

Consortium Chronicle NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year! Please see our flyer below for the first NEO Opioid Education Series Webinar of 2025 and [click here](#) to register!



Appreciative Approach: From Medical Dominancy to Relational Recovery

The opioid crisis highlights a pressing need to shift from a traditional medical model to an appreciative, recovery-oriented approach that centers the individual's unique journey and strengths. This presentation will explore how Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) prioritize person-driven, holistic, and culturally responsive practices that embrace the dignity of risk and collaborative decision-making. Attendees will gain actionable insights into fostering environments of hope, empowerment, and inclusion, recognizing recovery as a self-determined right supported by compassionate systems and communities.

(Continued on next page)



Dr. Dietra Hawkins
Founder and Lead Consultant, Both/And Partners, Inc.

Dietra D. Hawkins, PsyD is a licensed Clinical Psychologist who consults with state and local government organizations, public and private schools and behavioral health agencies as the owner and lead consultant with Both And Partners, Inc. Dr. Hawkins has over 15 years of experience supporting healthcare providers, community stakeholders and large health care systems to enhance their cultural and linguistic approaches and policies. She is a published author and frequent speaker for communities and organizations seeking Appreciative approaches toward sustainable change; Recovery Oriented Systems of Care, Enhanced C.L.A.S., Asset Based Community Development and Inclusion, and the Healing of Racism.

Join us
January 22
Noon - 1:30 p.m.



Registration is required. Please scan the QR code or [click HERE](#) to register.

If you need further assistance, please email jodi.mitchell@chanet.org or call 216.255.3658.



This event is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of the Overdose Data to Action: LOCAL (CDC-RFA-CE-23-0003) award. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CDC/HHS or the U.S. Government.



neohospitals.org

State / Local Updates



Ohio Recovery Friendly Workplace

Organizations throughout Ohio are encouraged to show their support for the well-being of employees and their families by becoming a Recovery Friendly Workplace. You can learn more and apply to be a Recovery Friendly Workplace [here](#).

Ohio Board of Pharmacy Introduces Alerts to Prevent Fatal Drug Overdoses

Ohio's prescription drug monitoring program now notifies health care providers when a patient has experienced a non-fatal overdose. The alerts, part of a state strategy to reduce overdose deaths and combat opioid addiction, aim to improve care and prevent future overdoses. Alerts are sent through the Ohio Automated RX Reporting System and flag prescribers and pharmacists for patients discharged after a non-fatal overdose. Learn more [here](#).

Policy & News Updates

FDA to Rule on Drug for Acute Pain

The FDA will decide later this month whether to approve a novel drug for acute pain that could offer a nonaddictive alternative to opioids. Suzetrigine, the candidate drug by Vertex Pharmaceuticals, would be the first selective sodium channel blocker approved for pain. The drug works differently than existing sodium channel blockers like lidocaine — a local anesthetic commonly used by dentists — by targeting specific pain signals in the body, enabling patients to maintain abilities like motor function. Because it doesn't affect the central nervous system directly, the company said it expects the drug won't pose an addiction threat to patients. What's unclear is how much the medication would cost consumers at the pharmacy counter and whether drug-pricing middlemen will favor it on their formularies over well-known and cheap opioids.

HALT Fentanyl Legislation included in New Congress Top 12

As Congress began the 119th Session, the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act (HALT Act) was included in the top 12 bills kicking off the Republican agenda. The HALT Act would make permanent the temporary scheduling of fentanyl and related substances as Schedule I under the Controlled Substances Act, which covers substances with no currently accepted medical use and high potential for abuse. This maintains President Elect Trump's temporary scheduling seeking to scale back the opioid epidemic.

Justice Dept. sues CVS over opioid practices, including some in Ohio

The U.S. Justice Department is suing pharmacy giant CVS, accusing it of putting profits over patient safety and thus fueling the opioid crisis. The accusations bear similarities to violations for which the Ohio Board of Pharmacy last year fined the company, and the DOJ complaint cites some of board's findings in its suit. Read more [HERE](#).

RecoverMe: Empowering Young Adults Facing Substance Use and Mental Health Challenges

SAMHSA is kicking off [RecoverMe](#), a campaign that connects young adults (ages 18–25) to practical and affirming resources to help them navigate their unique challenges with substance use and mental health. RecoverMe provides tools, resources, and a supportive recovery community to help young adults on their personal recovery journey and highlights that recovery is not one-size-fits-all. It is shaped by each person's individual experiences.

The campaign's impactful messaging, grounded in research and input from young adults, encourages people to seek the support that's right for them, connect with an active recovery community, and embrace recovery as a journey toward overall wellbeing in mind, body, and spirit to reclaim their life.

The campaign relies on partners to serve as trusted messengers and increase the reach and resonance of the campaign messages. The [RecoverMe Campaign Partner Toolkit page](#) contains resources for partner organizations, including customizable social graphics, logos, a shareable badge and social media content, campaign one-pager, sample newsletter content, and more. Visit [RecoverMe](#).

FDA Recommends Changes to Labeling for Transmucosal Buprenorphine Products Indicated to Treat Opioid Use Disorder

FDA issued a Federal Register notice on December 26, 2024, *Modifications to Labeling of Buprenorphine-Containing Transmucosal Products for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence*, to encourage the submission of supplemental new drug applications to modify the labeling statements for buprenorphine-containing transmucosal products for the treatment of opioid dependence (BTODs). Read the statement [HERE](#)



New SAMHSA Publications

The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) collects episode-level data on clients aged 12 and older receiving substance use treatment services from facilities that are licensed or certified by their respective single state agencies (SSAs). For each treatment episode, TEDS collects data on client's characteristics, substance(s) used, the type and duration of treatment service(s) received, years of education completed, and national outcome measures (NOMs). Click [here](#) or the image to the left to access the report.

SAMHSA Releases Substance Use Disorder Treatment Month Toolkit

SAMHSA has released [a toolkit for the first Substance Use Disorder Treatment Month](#), to be observed January 2025. Treatment Month raises awareness of the benefits and availability of evidence-based treatments for people with a substance use disorder; addresses barriers to treatment, including stigma; and normalizes seeking help.

The toolkit includes information about weekly themes, social media graphics and messaging, a webinar background, and resources that public health organizations, treatment providers, professional associations, and others can use to spread awareness of Treatment Month.



Training Opportunities

Rx and Illicit Drug Summit: Explore What's Working in Prevention, Deflection, Treatment, and Recovery

The Rx and Illicit Drug Summit is the largest, most influential event addressing this crisis, where strategies are shared and put into action. The conference will be held on April 21-24, 2025 in Nashville, TN and convenes a global community of multidisciplinary stakeholders "from federal to family." See [Rates | Rx and Illicit Drug Summit 2025](#) to register.

Upcoming SUD COE Trainings

The Ohio Substance Use Disorder Coordinating Center of Excellence (SUD COE) has recently added a new series of training programs designed to equip professionals with the latest and most effective strategies in the provision of SUD treatment.

A variety of essential/core topics are continually available, as well as newly added content areas each month which include:

- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)/Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)
- Stages of Change
- Motivating Behavior Change
- Clinical Documentation

All sessions are offered **free of charge** to ensure accessible professional development with **complimentary CEUs** with active participation. Click [HERE](#) to view a list of upcoming trainings.

CWRU Opioid Response Network (ORN) Trainings

[Opioid Response Network \(ORN\) Trainings | Center for Evidence-Based Practices | Case Western Reserve University](#)

The Grayken Center for Addiction

has online training both live and pre-recorded

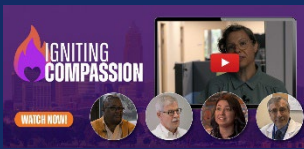
Upcoming trainings | [Training](#) | [Grayken Center for Addiction TTA](#) | [Boston Medical Center](#)
([addictiontraining.org](#))



California Bridge has an online academy with many valuable resources. Their Navigator Training resources are foundational and provide entry level education to explain many different topics.

[Learn more here.](#)

Other Resources



Educational Resources Available from The Center

- [Igniting Compassion Documentary](#)
- [Igniting Compassion Shorts](#)
- [Opioid Consortium Education](#)
- [Naloxone Toolkit](#)
- [A Clinician's Guide: Dental Consequences of MOUD + Solutions](#)
- [Clinicians Guide: on Xylazine Wound Management](#)
- [A Clinician's Guide: The Intersection of Human Trafficking and Substance Use Disorders](#)
- [NEO Opioid Consortium - Beyond Narcan: Treating Opioid Use Disorder in the Field](#)
- [Opioid Roundtable: Using Collaboration to Address the Opioid Crisis in Northeast Ohio](#)
- [Previous Issues of The Consortium Chronic Newsletter](#)
- [NEO Opioid Consortium Education Series: Effective Communication with Individuals with SUD](#)

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