

Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA)

Ottawa County Steering Committee / Memorandum of Understanding

RECITALS

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) (P.L. 117-159) provides supplemental funding for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) to enable states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories to expand access to mental health care. Overseen by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the BSCA supplemental funding seeks to support state behavioral health systems in examining what is needed to address the mental health needs in the aftermath of traumatic events and natural disasters within our communities. To address the massive disruption and loss of life caused by these crises, The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Seneca, Ottawa, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties (MHRSB) in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services will work to strengthen and enhance behavioral health disaster preparedness and crisis response efforts. The grant provides a unique opportunity to develop improved and sustainable public behavioral health systems that are more adept at meeting the needs of vulnerable people, including those with more complex presentations.

The MHRSB received the Behavioral Health Disaster Preparedness grant from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

MHRSB is an alcohol, drug addiction and mental health services district, established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section (O.R.C.) 340.01 and as such, is the entity responsible for making community addiction and mental health services available to residents of Seneca, Ottawa, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties.

The MHRSB serves as the community addiction and mental health planning agency for the counties under its jurisdiction (O.R.C. 340.03).

AGREEMENT

This Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into as of September 1, 2025, by and among the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Seneca, Ottawa, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties ("MHRSB") and Ottawa County Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) Steering Committee members ("SCM"), and all collectively, the "Parties."

RESPONSIBILITIES

Ottawa County Steering Committee for the BSCA Grant is a collaboration of public and private organizations dedicated to the oversight and implementation of activities that will result in a comprehensive behavioral health disaster preparedness plan.

1. Connections Recovery Services is a non-profit mental health agency that oversees the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) & Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM). Both teams will work to advocate for adequate and proactive behavioral health services in a similar manner to those regarding physical health so that underserved and disadvantaged populations can successfully obtain comprehensive treatment without a gap in their existing services due to disasters.
2. Bayshore Counseling Services is a mental health outpatient counseling agency serving adults, adolescents, children and their families.
3. Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services (FCRS) is an outpatient behavioral health agency, providing mental health assessment and treatment services for youth, teens, and adults. FCRS also provides substance use assessment and counseling services for adults and adolescents. Mental health and substance use medication assessment and treatment services, case management, crisis assessment and vocational services are also available.

4. The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Seneca, Ottawa, Sandusky & Wyandot Counties is a local entity that is empowered to plan, develop, fund, administer, and evaluate the local system of mental health and addiction services.
5. Primary and support agencies will convene annually to determine if changes should be recommended. Primary and support agencies may include but not limited to the Ottawa County Health Department, Ottawa County Sheriff's Office, Ottawa County Emergency Management Agency, Allen-Clay Joint Fire District, Bay Township Fire Department, Carroll Township Fire Department, Catawba Island Volunteer Fire Department, Erie Township Volunteer Fire Department, Harris-Elmore Fire Department, Danbury Township Fire Department, Oak Harbor Mid County EMS, Put-In-Bay EMS and Port Clinton Fire Department.

<u>Handy</u>	<u>Executive Director</u>	<u>Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of SOSW</u>	<u>9/01/2025</u>
NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	DATE

<u>D. Miller</u>	<u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</u>	<u>CONNECTICUTS RECOVERY SERVICES</u>	<u>8-20-25</u>
NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	DATE

<u>Tul A</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Ottawa County EMA</u>	<u>8-22-25</u>
NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	DATE

<u>Maureen Keef</u>	<u>Executive Director</u>	<u>Bayshore Counseling Services</u>	<u>9-4-25</u>
NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	DATE

<u>Seabla Bragley</u>	<u>Health Commissioner</u>	<u>Ottawa County Health Dept.</u>	<u>9/10/25</u>
NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	DATE

<u>Shirley J. Miller</u>	<u>S. Director</u>	<u>Firelands Regional Mental</u>	<u>9/24/25</u>
NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	DATE
		<u>Center / FERS</u>	