



# Developing A Better Understanding



## **RECOVERY IS BEAUTIFUL: PRIORITIZING ACCOUNTABLE AND OUTCOME-DRIVEN FINANCING**

As Ohio's Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health (ADAMH) Boards strive to implement Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care, they will continue their efforts to maximize the utility of federal, state, and local funds to make efficient investments. Accountable financing models driven by outcome-oriented investments are being utilized to enhance service delivery systems throughout Ohio. As the local Boards work to ensure that services and supports are available and accessible within their communities, they will continue to leverage all available resources to enhance and promote the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective mental health and addiction treatment and recovery support services in order to improve individual, family, and community health.

### **Recovery is Beautiful Principle:**

#### **Prioritizing Accountable and Outcome-Driven Financing**

*Maximizing the use of federal, state, and local funds to meet locally identified outcomes, ADAMH Boards utilize a blended funding approach that aligns resources and improves coordination between local community stakeholders. This approach enhances accountability and allocates scarce taxpayer dollars in the most efficient and effective manner possible.*

Prioritizing accountable and outcome-driven financing is an ongoing task. Boards, as the hub of their local Recovery Oriented Systems of Care, will continue this work by:

- Promoting investments in evidence-based programs and services that are proven to achieve outcomes;
- Building on the successes of existing shared services projects with partnering Boards and other community organizations;
- Defining and establishing consistent and acceptable administrative cost standards and parameters;
- Developing, defining, and educating on outcome-based contracting measures; and
- Annually measuring approved outcome/output measures.

#### **Understanding, Developing, and Incentivizing Outcomes**

Healthcare, as a whole, is focusing on emphasizing value over volume. Financing models are being built so that investments are made to incentivize better health outcomes rather than focusing on producing units of services. Local Boards are utilizing available funds to make targeted investments to improve health outcomes for individuals and families within their communities. These investments are being made to promote quality service delivery, establish effective partnerships, address community issues, and promote population health. Focusing on outcomes requires a consistent understanding of the anticipated outcomes as well as agreed upon evaluation measures that will be utilized to determine whether or not the investments have achieved the desired outcomes.

Investing in outcomes shifts the focus to developing and delivering services to individuals and families when and where they need them in the most efficient and effective manner to help individuals achieve and sustain recovery. Within a Recovery-Oriented System of Care, the desired outcomes are designed and driven not only with the budget in mind, but also with the input of clients and family members who are best able to provide information about the most effective services and supports. The input of individuals with lived experience in achieving recovery is invaluable when developing targeted outcome and output measures as well as evaluation methods.

## *Increasing access to services through the effective and efficient use of resources.*

### **Consolidation**

There are only 53 Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and/or Mental Health (ADAMH) Boards as opposed to 88 which is the norm with other local governments. Since 2006, the number of Boards has gone from 57 to 53, and as of July 1, 2015 Ohio will be down to 52 local Boards.

### **Inter-Board Collaboration**

Boards have a long history of collaborating with one another in order to most efficiently and effectively utilize funding for the purpose of running their local systems of care. Today, 100 percent of the Boards collaborate with other Boards for the purpose of providing services and ensuring a complete continuum of care to meet the mental health and addiction needs of their local citizens. Boards collaborate for the following types of programs and services:

- ◇ Recovery housing, group homes, adult care facilities, and independent living
- ◇ Crisis beds and services, hotlines
- ◇ Inpatient and outpatient detox as well as medication-assisted treatment
- ◇ Residential treatment
- ◇ Forensic monitoring, jail and reentry services
- ◇ Child and adolescent prevention and treatment services
- ◇ Telemedicine

Additionally, to further ensure the effective and efficient administration of their Board, 89 percent of the Boards have administrative agreements with at least one other Board for the purpose of the following types of activities:

- ◇ Enrollment, eligibility verification, and claims processing
- ◇ Audits and other reviews/monitoring functions
- ◇ Grant writing and administration
- ◇ IT functions, such as web services, data-mining, telecommunications, etc.
- ◇ Finances, human resources, and other day-to-day administrative functions

### **Local Community Collaboration and Coordination**

Boards, as the community leaders for mental health and addiction programs, services, and supports, act as the local “hub” in coordinating with local partners to ensure that local citizens have access to the necessary programs, services, and supports to promote healthy, safe, and drug-free communities. Examples are:

- ◇ Sharing space with other county entities, local NAMIs, consumer and peer support organizations, Suicide Prevention Coalitions, AA and NA meetings, etc.
- ◇ Acting as fiscal agents for local Task Forces, Collaboratives, Family and Children First Councils, consumer and peer support organizations, etc.
- ◇ Coordinating with local courts and jails to support individuals with mental illness and addiction
- ◇ Working with local hospitals, children services, developmental disabilities, schools, and others to maximize services and help individuals in need
- ◇ Working with other local governments and businesses to provide a drug-free and mentally healthy workforce

### *Data Collection and Evaluation*

To most effectively prioritize accountable and outcome-driven financings, local Boards will need to have access to and the ability to collect outcome and output data in order to conduct appropriate evaluations of investments. Right now, data collection in Ohio’s community mental health and addiction system is going through some technical transitions. As this work progresses, it will be imperative that consistent and comprehensive data is available to ensure communities can adequately evaluate their investments and continue to prioritize funds for the projects, programs, and services that increase health outcomes and help individuals achieve and sustain recovery.