

Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services  
13244 Ravenna Road  
Chardon, Ohio 44024-9012

440-285-2282 (Voice or TDD)  
FAX 440-285-9617  
www.geauga.org

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This newsletter was produced in cooperation with the Mental Health Association in Geauga County.

If you would like to receive future issues of the Panorama Newsletter contact  
The Mental Health Association at 440-285-3945.

### SFY07 Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services Contract Agencies

#### Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Tim Kehres, Executive Director  
8 North State Street, Suite 360  
Painesville, Ohio 44077  
(440)352-2526 FAX: (440)352-2580  
Toll-free or TDD: 1-800-222-2440  
www.bbbsneo.org  
email: info@bbbsneo.org

#### Catholic Charities Services of Geauga County

Jim Clements, Executive Director  
10771 Mayfield Road  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)285-3537 Voice or TTY 1-800-242-9755  
FAX: (440)285-4909  
email: Geauga@clevelandcatholiccharities.org

#### Geauga County Educational Service Center

Teen Institute  
Wally Waldbauer  
470 Center Place, Bldg. 2  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)279-1706  
Fax: (440)286-7106

#### The Family Planning Association of Northeast Ohio, Inc.

Mary Wynne-Peaspanen, Executive Director  
54 S. State Street, Suite 201  
Painesville, Ohio 44077  
(440)352-0608 FAX: (440) 352-0640

#### Lake/Geauga Center on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

Beverly Waliga, Prevention Director  
200 Center Street, Unit B  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)285-9119 FAX: (440)942-0639

#### Mental Health Association in Geauga County

Michelle Doehring, Executive Director  
10771 Mayfield Road  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)285-3945 FAX: (440)285-2756  
email: info@mhageauga.org  
www.mhageauga.org

#### Neighboring Mental Health Services

Spence Kline, Chief Executive Officer  
115 Wilson Mills Road, Suite 4  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)286-7448 FAX: (440)285-7253  
www.neighboring.org

#### Ravenwood Mental Health Center

David Boyle, Executive Director  
12557 Ravenwood Drive  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)285-3568 FAX: (440)285-4552  
Middlefield Office (440)632-5355

#### WomenSafe, Inc.

Shayna Jackson, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 656  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
(440)285-2222 Ext. 5680  
email: sjackson@womensafe.org

Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services  
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Online: [www.geauga.org](http://www.geauga.org)  
email: gbmhadas@lightstream.net

**COPELINE - 24 Hr Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Emergency**  
**(440)285-5665**  
**1-888-285-5665**

Please read: The publisher has taken care in the preparation of this newsletter, but the information it contains is not intended as a substitute for the expertise and judgment of qualified health care professionals. You should consult with your health care provider about all health-care issues.



# Panorama

Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services

Spring 2007

## Meet The Board

This year the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and other County Boards around the state celebrate their 40th year of providing quality mental health and recovery services. County Mental Health Boards were established by the Ohio General Assembly in 1967 as a unit of local government with the responsibility of ensuring that community programs were available to individuals who were diagnosed with a mental illness.

Board members are volunteers, appointed by the Geauga County Commissioners, Ohio Department of Mental Health, and the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

The vast array of experience they bring helps to provide insight and leadership into the planning, coordinating, and monitoring of mental health and recovery services.

This year alone over 3,000 Geauga County residents will receive mental health and or substance abuse services in one of our nine locally funded agencies. Approximately 10,000 individuals will get prevention or educational services

during the same time period. The Board is also dedicated to ensuring that residents receive quality programs that help them recover.

To accomplish this The Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services:

From the "Philosophy Statement" of the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services

**"We believe that it is our responsibility to be a motivating force in the effort to develop and maintain a mentally healthy community"**

Allocates funds received from federal, state and local sources to the appropriate agencies to ensure that quality mental health and/or substance abuse services are available to those that need them.

Provides education and prevention services to the community.

Assures quality and cost effectiveness of community services by monitoring all aspects of programs provided by our agencies.

If you are interested in Board membership please contact the Board office at 440-285-2282.

### SFY2007 Board Members

Pictured from the left, front row -

Louise Stienbarger  
Mariel Rouru  
Robert Goldberg, Ph.D. (Vice Chair)  
Margaret Lahner, Psy.D.  
Alberta Chokshi (Secretary)  
Georganne Mitchell

Pictured from the left back row:

Victor Matthews (Treasurer)  
Carolee Lesyk, Ph.D.  
Tom Gazley, Ph.D. (Chairman)  
Chris Adelman, M.D.  
Joe Schellentrager  
Susan Fogarty  
Roger Morris.  
Not pictured: Jeff Orndorff and Blane Burlingham

### What's Inside:

Advocacy Award  
Kidsfest  
Child Trauma Workshop  
VIK Kids Club  
ODADAS New Director  
Crisis Intervention Training



### Mission Statement

It shall be the mission of the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services to provide leadership in the development, implementation, and evaluation of mental health and substance abuse programs. As an agent for change in Geauga County this Board is dedicated to optimizing human and financial resources and enhancing and stabilizing the mental health of citizens of Northeast Ohio. Through comprehensive needs assessment the Board shall effectively plan and coordinate a full range of community-based services that provide for quality client care in the least restrictive environment possible.

# Board Unveils Network of Care

**Service Directory** has contact information and support services.

Library has over 4,000 health topics to choose from.

Follow legislation through state and federal processes. Contact lawmakers before they vote.

**Network of Care for Behavioral Health** is an online directory for individuals, families and agencies concerned with mental and emotional wellness, substance abuse and developmental disabilities. This online community provides critical information, communication and advocacy tools.

Links to government programs and nonprofit organizations.

Insurance shows coverage available in your community.

Support & Advocacy provides information on organizations that provide valuable support.

Confidential section for consumers and families to create and share your own personal information; and daily news updates on pertinent issues.

On March 21, 2007, the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services along with other northeast Ohio area Board representatives launched the new-web based Network of Care at Lakeland Community College. The Network of Care is an innovative web-based resource designed to meet the needs of consumers of mental health services, as well as their caregivers and service providers. Consumers and mental health care workers can obtain up to date information on all aspects of mental health care through the Network of Care.

The President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health spotlights Network of Care as a tool that can help those with a serious mental illness take a more proactive and effective role in the management of their own care.

If you have any questions about this new resource tool available to Geauga County residents call the Board office at 285-2282. You can reach this site by going to [www.geauga.org](http://www.geauga.org) and click on the Network of Care symbol or go to [www.ohio.networkofcare.org](http://www.ohio.networkofcare.org).

**Check it out at [www.geauga.org](http://www.geauga.org)**

## It's your Chance To NOMINATE

The Geauga County Board of Mental Health & Recovery Services is asking for your nomination for the recipient of the 18th Annual Advocacy Award. This Advocacy Award is given to a person who has done exceptional work in the field of mental health and/or substance abuse on behalf of Geauga County residents.

### Past winners were:

- Wilton Town** 1989-1990, **Susan Stark** 1990-1991, **Serapio Zalba** 1991-1992, **Yvonne DiSanza** 1992-1993, **J. Michael Link** 1993-1994, **Richard Reifert** 1994-1995, **John Murray** 1995-1996, **Lifescape Players** 1996-1997, **Sherly Flanigan** 1997-1998, **Frank Kenner** 1998-1999, **John B. Murray - Frank V. Kitko - Wilton K. Town** 1999-2000, **Chardon Community Action Team - H.A.N.D.S.** 2000-2001, **Volunteers of WomenSafe, Inc.** 2001-2002, **Nancy Seelbach** 2002-2003, **Keith Brooks** 2003-2004, **Brad Welch** 2004-2005, and **Vicki Clark** 2005-2006

Please take a moment to acknowledge someone you know who deserves to be recognized. Simply fill out the enclosed nomination form with the name of a person or group that you feel is worthy of being awarded the Geauga County 2006-2007 Behavioral Health Care Advocacy Award and mail it to: GCBMH&RS, 13244 Ravenna Road, Chardon, Ohio 44024. The nomination form can also be downloaded from [www.geauga.org](http://www.geauga.org). If you prefer to submit your candidate via email send the name and other pertinent information to [gcbmhadas@lightstream.net](mailto:gcbmhadas@lightstream.net). You may also fax the nomination form to 440-285-9617. The winner of the 18th Annual Advocacy Award will be announced at the Behavioral Health Care Annual Dinner on May 17, 2007.



## VIK Kids Club

Looking for a FREE activity for your 3-6 year old?

**Middlefield Public Library**

**First Saturday of the Month**  
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Stories \* Crafts \* Activities**

The Very Important Kids Club is designed to enhance your child's positive self-esteem. Call or just stop in.



Contact the Mental Health Association in Geauga County at 440-285-3945 for more information.



## Underage Drinking Laws

### What parents should know:

- \* As a parent, you cannot give alcohol to your teen's friends under the age of 21 under any circumstance, even in your own home, even with their parent's permission.
- \* You cannot knowingly allow a person under 21, other than your own child, to remain in your home or on your property while consuming or possessing alcohol.

### If you break the law:

- \* You can face a maximum sentence of six months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.
- \* Others can sue you if you give alcohol to anyone under 21, and they, in turn, hurt someone, hurt themselves or damage property.
- \* Officers can take any alcohol, money or property used in committing the offense.

### Things you can do as a parent:

- \* Refuse to supply alcohol to anyone under 21.
- \* Be at home when your teen has a party.
- \* Make sure that alcohol is not brought into your home or property by your teen's friends.
- \* Talk to other parents about not providing alcohol at other events your child will be attending.
- \* Create alcohol-free opportunities and activities in your home so teens will feel welcome.
- \* Report underage drinking to local law enforcement.

A program of Drug-Free Action Alliance



**Saturday, April 28, 2007**

**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**BERKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL**  
in Burton

Come join us for a fun-filled day of free hands on activities, entertainment and refreshments. Featuring county wide information and services for families.  
(Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

- ☺ **Accordion Man**
- ☺ **Greg Carson, Magical Entertainer**
- ☺ **Mr. Hatbox**



For more information, call 440-285-2282



Funded by: geauga county board of mental health & recovery services

Sponsored by: Tri-County Association for the Education of Young Children

## ODADAS Elects New Director!

Governor Ted Strickland appointed Angela Cornelius as the director of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) effective March 5, 2007. As the new Director, Cornelius oversees a staff of 106 employees and an annual budget of \$195 million. ODADAS plans, initiates and coordinates an extensive system of services designed to prevent substance abuse and treat Ohio's addicted populations.



The Department, by statute (Am. Sub. H.B. 317), coordinates the alcohol and other drug services of state departments, the criminal justice system, law enforcement, the legislature, local programs and treatment/prevention professionals.



geauga county board of  
mental health and recovery services

**NOMINATION FORM**  
*for the Eighteenth Annual*

**GEAUGA COUNTY  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE ADVOCACY AWARD**

*I/We wish to nominate:*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

*Person submitting this nomination:*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL**

*Additional reference person for this nominee:*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominating period: June 2006 to May 2007.**

**To nominate a person or group, the following information should be provided about the nominee on a separate sheet of paper:**

- What contributions has this individual or group made in the field of mental health or chemical addiction advocacy in Geauga County in 2006 and/or 2007?
- How has this person or group distinguished him/her or themselves from others in the county as leaders in promoting good mental health or chemical abuse services?

**Send or fax nominations to:**

Gauga County Board of  
Mental Health and Recovery Services  
13244 Ravenna Road  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
Fax: 440-285-9617



*Employees of the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and their families are not eligible for this award. Nominees do not have to live in Geauga County, but their activities must directly impact this area.*

**Entries must be received by May 8, 2007.**



**NAMI**  
**Family-to-Family  
Opens Its Doors!**

Geauga County now has its own NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) chapter. NAMI is a non-profit, grassroots national organization founded in 1979 for the sole purpose of providing support, education and advocacy for persons with severe mental illness and their families.

The NAMI Geauga support group for family members and consumers meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services. The support group is free and no registration is required.

The Family-to-Family Education Program is already underway for the spring session. The free 12-week series of classes, specifically for families of persons with severe mental illness, covers information about brain disorders, coping skills, listening and communication techniques, problem solving skills, information about medications, and self care around worry and stress.

Sally Matthews, a Family-to-Family volunteer teacher, says the education program can have a profound impact on those whose lives are affected by a loved one's mental illness. "Rather than trying to find your way in the dark, we can light a candle, and shed the light of facts and understanding on the confusion, fears, and "aloneness" that come with these illnesses."

The Family-to-Family Program will be offered again in the fall. Call the Mental Health Association in Geauga County at 440-285-3945 for more information about NAMI programs in Geauga County. NAMI Geauga County is funded by the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services.

**The Mental Health Association in Geauga County (MHA)  
and Ravenwood Mental Health Center Presents A Professional Workshop**

**Assessing & Treating  
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in Youth**

Presented by : Dr. Norah C. Feeny, Program Director  
Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University

**CALL NOW! (440) 285-3945**

**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Registration 8:30 a.m.**  
**Lunch (included)**

**\$60.00 per person**  
**Notre Dame Education Center**  
**13000 Auburn Road, Chardon**

CEU's for Social Workers and Counselors through Ravenwood Mental Health Center.

**CIT Training offered to Geauga  
County Law Enforcement Officers**

Ravenwood Mental Health Center held the Community Crisis Intervention Team Training for Geauga County law enforcement personnel during the week of March 26, 2007. CIT training is a collaborative effort between the mental health community and local law enforcement, with mental health and other professionals providing training and support to law enforcement in responding to calls involving mentally ill persons. The 40 hour training teaches officers about specific signs and symptoms of serious mental health disorders, how to de-escalate mentally ill persons in a crisis, and effective ways to handle mentally ill persons in law enforcement situations.



Client Rights Officer with the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services; Chief Joseph Stehlik and Officer Ed Samec from the Middlefield Police Department; Lt. Scott Niehus, Deputy Dee Spangenberg, and Lt. Kathy Rose from the Geauga County Sheriff's Office; Dr. James Rodio, Beth Tichy, and Philip Flauto of Ravenwood Mental Health Center; Judge Charles Henry of Geauga County Courts; Dr. Robert Zimmerman from the UHHS Geauga Medical Center Emergency Department; Amy Buresch from Geauga County Job and Family Services; Margaret McGrath from the Metzenbaum Center; and Beth Wolf from Heather Hill Hospital, Health & Care Center.

Attending the training were officers and dispatchers from the Middlefield Police Department, officers from the Geauga County Sheriff's Office, the Geauga County Sheriff's Office Victims' Advocate, Correction Officers from the Geauga County Jail, and representatives for Neighboring Mental Health Center and the Metzenbaum Center. The trainees met with law enforcement officials, emergency services and community support personnel, mental health professionals, families of persons with mental illness, and mental health consumers to gain new perspectives about mental illness and the responsibilities of law enforcement officers.

The CIT training was sponsored by the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and local businesses. The week-long training was hosted and organized by Deanna Brant and Brian Ayer from Ravenwood Mental Health Center.



Ken Rarick, Ed Boulware, Sally Matthews and Carol Vlack, members of NAMI Geauga County, participated in a panel discussion with the trainees.

Training presenters included Beth Matthews,