

## **Accomplishments, cont.**

### **Law Enforcement**

Lancaster Police Department established a Directed Patrol Unit, a specialized unit that deals with drug trafficking in the city (among other things). LPD also helped with the three OU-L Drug Drop offs (which removed over 219,000 pills and over 250 lbs of liquid meds from circulation), and several alcohol/tobacco compliance checks, large scale drug sweeps were done in collaboration with the Major Crimes Unit, and the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office. Plus, LPD has a joint project with the Ohio Investigative Unit to remove designer drugs (bath salts, K2 spice etc.) from liquor permit premises such as carry outs and bars.

Fairfield County Sheriff's office formed a "SCRAP" Team (Street Crimes Reduction and Apprehension Program) that works in conjunction with the Lancaster Police Department and the Fairfield-Hocking Major Crimes Unit to remove drug traffickers and drugs from the county.

### **Steering Committee Members**

Orman Hall, Fairfield County ADAMH Board  
Sheriff Phalen, Fairfield County Sheriff  
Chief Bailey, Lancaster Police Department  
Becky Edwards, Family Adult Children Council  
Lou Varga, Varga Communications  
Toni Ashton, Prevention Works  
Trisha Saunders, The Recovery Center  
Rick Szabrak, Lancaster Eagle-Gazette  
Bob Lovell, Lancaster-Fairfield Chamber of Commerce  
David Smith, Mayor of Lancaster  
Mina Ubbing, Fairfield Medical Center  
James Stevenson, M.D., Fairfield Medical Center  
Ron Burris, Tour de Cause  
Sherry Orlando, United Way of Fairfield County  
David Landefeld, Fairfield Co. Prosecutor  
Lancaster Municipal Court  
Lancaster City Schools  
Rhonda Myers, ADAMH Board  
Nadine Carroll, ADAMH Board

**Mission**  
The Mission of the Fairfield County Opiate Task Force is to educate the citizens of Fairfield County about the scope and nature of opiate addiction in our community; to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to the interdiction, judicial and treatment components of the heroin and other opiates problem; and to develop protocol for the local use of opiate analgesics in Fairfield County.

Fairfield County ADAMH Board  
108 W. Main, Suite A  
Lancaster, OH 43130



# **FY 2010-11 Annual Report**

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## **Background**

The non-medical use of prescription drugs, particularly opiate analgesics, was identified as a significant concern in the SFY 2010 – 2011 Fairfield County Community Plan. To address this concern, the ADAMH Board formed an Opiate Task Force, with 5 sub-committees, comprised of key community stakeholders from a wide variety of vocations and interests.

In October of 2009 the ADAMH Board hosted the first public showing of the “Hooked” DVD at the October Board meeting held at the Ohio Glass Museum. The 30 minute dvd was put together by Varga Communications, Inc. at the request of the ADAMH Board and funded by Reckitt-Benckiser. This video is available on the Board’s website and on You Tube.

On November 5th, 2009, the 1st Annual Opiate Summit was held. Over 100 people attended. Community leaders came together, watched the DVD, listened to first hand experiences from people on the front lines and started doing something about the opiate problem including setting up the following five sub-committees:

- i. Community Awareness and Education
- ii. Medical Professionals
- iii. Corrections & Treatment
- iv. Measurement
- v. Fundraising



## **Accomplishments in FY 2010-2011**

**Speaker’s Bureau.** A Speaker’s Bureau has been created and contains a cadre of trained speakers drawn from OTF organizations and volunteers.

**Print Media.** A number of print media resources have been distributed: Fairfield Medical Center produced a magazine quality publication that was distributed to 59,000 households in Fairfield County and surrounding communities. A series of front-page articles on opiate use, abuse, and dependence was published by the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette. Fact Cards. Fact cards were created for: 1) parents of teens, and 2) patients at Fairfield Medical Center to raise awareness of the needed precautions when using opiate medications and the risk of addiction when opiates are misused.

**Tour de Cause.** A 100- mile cycling event held in July, 2010 and July 2011 raised about \$40,000 and \$56,000 respectively for opiate addiction prevention & treatment at The Recovery Center.

**Professional Training.** The ADAMH Board has two physicians with expertise and experience in the use of opiate analgesics. A number of educational events were held with physicians and other medical and dental professionals to inform them of current opiate abuse trends in the community and considerations in prescribing opiates.

**Drug Disposal and Drop Off Day.** Two community drug disposal and drop off days were held (April, 2010 and October, 2010). Community members were encouraged to safely dispose of unwanted medications, with emphasis on opiates.

**Social Networking.** A facebook page for the Opiate Task Force was created.

**Opiate Task Force Logo.** A logo was created to succinctly convey the short distance between opiate misuse and heroin addiction. A website is in progress along with other materials for distribution courtesy of the Fairfield County Foundation.

## **Measuring Community Attitudes.**

A community attitudinal survey was conducted in February, 2010 to determine community attitudes about opiate and heroin use and to estimate the prevalence of opiate addiction in our county. The findings will serve as a baseline, when the study is repeated over time, to determine the effectiveness of opiate awareness and treatment intervention in our community. Fairfield County residents demonstrated a higher awareness of opiate addiction issues when compared with a similar survey conducted across the State of Ohio. OTF members attributed this to work done during November, 2009 and January, 2010.

**Public Service Announcements.** Public service announcements were prepared for radio and TV.

## **Parents/Caregivers of Drug Exposed Infants.**

An educational program was held for parents and caregivers of drug exposed infants on the special needs of drug exposed infants.

**Support Group for Families/Friends of Opiate Addicted Individuals.** A support group for loved ones of opiate addicted persons began August, 2010 at The Recovery Center.

**Community Events.** OTF materials are displayed at a variety of community events.

**T-Shirts.** A small number of T-shirts were created and the style piloted for consideration of further production and distribution.

## **Governor’s Recognition**

The Opiate Task Force and Fairfield Medical Center were awarded a certificate of recognition from Governor Strickland for their exemplary service to the residents of Ohio.

Note: This Annual Report covers the time period from the beginning of the OTF November 5, 2009 until June 30, 2011.