Washington County Teen Institute

The Washington County Behavioral Health Board is teaming up with Building Bridges to Careers (BB2C) and Ohio Teen Institute (OTI) to create a Washington County Teen Institute (WCTI). WCTI will be a student-led group present in the county high schools. High school students and various staff members from Washington County high schools attended a camp in July to kick-start ideas for the school year. The July camp also included a panel from Memorial Health System, Life and Purpose Behavioral Health, and Hopewell Health Centers that supplemented the camp with by provided resources and education for future projects and peer-support.

The overall goal of WCTI is to bring awareness to the importance of mental health and substance abuse prevention in high schools. Students and teachers will be working together toward future plans for each school district in the county.

Heidelberg University

What got the students started on the idea of creating WCTI was attending a 5-day camp at Heidelberg University. This camp, led by OTI, is a leadership conference for teens that focuses on mental health, healthy behaviors and drug prevention. For more information about the Heidelberg OTI camp, visit [www.ohioti.com](http://www.ohioti.com).

Mission Statement

The mission statement of WCTI is “to create a welcoming and inclusive environment led by students to support one another and spread awareness about various mental health issues, substance abuse prevention, and healthy behaviors.”

“These students truly see the need for these programs in the county schools and the necessity to reduce the stigma associated with these issues. They want to be seen by all students as an all-inclusive effort to change the culture in our schools.”

- Suzy Zumwalde
Placement Coordinator, BB2C

At a Glance

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Brandi’s Legacy

A new Faith-Based substance use treatment facility opened its doors July 22, offering services to female clients. The residential treatment program offered at Brandi’s Legacy is 3-6 months. The facility also has room for up to 4 pregnant women at a time.

The mission of Brandi’s Legacy (The Land of Goshen Treatment Center) is to “provide an illuminated path out of the debilitating and destructive cycle of alcoholism and drug addiction to individuals and their families.”

Visit www.landofgoshentreatmentcenter.org or call 304-916-8468 for more information.

Recovery Engagement Team

Hope and Help for Recovery

The Washington County Recovery Engagement Team (RET) is an integrated community unit comprised of a public health nurse, a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) professional, a peer recovery supporter, and a law enforcement officer. Supporting the prevention of substance use related deaths and to promote treatment for substance use disorders is the goal for the Recovery Engagement Team.

Referrals identify community members who suffer from a substance use disorder, and the team then offers direction toward treatment resources.

If you or someone you know needs help for a substance use disorder, please make a referral by emailing kevin.carr@wcso84.us or calling 740-373-6623 extension 6921.

Facts about Opioids

According to the Ohio Opioid Education Alliance:

- 134 Americans die from an opioid overdose everyday
- Americans are more likely to die from an opioid overdose than a car accident
- Everyday, 2,700 teens try prescription medication to get high for the first time
- 80% of heroin users in the U.S. report the misuse of prescription opioids prior to using heroin
New Website
The WCBHB is working on launching its own website. This website will be run independently by WCBHB staff.

The new website will be www.wcbhb.org. Once it’s launched, it can still be accessed through the old website at www.washingtongov.org/wcbhb.

Resource Directory
AmeriCorps VISTA members have printed a new and updated Resource Directory for 2019.

The printed Resource Directory is updated yearly. For more frequent updates on resources available in Washington County, please visit the WCBHB website at www.wcbhb.org.

Recovery Day 2019
Recovery Day this year was Saturday, September 21st. The event hosted a variety of speakers, vendors from around the community, and live music.

The purpose of Recovery Day was to celebrate individuals in recovery from substance use disorder and mental illness, while bringing the community together.

Washington County Crisis Response Team
A county-wide Crisis Response Team went live August 1st, 2019. Team members consist of a variety of community volunteers such as teachers, school counselors, social workers, mental health professionals, religious leaders, and others who have all been certified in NOVA (National Organization for Victim Assistance). The team members are trained in crisis intervention with specialized areas of trauma, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and victimization.

The Washington County Crisis Response Team (WCCRT) is sponsored by the WCBHB and is designed to meet an unmet need in the community. The primary focus of the WCCRT is to minimize the harmful effects of stress, especially in situations of crisis or emergencies. A critical incident can be defined as any incident that causes individuals to experience unusually strong emotional distress. Some examples of critical incidents are serious injury or death, mass casualty incidents, suicide, death or violence to a child, or any event that attracts critical media coverage. If signs of stress do not subside or intensify within a few weeks of a critical incident, consider seeking further assistance from a professional.

For more information or to request WCCRT services, please call 740-376-7070 extension 0.
Epidemiological Study

The Washington County Health Department gathered data of suicides and overdoses that occurred in Washington County during the years 2013-2018. The information was extracted from the Washington County Coroner and Death Reports.

Opioid Overdoses

There were 49 accidental opioid overdoses in Washington County between the years 2013 and 2018.

- 69% were male and 31% were female
- Highest rate of overdoses were in the age range 25-44 years
- 47% of these overdoses were individuals who were never married, about 27% were divorced, and about 24% were married
- 8% of these overdoses had a college degree, 69% had a high school diploma or GED equivalency
- Fentanyl was found in almost half (49%) of overdoses

Suicides

There were a total of 43 suicides in Washington County between the years 2013 and 2018.

- 84% were male and 16% were female
- 29 of the suicides were completed by a gunshot wound (GSW), 11 by hanging, 2 by drowning, and 1 in the “Other” category

Just like the opioid overdoses, the majority of suicides were individuals in the 25-44 years of age range. However, unlike the opioid overdoses, the majority of suicides were individuals who were married (40%).

- 24 of the 43 suicides in which autopsies were performed revealed substances that could be abused in the individual’s system
- 12 were positive for alcohol, 8 for benzodiazepines, and 6 for THC

Opioids found included:

- Oxycodone
- Hydrocodone

Contact Us

For more information about our services, please call or email.

Washington County Behavioral Health Board
Phone: (740)-374-6990
Email: info@wcbhb.org
Website: www.wcbhb.org

New Location

In July, the Washington County Behavioral Health Board moved locations. The new office is located at 1115 Gilman Avenue in Marietta, OH.