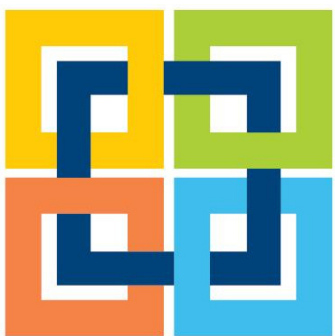




ANNUAL REPORT

STATE OF THE ADDICTION CRISIS



**Hamilton County
Addiction Response
Coalition**

formerly known as the Hamilton County Heroin Coalition

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HC ARC STEERING COMMITTEE

Executive Chair

Commissioner Denise Driehaus

Program Administrator

Meagan Gosney

Prevention Committee

Nicole Schiesler,
PreventionFIRST!

Leah Dennis-Ellsworth,
UMADAOP

Treatment Committee

John Young, co-chair of the
African American Engagement
Workgroup

Neil Tilow, Talbert House
Patrick Tribbe, Mental Health and
Recovery Services Board

Interdiction Committee

Chief Tom Synan, Village of
Newtown

District Chief Carstell Winston,
Cincinnati Fire Department
Trina Jackson, Hamilton County
Office of Reentry

Harm Reduction Committee

Dr. Jennifer Mooney, Hamilton
County Public Health

Tiffany Mattingly, The Health
Collaborative

Linda Gallagher, Mental Health
and Recovery Services Board

Faith Committee

Rev. Lesley Jones, Truth &
Destiny Covenant Ministries
Cameron Foster, Addiction
Services Council & Mt. Zion
Missionary Baptist Church

Business Committee

J.B. Buse, LOTH Holdings, LLC
Kevin Jones, Huntington Bank



EXECUTIVE CHAIR'S STATEMENT

As the COVID-19 Pandemic tore through our nation, bringing new challenges and changes to our very way of life, the epidemic of addiction did not take a break. Pandemic-related stress and isolation made the difficult work of HC ARC more difficult in 2021. Despite those challenges, the members of HC ARC continued to innovate and collaborate to restore lives in Hamilton County. We are committed to the same level of engagement as we move out of COVID.

The HC ARC is an action team that connects people to the right resources and treatments. We address addiction through comprehensive solutions. This inter-system cooperation is built on four pillars: prevention, treatment, interdiction, and harm reduction. These pillars represent the areas of expertise of those serving on the subcommittees of the HC ARC. Additionally, we have engaged local governments, the business community, hospitals, and the faith community to help strengthen our work.

The following document was created using information provided to us from coalition members to give the Hamilton County community insight into the magnitude of the problem of addiction, a better understanding of the work of the HC ARC and its partners, a synopsis of what strategies have led to positive outcomes, and an overview of what we hope to accomplish in the coming year. A special thanks goes to the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners for their ongoing support and commitment to addressing the addiction crisis in our community.

ONE OHIO OPIOID SETTLEMENT

OVERVIEW

Last August, the State of Ohio partnered with local governments to enter into settlement agreements with multiple opioid manufacturers and distributors. This settlement will result in payouts throughout the state of more than \$800M over 18 years to respond to the opioid crisis. 30% will go to local governments, 15% will go to the Ohio Attorney General's office, and 55% will be allocated to local communities through a state foundation.

Hamilton County will establish a regional foundation to decide how the funds should be spent in our community. The Hamilton County regional foundation is expected to receive approximately \$36M.

With input from members of the Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition and local governments throughout the county, the Commissioners have approved a list of who will serve on our regional foundation, including experts in health and addiction treatment and people with lived experience.

The Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition will serve as a non-voting advisory panel of the Governance Board.

PREVENTION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Committee chaired by:
Nicole Schiesler, PreventionFIRST!
Leah Dennis-Ellsworth, UMADAOP

The work of the Prevention Committee is focused on four prevention strategies: provide information/public awareness, build skills/education, reduce access/availability, and modify policy.

GOALS & INITIATIVES

Data collection and analysis to better understand the current and local youth opioid, and prescription medication issues in the community.



Decrease easy access and availability of prescription drugs and opioids for youth through prescriber education and by increasing awareness and availability of safe storage and prescription drug disposal options.

Improve policy related to effective prevention education for youth in schools and change the community norm that youth prescription/opioid consumption is acceptable through community education.



Federal, state, county, and city funds allow for a variety of evidence based prevention strategies to be implemented in Hamilton County. PreventionFIRST! (PF!) provides training and technical assistance to community coalitions in Hamilton County. These coalitions serve local communities within the county to reduce substance use/misuse. There are 10 coalitions serving Hamilton County.

Hamilton County tax levy dollars allow for PF! to provide mini grants to community groups dedicated to substance use/misuse prevention. Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Step Up Anderson, Mt. Washington Cares and Cincinnati Christian College received dollars in 2021 to provide effective prevention in their communities. PF! trained the communities on the Fundamentals of Youth Led Prevention.

Wings of Hope in Portsmouth, OH, is a sister program of UMADAOP and is one of our partnership highlights. UMADAOP provided Youth Leadership Development and Drug Prevention training for their summer program in 2021 and will return in Summer 2022. Nine high school students were granted scholarships to participate in their Wings of Hope's six-day Education Civil Rights Trail Tour. The trip includes stops in Atlanta, Selma, Winston-Pettus Bridge, National Museum for Peace and Justice and Birmingham History Tour and Emmett Till Center and Courtroom.

Based on our 2021 outreach prevention efforts, UMADAOP was awarded in 2022 by the City of Cincinnati, Mental Health and Youth Advocacy grant dollars to reach more youth in reducing the rate of reported suicides, misuse of substance abuse and more importantly the need for mental health youth services and community advocacy.

The Prevention Committee provides information and public awareness by purchasing media buys. In 2021, partnerships included radio messaging, segments on Cincy Lifestyle, and Spanish Speaking ads on La Mega Radio. In collaboration with Hamilton County Public Health, PF! created and purchased cross platform advertising to promote the Ohio Take Charge initiative. These ads were displayed at the CVG Airport from October 15th- November 30th, 2021.



PREVENTIONFIRST! PROGRAMMING SPOTLIGHT



PF! distributed over 100 “Building Prevention With Faith” toolkits to churches and faith based organizations in Hamilton County. This is an opportunity to provide training and build relationships in the faith sector across multiple diverse communities and faiths.



With State Opioid Response funding, the PF! training “Parenting for Prevention” and “Parents Guide” were translated and delivered in Spanish to Hispanic populations in Price Hill via Santa Maria. Spanish trainings were also conducted in Westwood. Over 2,000 “Parents Guide” have been distributed. Participants were also given magnets that listed “101 Ways to Praise a Child” in both Spanish and English.



PF! and Cincinnati Drug and Poison Information Center presented “Parenting For Prevention” to two foster care agencies across multiple sessions. Participants also discussed the value of limiting access and availability of prescription drugs through safe storage such as medication lock boxes and DeTerra Bags. Foster families are required to have a process for medication storage within their homes. Medication lock boxes and DeTerra Bags have been distributed throughout Hamilton County. These are all purchased with grant funds and provided to the community at no cost to residents of the county.

UMADAOP SCHOOL PREVENTION PROGRAMMING

UMADAOP has continued to cast a wide net to build new school relationships with growth in public and charter schools to improve policy and procedures for identifying students with mental health, peer pressure and domestic family conflict. This includes professional development, prevention education, intervention, and counseling services to over 300 students, teachers, and parents. We serve the following schools and community organizations:

- Cincinnati Technical Academy
- Dohn Community Schools
- Cincinnati College Preparatory Academy
- KITMS (KEEP TEEN MOMS IN SCHOOL)
- DAMPE Community School
- CMHA-Winton terrace and Find later ROC Center
- Cincinnati Recreation Center (Hirsch)
- Tikken Farm in Mt. Healthy
- Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS)

UMADAOP's in-house prevention programming for CPS Alternative to suspension students has also expanded. Our new Youth Coordinator uses evidenced-based curriculum to provide students with prevention education, problem-solving and conflict resolution tools, and youth leadership skills.

Our summer program will begin in June and run through August 2022. The program is in collaboration with Tikken Farm and our current faith-based and community partners. The summer curriculum will focus on Youth Violence Prevention, Tutoring, Urban Gardening, Agriculture Education, and Culinary Arts. Activities will include how to care for the animals and a petting Zoo, SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Therapeutic Rhythm Drumming, healthy cooking classes, fine arts, as well as physical education programming.

INTERDICTION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Committee chaired by:

Chief Tom Synan, Village of Newtown

District Chief Carstell Winston, Cincinnati Fire Department

Trina Jackson, Hamilton County Office of Reentry

The Interdiction Committee focuses on law enforcement, including supply reduction and diversion. This committee has undertaken the job of influencing policy change at the local and state level.

GOALS & INITIATIVES

Expand the One-Stop Resource Center services as well as partner with Northern Kentucky officials and coordinate events so both sides of the river have resources available to those in need.



Expand and Enhance county-wide deflection programming and continue to assist and partner with other communities building coalitions, sharing resources and ideas.

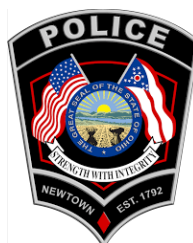
Continue our partnerships with our federal partners, legislators and Congress supporting laws that assist reducing the amount of fentanyl coming into the United States.



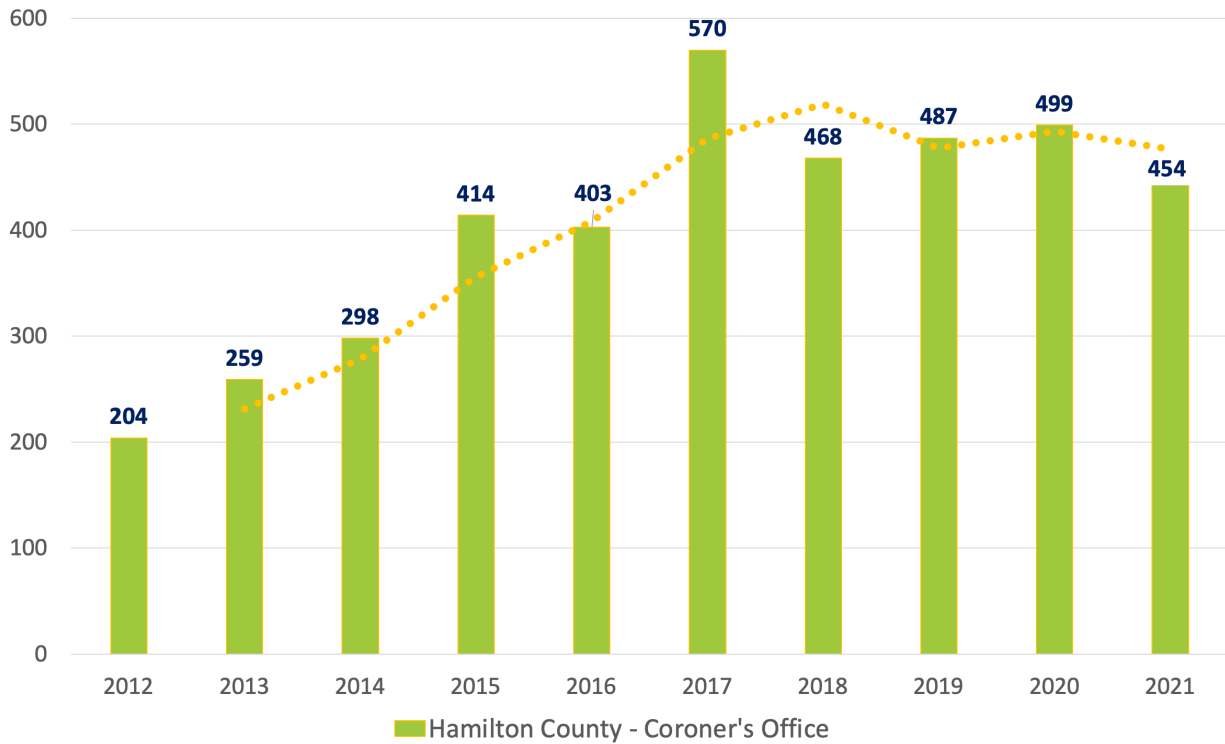
Whether it is first responders saving lives, interventions with county-wide Quick Response Team (QRT), alternative transport by Cincinnati Fire Department to treatment services at the Engagement Center, continuum of care linkages with LEAD program or the ongoing support of the Hamilton County One-Stop Resource Center, the Interdiction Committee has grown into the connector to link and maintain care for those with substance use disorder.

In 2021, Ohio's version of Casey's Law was passed into law. The Interdiction Committee continues to work with Hamilton County Probate Judge Winkler to define a process to assist families navigate through the law.

The HEALing Communities Price Hill Hotspot Initiative was adapted and launched focusing on specific neighborhoods and those at high-risk, with multiple overdoses. Wrapping services around these individuals, our mission is to keep them in the Continuum of Care longer and towards active recovery. Meanwhile, removing negative community factors that influence Substance Use Disorder. Utilizing partnerships with the Coalition, Cincinnati Police, Cincinnati Fire, QRT, Crossroads and HEALing Communities Study we are seeing some exciting initial results. We are changing the goalpost of success to being active recovery. This means all parts of the Continuum of Care are involved and continuously linking to the next step in active recovery.

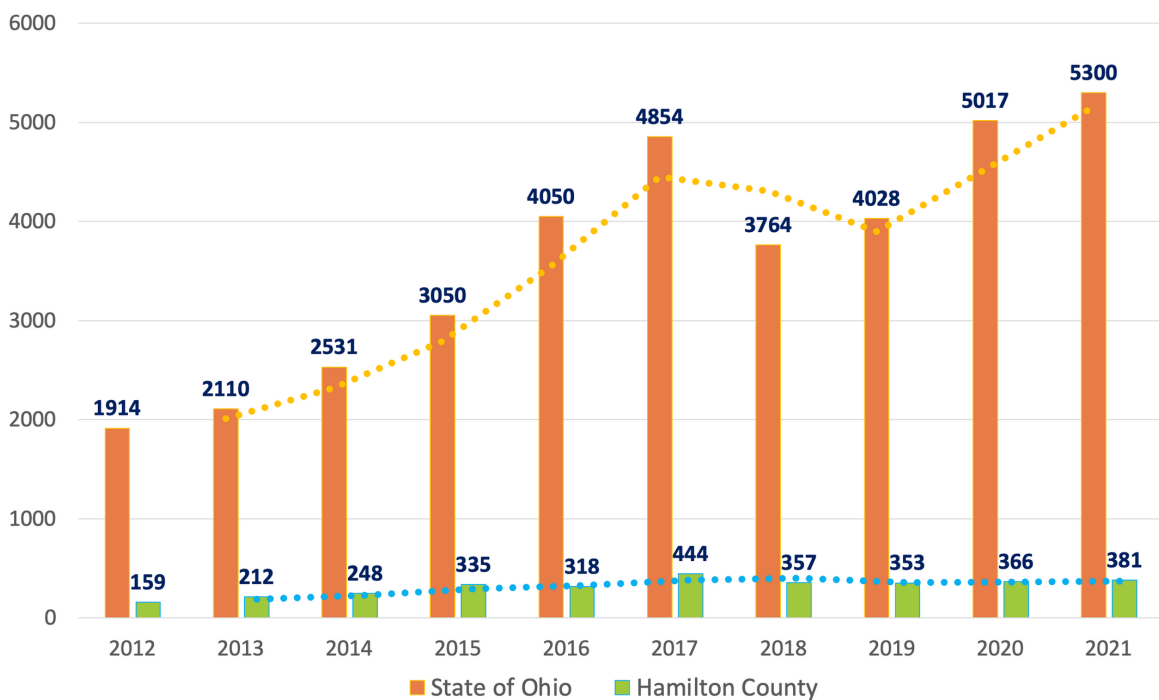


TOTAL OVERDOSE DEATHS



For Hamilton County Data, total overdose death counts include any overdose that occurred within Hamilton County, as of March 2022. The count for 2021 is preliminary and continues to be finalized. This count does not necessarily reflect Hamilton County resident deaths. These statistics are courtesy of the Hamilton County Coroner's Office.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESIDENT DEATHS



HAMILTON COUNTY HEROIN TASK FORCE

The Hamilton County Heroin Task Force was established in early 2015 by the Hamilton County Association of Chiefs of Police for the purpose of investigating all source dealers of heroin that lead to overdoses and overdose deaths, and ultimately prosecute the source dealer on applicable State of Ohio and Federal charges. A further purpose is to encourage and promote cooperation and coordination between the agencies of Hamilton County engaged in the investigation of heroin offenses.

The Hamilton County Heroin Task Force has agents assigned from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Cincinnati Police Division, Amberley Village Police Department, Ohio BCI & I, the Ohio State Patrol, and Drug Enforcement Administration Cincinnati DO. Our Task Force receives analytical support from the Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center and the Ohio Narcotics Intelligence Center.

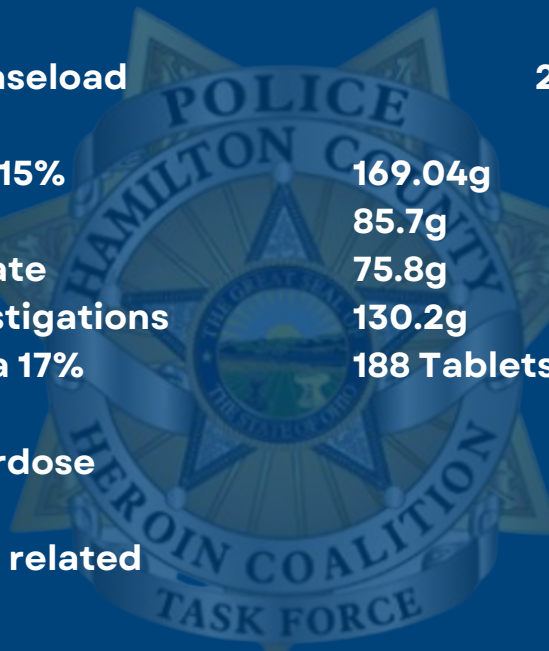
Our Task Force has formal partnerships with the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission, Hamilton County Coroner's Office, Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office, The Drug Enforcement Administration Cincinnati DO, U.S. Attorneys Office in the Southern District of Ohio, Ohio Attorney General's Office and all 44 police agencies in Hamilton County.

2021 Investigative Caseload

- 212 cases initiated, a 15% increase from 2020
- 205 were heroin/opiate overdose death investigations totaling 205 deaths, a 17% increase from 2020
- 2 were non-fatal overdose investigations
- 5 were heroin/opiate related drug investigations

2021 Drugs Recovered

169.04g	Fentanyl
85.7g	Cocaine
75.8g	Heroin
130.2g	Methamphetamine
188 Tablets	M-30 Counterfeit Pills



QUICK RESPONSE TEAM

The County-wide Quick Response Team (QRT) consists of law enforcement and trained peer navigators who provide "In-home" triage and assessment of overdose victims with the immediate goal of connecting the overdose victim with the most appropriate treatment specific to their needs.

The QRT has been in operation since April, 2018. In September 2021, the team expanded to a full-time program that includes both reactive overdose follow-up and proactive outreach into hotspot communities.

From April 2018 through August 2021, the QRT received a total of **946 inbound referrals**. More than half, **58% (or 549 individuals)**, successfully contacted by the QRT have been referred or connected to recovery support services. Of those, **66% (or 362 individuals)** successfully accessed and engaged in services, as evidenced by billing records from the Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board.

Expansion Projects



QRT PROGRAM COMPARISON

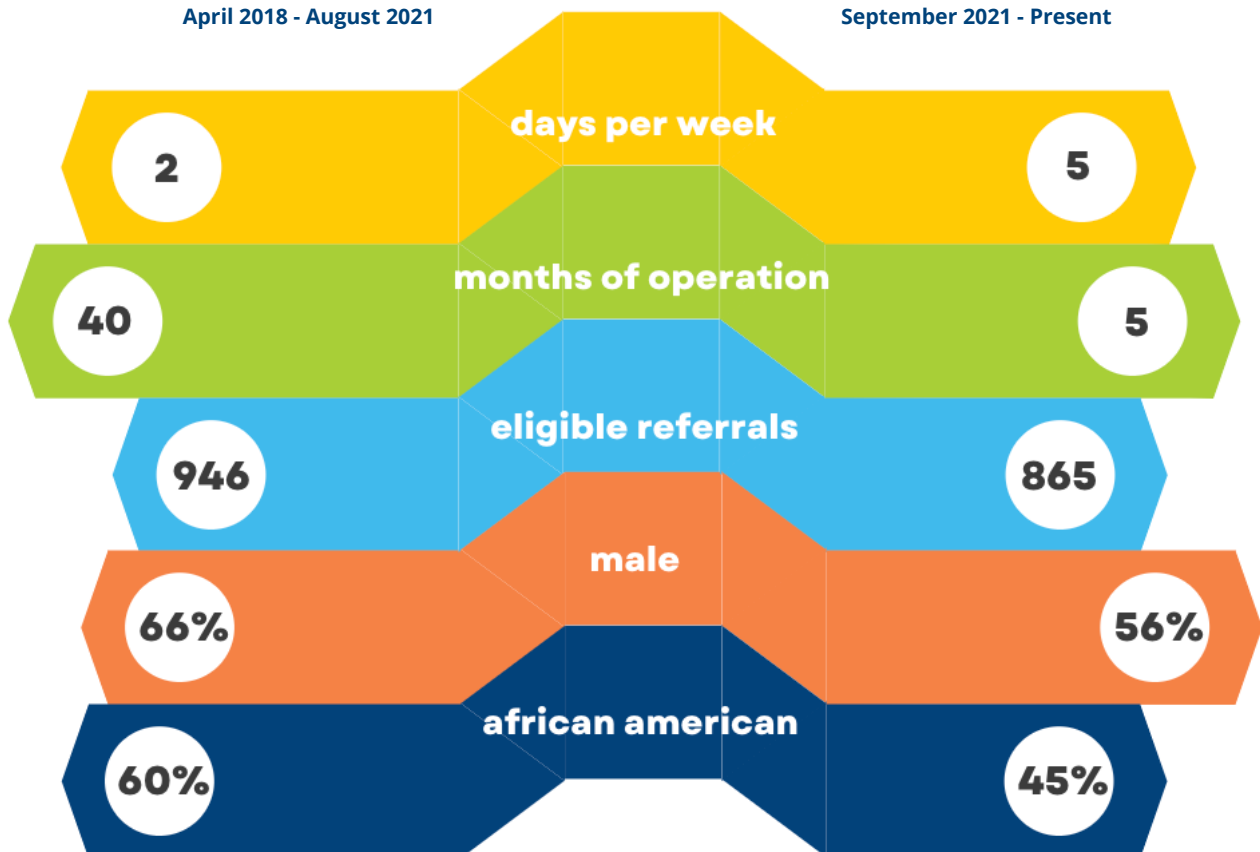
**PART-TIME
QRT**

VS

**FULL-TIME
QRT**

April 2018 - August 2021

September 2021 - Present



data as of February 2022

PRICE HILL HOTSPOT PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Price Hill Hotspot Program is a pilot program intended to build a collaborative data network, in coordination with the county-wide quick response team (QRT), to address the hotspot areas in the community which have historically high overdose rates.

QRT has worked in collaboration with the HC ARC Interdiction Committee and Cincinnati Police District 3 to identify high-risk overdose victims (Price Hill residents) to receive frequent and consistent follow-up. From September 2021 to present, **fourteen priority Price Hill residents** have been identified and selected to receive peer navigation with the hope of reducing barriers to treatment, provide connections for timely survival services, education and access to treatment and support to maintain active recovery through a continuum of care. Prior to the Price Hill Hotspot launching, our fourteen, priority people made up at least 18%, if not more, of the overdose runs in East Price Hill alone.

In addition to the fourteen priority people identified, QRT has also provided proactive outreach to hotspot blocks and streets throughout Price Hill to provide necessary education and resources, harm reduction materials such as Narcan, Hygiene Kits, and Fentanyl Test Strips, and provide connection and referral to recovery support services as needed. From September 2021 through February 2022, the QRT has served **70 participants** in the Price Hill area.

QRT conducts frequent and consistent proactive outreach each week in Price Hill - at the Price Hill Library, the Hamilton County Public Health Community Linking Station on Wednesday afternoons from 11:00am - 2:00pm, the Rapid Run Park, Lords Gym, Weightless Anchors, and Bloc Ministries.

Thank you to all of our community partners that make this outreach possible.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTED DIVERSION PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Hamilton County Justice Center was designed for 840 people, yet each month, 1,300 people often occupy the jail daily. A large percentage of these inmates have been arrested and incarcerated multiple times due to addiction, mental illness, or homelessness.

The Hamilton County LEAD initiative aims to stop the cycle of arrest by diverting low-level criminal offenses from the justice system to an intensive case-management program where individuals receive a wide range of support services. Cincinnati Police Officers in District 1 and the Central Business District utilize their discretion to divert low-level, non-violent male and female offenders who may be driven to offend due to untreated addiction, mental health conditions, homelessness, or poverty into the program. Diversions are conducted two ways- arrest diversions or social contact referrals.

LEAD launched in the summer of 2020 and most recently expanded into the Colerain and Norwood areas last February. Funding is through September 2022.

20-Months of pilot LEAD Activity

As of February 2022, a total of **93 eligible individuals** had been referred to LEAD.

93% Social Contact Referrals

52% Male

37% Minorities

Average Age - 42 years old

Of the **93** referrals, **72%** successfully completed an intake assessment. Of the participants who completed an intake assessment, **76%** are receiving ongoing case management services, **24%** decided to withdrawal from services voluntarily, and **5%** successfully completed case management services.

THE ONE-STOP RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The One-Stop Resource Center eliminates barriers to accessing support services for all Hamilton County residents, including those with criminal convictions. The One-Stop Resource Center offers face-to-face contact with service providers.

The One Stop Resource Center offers assistance with vital records, personal identification, substance abuse and mental health care, child support concerns, housing, record sealing or expungement, and employment.

This initiative launched on the final Friday of September 2019 with 134 participants attending in September and October. In 2020, the One Stop Resource Center operated in January and February only, there was a total of 80 participants during that time. COVID-19 moved rapidly throughout Hamilton County and the One Stop Resource events were postponed. Events recommenced Friday May 31, 2021, at the Hamilton County Justice Center and ended October 29th, 2021.

In September of 2021, the event was moved to the Duke Energy Convention Center. A total of 276 residents of Hamilton County and beyond attended the One-stop Resource Center during the 6-month period, from May to October 2021.



While the One-stop is open to all of Hamilton County, approximately 59% of participants have been returning citizens. Additional demographic information includes:

- The majority of One-stop attendees were between the ages of 25 and 34, but it appears there was a good spread across the age groups in attendance
- 51% of the participants were African American, 37% Caucasian, 1% Hispanic, 4% identified as Other and data was not collected for 7% of participants
- 73% of participants are single, 9% are divorced and the remaining 10% are married, have a partner, or are widowed. Data was not collected for 7% of participants



Housing (48.91%)

Housing is consistently the most requested form of assistance. Of the 256 registered participants, 135 people identified housing as their top need.



Record Sealing (26.45%)

Over a quarter of those attending the One-stop events requested assistance with sealing/expungement of their criminal record.



Homelessness (26.09%)

Thirty-one participants that identified as homeless had temporary housing. While these individuals do not meet the HUD standards for homelessness, they are experiencing some form of housing instability. Approximately 104 participants were unsheltered homeless.

Other top needs include: State Identification (25.01%), Emergency Aid (21.01%), Job Readiness/Employment (20.39%), Mental Health (15.94%) Benefits (14.51%), Recovery (14.13%), Healthcare (13.41%), COVID Testing & Vaccine (12.94%), Substance Use (11.23%), Veterans Services (9.02%), Treatment Services (5.19%)

CINCINNATI FIRE DEPARTMENT ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT PROGRAM

The Cincinnati Fire Department started an initiative January 1st, 2022, that focuses on stable opioid overdose patients for potential alternative destination transport. The Cincinnati Fire Department has partnered with the Talbert House Engagement Center to provide the potential for 24/7 evaluation and enrollment for patients deemed appropriate to bypass the transitional emergency department pathway.

Many overdose survivors are transported to emergency departments where the treatment/services they require are not available purely because there are no other options available to 911 responders. This partnership provides this much needed option. After undergoing medical screening for appropriateness, these patients will be transported to the Talbert House Engagement Center to continue basic medical monitoring while providing valuable treatment for substance use disorder, without the unnecessary interim cost of the emergency department.

Prior to the creation of this program many of the departments' members suffered from compassion fatigue, due to the high frequency of these types of calls. The Engagement Center has assisted us by having members who were transported by the CFD and have successfully completed the program to relate their story to our members. We've seen an increase in the offering of this program by our members since this training program has been initiated.

The number of transports has increased as the word gets out and capacity issues ease. We are beginning to gather data along with CQI to determine the success of the program and adjustments that might need to be made. The Cincinnati Fire Department views this new initiative as a patient centric program that will get patients the help they really need and require.

TREATMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Committee chaired by:

Neil Tilow, Talbert House

Patrick Tribbe, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board

Ongoing efforts have been made to outreach to individuals and families who need treatment, ensure access to treatment, continue to reduce barriers to treatment and initiate strategies for engagement.

GOALS & INITIATIVES

Maximize access to Federal, state and local funding for community based treatment for addictive disease.



Continue to focus efforts on increasing access to treatment for minority communities and promote the work of the AAEW.

Analyze data related to efficacy of treatment services and routinely report the results to the Coalition.



The Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (HCMHRSB) received \$3,185,980 for year two of the State Opioid Response (SOR 2.0) funding. Unfortunately, the No Cost Extension funding was not renewed, significantly impacting many programs that relied on those funds for ongoing services.

In addition to SOR funding, HCMHRSB received a \$300,596 grant from OhioMHAS to treat individuals with alcohol use/misuse disorder (AUD). HCMHRSB partnered with Talbert House, First Step Home, Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health, and The Crossroads Center to implement and enhance AUD services among the target population.

HCMHRSB applied for and received a \$150,000 grant from the Office of Criminal Justice services to provide a jail-based substance abuse program. For this project, HCMHRSB partnered with Talbert House to implement the RISE program, Reintegrating Strategically and Efficiently, by focusing on the peer recovery model as the main support system in the re-entry process during and post incarceration.

Last, the Treatment committee is engaging QRT by enlisting the advice of a strong cadre of treatment providers from the most experienced professionals in the region. The idea is to assure that the efforts of QRT services maximize access to treatment for those they encounter.



ENGAGEMENT CENTER PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

During the 2021 calendar year, the Engagement Center received 1345 referrals and served 692 individuals. While the majority of the clients were Caucasian males, there was a moderate increase of 4% for African American males seeking treatment. This comes after a considerable effort to address stigma and barriers for treatment in the African American communities, where overdose rates among African American males have far surpassed their white counterparts.

In all, 72% of clients served through the Engagement Center were discharged under medical advice and connected to a primary Substance Use Disorder treatment provider. In addition, a 100% of positive discharges received intensive social supports to include housing, Medicaid, primary care, and access to recovery supports. Unfortunately, a decrease in the SOR funding had a negative impact on programming resulting in a temporary decrease in capacity. HCMHR SB is actively pursuing other funding opportunities to restore full bed capacity at the Engagement Center.





AFRICAN AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

The African American Engagement Workgroup, (AAEW) a part of the Treatment Committee, is working closely with Talbert House, UMADAOP, The Crossroads Center, PreventionFirst!, Faith based leaders and community stakeholders, making strides and having positive impact through their mission. The AAEW was able to pilot Narcan distribution to successfully distribute 640 Narcan kits into Black Communities

The pilot launched in March with the goal of distributing 250 kits in one year. After visiting 24 locations - churches, minority-owned and operated businesses, community events, etc. - the AAEW exceeded its goal in only four months, providing crucial education and training to the community.

For the first time in Hamilton County, there are now a number of coalitions serving Black neighborhoods that are forming a backbone of prevention work. Two churches are taking the lead, and engaging another 8 to 10 churches, in the process of connecting their church congregations to quality prevention, intervention, and support services.

The HEALing Communities study funding will provide funds for the initial phase of hiring prevention, case management and peer recovery specialists to engage the church communities. Funding for the continuation of the effort will need to be acquired after the close of the HEALing Communities effort.

HEALING COMMUNITIES STUDY

In 2020, the HC ARC Steering Committee began working closely with HCS to identify best opportunities to develop and implement strategies to advance Evidence Based Practices. Over the last two years, 26 strategies have been developed to assist in serving Hamilton County through HCS funding and the strong dedication of HC ARC leadership, organizations and service providers.

OPIOID EDUCATION AND NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION (OEND)

- Hamilton County Quick Response Team (QRT) is working to expand naloxone kit distribution in communities with high overdose rates and to high-risk populations. Strategy efforts in 2021 included kit distribution to high-risk individuals being released from the Justice Center after arraignment.
- In response to increasing overdose death rates among Black Americans, the HC ARC African American Engagement Workgroup (AAEW) led a series of naloxone trainings and kit distribution initiatives in minority communities, distributing 650 kits within a four-month period. The Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and Talbert House provided naloxone kits for these efforts.
- Hamilton County Public Health continued to support and supply naloxone kit distribution through partnerships and developed protocols with Talbert House jail-based treatment; Hamilton County Office of Reentry; and by providing a QR code and text-request number for citizens to receive mail-order kits.
- Hamilton County Court Specialized Dockets made available post-cards to litigants to provide information on the availability of kits by self-request.
- University of Cincinnati Emergency Department collaborated with TriHealth Emergency Departments and Mercy Emergency Departments and the health systems are working to increase naloxone distribution through prompts, prescriptions and warm-hand off of kits to individuals at-risk for opioid overdose. The Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and Talbert House provided kits for these efforts.
- HCS provided funding support for HC ARC activities and events including Overdose Awareness Day, Cincinnati Reds Recovery Night, OneStop Resource Center awareness, resource materials for QRT, AAEW, and for efforts toward stigma reduction and naloxone education.

EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF MEDICATION FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER (MOUD)

- The HC ARC African American Engagement Workgroup has designed two community-based professional recovery teams that will work to provide outreach and engagement within faith-based communities to assist individuals and families with access to affordable treatment and ongoing support. These efforts will include counseling, prevention education, recovery support, and community stigma reduction messaging.
- University of Cincinnati Emergency Department collaborated with TriHealth and Mercy Health Emergency Departments and the health systems are working to enhance protocols to increase and expand medications for opioid use disorder to individuals presenting with overdose, associated medical conditions and to individuals identified at high risk for OUD based upon screening. Additionally, these hospital systems are working to expand services to link individuals with community treatment providers to assure access and continuity of care.
- Hamilton County Justice Center is participating in a pilot program to work to expand treatment for opioid use disorder through medication assisted treatment. The pilot programming includes linkage assistance to ongoing community treatment providers upon release from incarceration.
- Hamilton County QRT has is working to expand outreach and engagement through peer recovery specialists in high-overdose areas to assist individuals with access to treatment, barrier reduction and support for active recovery.
- The Crossroads Center is collaborating with QRT to provide additional off-hour peer recovery support in high-overdose areas.

SAFER OPIOID PRESCRIBING, DISPENSING AND DISPOSAL PRACTICES

- PreventionFIRST! is partnering with service providers to expand prevention education and distribution of Deterra bags for safer opioid disposal.
- UC Medical Center Pharmacists are developing and expanding opioid prescription training modules for medical personnel.
- At UC Winkle College of Pharmacy, Pain Management & Opioid Stewardship Specialists are working to develop and implement additional support and educational materials for surgical patients with acute and chronic pain.

NIH
HEAL
INITIATIVE

HEALing Communities Study
Ohio

HARM REDUCTION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Committee chaired by:

**Dr. Jennifer Mooney, Hamilton County Public Health
Tiffany Mattingly, The Health Collaborative
Linda Gallager, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board**

To create a collaborative network of harm reduction service providers that supports the health and well being individuals, families, and communities.

GOALS & INITIATIVES

Provide practical strategies, tools and comprehensive access to harm reduction services that are delivered without stigma, meet individual needs, are data-driven, and improve the health of the community.



Develop key talking points about harm reduction to align stakeholders through content, prioritizing audiences, listening, conducting conversations, and measuring change.

Identifying access barriers with the aim of improving harm reduction services while meeting community needs.



The Harm Reduction Subcommittee has decided to focus on two critical components of harm reduction: access and stigma. The access workgroup is developing an interview for users of harm reduction services to better understand where there are system gaps. The goal for the stigma workgroup is to have a unified “voice” among all entities in the subcommittee who will endorse the same message to help combat stigma.

Hamilton County Public Health also launched a stigma campaign (<http://www.addictiondisease.org/>). One of their very own staff modeled for the campaign as well as many other people in recovery. Thanks, Wayne for putting yourself out there and being a strong team player in Harm Reduction efforts.



Ohio as a state saw an increase in overdose deaths in 2020. Hamilton County did not see the same trend. To further prevent overdose death, our team launched a Fentanyl test strips distribution program in partnership with local businesses. The message relayed to drug users is that fentanyl can be present in many different drugs – even recreational drugs. Test strips can help drug users modify their behavior if fentanyl is known to be present. Currently, test strips are offered at Riverfront Live with two additional partners coming on soon, Rhinegeist Brewery and Stanley’s Pub.



PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.



Peer Recovery Employment Program

The Peer Recovery Employment Program is a workforce development program developed to help people in recovery enter the field of peer recovery support.

The program includes components designed to prepare participants for the professional workplace as well as providing 1 on 1 supervision and mentoring.

Program Components

- Individual evaluations and career testing
- Resume building and interview training
- Peer recovery Supporter training including 16 hours online and 40 hours in person
- Individual mentoring and support
- Up to 6 months of paid work experience working with a peer supporter in the field

Program to Date Statistics

- 125 total program participants
- 58 participants graduated
- 20,243 total hours completed in work experience internships
- 58 participants completed all required OhMAHS Peer Support trainings
- 23 Participants received OhMHAS certification in Peer Recovery Support
- 35 participants placed into full time employment

The Peer Recovery Employment Program has increased the number of peer supporters in Hamilton County by more than 50% since the start of the program*

Participants Stories

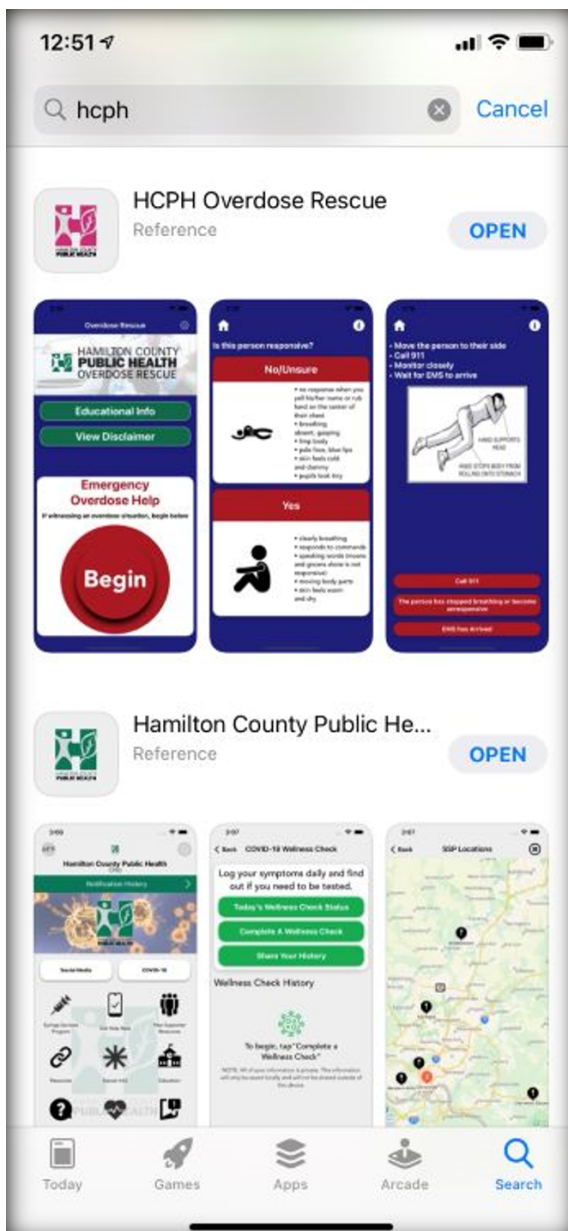
Local addiction rehabilitation center using peer coaches to help those in recovery - <https://bit.ly/3w4KA44>

"I thought police were the enemy:" Local man in recovery thanks police for saving him - <https://bit.ly/3CHfrFl>

*based on listed certified peer supporters from OhMAHS prior to start of PREP in August of 2019

SAFE SYRINGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Searching for the app under HCPH provides options for two apps. The first is the overdose rescue app which walks a person through the response process for encountering an overdose. The second, is our newest app features a “report found syringe” feature. Staff created newly developed standard operating procedure for the safe collection of improperly disposed of syringes found in the community.



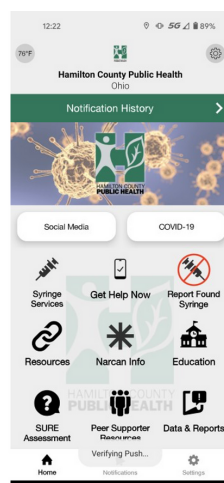
- Comprehensive resource database
- Report syringes found in community
- Peer support resources
- Get Narcan to delivered
- Syringe services locations and information
- Data and reports
- COVID-19 wellness check



- Detailed guidance for responding to a suspected overdose
- Naloxone administration and CPR instructions
- Text to speech feature to read directions aloud
- Get Narcan delivered
- Report locations of overdoses

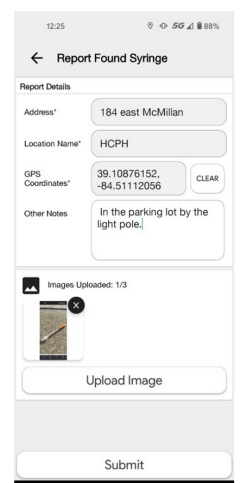


- To the right is the actual sharps portal inside the app.
- Asks for location and image if you have one.



Goal: promote safe sharps disposal in Hamilton County

- To the left is the menu inside the app.
- Click on “report found syringe”



S.A.F.E. (STIGMA-FREE ACCESS FOR EVERYONE) SERVICES

Monday
Over-the-Rhine

Sunrise Treatment Center
1 p.m. to 4 p.m
1718 Central PKWY
Cincinnati, OH 45214
In rear parking lot

Tuesday
Corryville

Hamilton County Public Health
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Hamilton County Public Health
250 William Howard Taft (**Rear**)
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Wednesday
Western Hills

Talbert House
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
4968 Glenway Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45238
Rear parking lot

Thursday
Northside

Caracole
5p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
4138 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45223

FRIDAY
Walnut Hills

Equitas Health
12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
2800 Gilbert Ave
Cincinnati OH 45206
(Parking lot on corner of Gilbert Ave. and Yale Ave.)



FAITH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Committee chaired by:
Rev. Lesley Jones, Truth & Destiny Covenant Ministries
Cameron Foster, Addiction Services Council & Mt. Zion
Missionary Baptist Church

Recovery encompasses an individual’s whole life, including mind, body, spirit and community. For many, faith is critical to their recovery. The faith community committee helps the Coalition to raise awareness and use their compassion and local understanding to bring hope and healing to those in need.


GOALS & INITIATIVES

Expand committee membership and outreach.



Create a faith roundtable of clergy and congregational representatives to host quarterly meetings.

Recruit 30 congregations to host an Addiction Awareness Event.



The Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition was pleased to welcome new, Faith Committee co-chair Cameron Foster at the end of 2021. With Cameron on board, the committee was able to redefine committee goals and begin recruiting committee members.

Co-Chair Lesley Jones was honored to serve as a representative on a call with Senator Sherrod Brown's office regarding Senate Bill 25 the "Relapse Reduction Act."



Prayer for Victims of Addiction & Others:

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer – Episcopal)

BUSINESS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Committee chaired by:
J.B. Buse, LOTH Holdings, LLC
Kevin Jones, Huntington Bank

The Business Community Committee centers on coordinating public and private-sector efforts to maximize the impact of the Coalition to keep our community healthy and safe. The Business Community focuses on how local businesses can be part of the solution to combating the opioid epidemic in our County.

GOALS & INITIATIVES

Inform the Business Community on the Coalition's mission and pillars by bringing more awareness to business leaders around topics of substance use and addiction.



Identify the intersections where business leaders can supply resources, strategies, and institutional knowledge to meet Coalition needs.

Promote understanding and engagement with business leaders to increase Coalition involvement and visibility across the region.



The Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition is looking forward to continuing its momentum with its Business Community Committee into 2022. With the assistance of numerous community partners, such as the Cincinnati Regional Business Committee, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Nehemiah Manufacturing, Cincinnati Reds, the AFL-CIO, Ohio Means Jobs, Hamilton County Public Health, the Hamilton County Office of Reentry and more, the Business Community Committee met on a quarterly basis throughout 2021.

Over the past year, the Business Community Committee has deliberated and analyzed a variety of different strategies to help businesses utilize their resources, expertise, and networks to create workplace and community solutions to combat the opioid epidemic in Hamilton County. The Committee drafted and published these strategies together in a "Business Response Toolkit."

The Committee continues to recruit members and identify business leaders who will set the tone and make it a priority for their company and employees to understand substance use disorders and addiction, its impact, and bring resources and awareness to a pressing issue in Hamilton County- the opioid epidemic. Thus far, the Committee has confirmed participation from 20+ business leaders throughout the region.

For any organizations or businesses that are interested in joining the Business Committee's work, please reach out to Social Program Administrator, Meagan Gosney at Meagan.gosney@hamilton-co.org for more information.



BUSINESS RESPONSE TOOLKIT PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Substance use disorder impacts communities, workplaces, employers, employees and their families, partners, and children. Business leaders have the opportunity to take action to implement prevention and awareness programming, provide employees the necessary tools and skills they need to identify and treat substance use disorder, and help connect employees to appropriate resources, treatment, and recovery supports. When business leaders take action, they are also addressing workplace challenges such as: productivity and absenteeism, health care costs, workplace safety, and employee health and wellness.

The toolkit aims to give the Hamilton County Business Community insight into the magnitude of the problem of addiction, a better understanding of the work of the HC ARC and its partners, and a synopsis of what strategies have led to positive outcomes and substantial change in the workplace to support employers and employees struggling with substance use disorder.



1

**Supporting Employees
through Stigma Reduction**

2

Education and Training

3

Changing Business Practices

RECOVERY FRIENDLY HAMILTON COUNTY INITIATIVE PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Project Milestones

Hired Tyler Meenach - Recovery Workforce Advocate

Currently have 4 businesses for pilot to launch in April including both public and private organizations

Several information sessions held in partnership with Ohio Means Jobs and local business partners

Additional 4 businesses selected for pilot expansion group in May

Relationships formed with several other established recovery friendly workplace programs in other states

County-wide launch in June with early interest from multiple businesses

70% of people who use substances are employed. Employers are incurring the costs*

An employee in recovery saves their employer an average of \$8,500 per year*

Reduce The Stigma
of Recovery

Connect Your
Employees With
Important Resources

Distinguish Yourself
as a Forward
Thinking Employer

*Information sourced from 2020 research by NORC at the University of Chicago, the National Safety Council, and recoveryfriendlyworkplace.com



**RECOVERY FRIENDLY
HAMILTON COUNTY**



**HAMILTON COUNTY
ADDICTION RESPONSE
COALITION
AGENCY LIST**

Addiction Services Council	Common Pleas Court Hamilton County	Jeff Wyler Auto Group	Spero Health
AFL- CIO	Cordata Healthcare Innovations	KAV Health Group	Springfield Township
Alkermes	Council Member Mark Jeffrey's Office	Key Bank	State Representative Brigid Kelly
Allen Temple Church	Council Member Jan Michelle Kearney's Office	Linder Center	Strategies to End Homelessness
Anderson Township Fire Department	Court Clinic	LOTH Holdings	Sunrise Treatment Center
Archdiocese of Cincinnati	DeCoach Rehabilitation Centre	Lumiere Healing Center	Sycamore Township
ASAP Norwood	Easter Seals	Mental Health and Addiction Advocacy Coalition	Talbert House
Because You Matter LLC	Enerfab	Mercy Health Cincinnati	Tender Mercies
BioCoRX	Ethan Crossing	Miami University	The AMOS Project
Bloc Ministries	Equitas Health	Midwest Spine Interventionalist, LLC	The Christ Hospital
Block By Block	First Step Home	Minds at Peace	The City of Middletown
BlueRidge Vista	Fortin Advisory	Modern Psychiatry and Wellness	The Crossroads Center
Brightview Health	Frost, Brown, Todd	Nehemiah Manufacturing	The Freestore Foodbank
Caracole	Glad House	New Foundations Community Housing	The Gorilla Glue Co.
Catholic Cincinnati	GLAST	NKY Health Department	The Health Collaborative
Cedar Oaks Wellness Center	Government Strategies	Norwood Health Department	The Ohio Attorney General's Office
Center for Addiction Treatment	Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services	Office of Aftab Pureval	The Sheakley Group
Center for Closing the Health Gap	Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center	Office of US Senator Rob Portman	The Unity Center of Cincinnati
CenterPoint Health	Greater Cincinnati YMCAs	Office of US Senator Sherrod Brown	Transitions NKY
Central Community Health Board	Green Light Fund	Ohio Department of Health	Trustpoint.One
Cincinnati Regional Business Committee	Hamilton County Administration	Ohio National Financial Services	UC Health
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	Hamilton County Adult Probation	Ohio State University Medical Center	UMADAOP
Cincinnati Fire Department	Hamilton County Association of Chiefs of Police	Omega Mentoring Association	United Way
Cincinnati Health Department	Hamilton County Board of County Commissioner	OneCity For Recovery/The Hopeline	University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati/Hamilton County Public Library Branches	Hamilton County Coroner's Office	Operation 2 Save Lives & QRT National	US House of Representative Brad Wenstrup
Cincinnati Ohio Police Federal Credit Union (COPFCU)	Hamilton County ESC	Our Sam Foundation	US House of Representative Steve Chabot
Cincinnati Police Department	Hamilton County Fire Chiefs Association	Pinnacle Treatment Center	Velocity Biogroup Corps
Cincinnati Reds	Hamilton County Heroin Task Force	Potter House Recovery	Village of Newtown
Cincinnati State	Hamilton County Job and Family Services	PreventionFIRST!	Weightless Anchors
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber	Hamilton County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board	Pyramid Health	Woodhaven
Cincinnati Works	Hamilton County Office of Reentry	Quiet Star Capital	
City Gospel Mission	Hamilton County Prosecutor	Real Works 2020	
City of Cincinnati	Hamilton County Public Health	Recovery Ohio	
City of Sharonville	Hamilton County Sheriff's Office	RecoverWisely	
CleanSlate Centers	Harm Reduction Ohio	Relink	
Clermont Recovery Center	HealthPath Foundation	Renew Recovery	
Cohear	Hightowers Petroleum Co.	Restoring Hope Counseling and Coaching	
Colerain Township	Hotel California By the Sea	Resurge Recovery	
	Huntington National Bank	Salvation Army	
	IlSCO	Santa Maria Community Services	
	Interact for Health	Shelterhouse	