve the community.

Ohio Launches Opiate Painkiller Awareness Campaign

The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA) recently unveiled a statewide public service campaign addressing prescription opiate abuse.

The goal of the Don't Get Me Started campaign is to reverse the trend of growing opiate-related deaths and treatment demand. In addition to the new web sites and videos, posters will begin appearing at 400 convenience stores and other locations soon in Ohio. Ads will appear on Facebook, Pandora and other sites that appeal to the 18- to 29-year-old demographic.

The campaign features stories from actual Ohioans whose lives have been significantly impacted by prescription drug addiction. This is the state's first awareness campaign specific to these types of painkillers. Opiate abuse and overdose deaths have been rising sharply in the last few years.

ODADAS addiction services will also roll out a more prescriber-centric education campaign aimed at reducing the amount of opiates that enter circulation through legitimate channels, but for unnecessary reasons.

To learn more, visit www.dontgetmestartedohio.org or www.facebook.com/dontgetmestartedohio.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Spotlight on William (Bill) Russell, MHRS Board Chair

Bill Russell spent his career in higher education helping shape youth for the future. As a local resident for over 30 years Bill has also generously volunteered his time and talents to local organizations.

Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren and Clinton Counties is one such organization. Serving as a board member since August 10, 2009 and as board chair since July 1, 2011 Bill has been a strong advocate for the individuals served by MHRS-funded agencies. "Even though MHRS does not provide direct services our role as a funder and overall architect of mental health and recovery services impacts thousands of people," said Bill Russell. "Our decisions must be thoughtful, as well as strategic in order to make our services the best they can be."



Bill is not content with being a passive decision-maker. Recently he made a tour of MHRS's agencies to hear firsthand from consumers and staff regarding the services and any issues that needed to be addressed. "Overall the feedback was very positive and that is certainly due in large part to the MHRS staff and agency staff that work hard to fulfill our mission," Bill said. He also noted the overwhelming passage of the MHRS levy last fall was indicative of wide-based community support.

Bill also serves on the board for Project Excellence of Warren County, the board of the Cincinnati Scholarship Foundation, chair of the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism, and was recently elected to the board of the Kings Local School District.

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