

February 2022

Hancock County Community Partner,

**Please help.** In the past year, thousands of Hancock County residents, including friends, family, and co-workers, were directly impacted by mental health and substance use services provided by local agencies including: Ohio Guidestone (formerly A Renewed Mind); Family Resource Center; FOCUS Recovery and Wellness Community; and, NAMI Hancock County. Local levy dollars were used to subsidize these services when there was no other source of funding.

**On May 3, 2022,** The Citizens Committee for Mental Health and Substance Use Services is seeking your vote in favor of a 1.3 mill replacement Levy. When approved, this will mark **fifty-five years of local support** for mental health and substance use services.

We are reaching out to ask for your support of the Levy. Here are a few impactful ways you can support mental health:

1. **VOTE YES** for mental health on **May 3**.
2. Show your support for mental health by placing a **yard sign** in your front yard. Call 419-424-1985 to get a yard sign.
3. Ask your employers and co-workers to **share messages of support** in newsletters or church bulletins, on a website, in the signature line of emails, or on electronic signs and window fronts.
4. **Write, call, or text** family and friends to encourage them to **VOTE YES** for mental health.
5. **Like and share** the **ADAMHS Facebook** page and posts.
6. **Share a personal** testimony on why supporting mental health is important to you. Scan the QR code to share your testimony.



If you have additional questions or are interested in having someone speak to your organization about the Levy, please call (419-424-1985) or email Zach Thomas ([zthomas@yourpathtohealth.org](mailto:zthomas@yourpathtohealth.org)).

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ami Orr, MD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr. Ami Orr, Chairperson

# WHY SUPPORT THE 2022 MENTAL HEALTH REPLACEMENT LEVY?

## WHY IS THIS LEVY IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY?

In the last two years, our community has seen tremendous challenges as a result of the pandemic. In fact, in the first year of the pandemic, **4 in 10 adults reported symptoms of anxiety or depression**. There was a **21% increase in adult mental health assessments**, and a **7% increase in youth mental health assessments**. Research also informs us that the recovery period of any community-based traumatic experience is at least 7 years – this means we can expect to see this increased need for mental health and substance use services continue well into the future.

Passage of the Levy means continued operations and expansion of mental health and substance abuse services for the residents of Hancock County. Demand for these services is growing at a significant rate. Last year, **one in seven** community members was directly impacted by levy-supported services.

## WHAT DOES THE LEVY DO FOR OUR COMMUNITY?

- Approximately **5,000 county residents** received mental health and substance use services this past year, including nearly **1,100 youth**. Services include prevention, treatment, and recovery supports.
- A significant portion of Levy dollars are invested in **prevention services**, which include providing school-based programming that builds social and resiliency skills – critical to developing youth.
- **Treatment** (such as counseling, medication and case management) **and recovery supports** (such as housing, peer support, and FOCUS Recovery Community) provide opportunities to people of all ages to successfully manage mental health and substance use challenges that may interfere with daily living.
- Levy dollars support work with other systems and key stakeholders to develop **community solutions** that address mental health and substance use issues and **promote recovery and resiliency**.
- Levy dollars support efforts to **educate, engage, and connect** professionals and community members on mental health and substance use issues through events and activities.

## THIS IS A REPLACEMENT LEVY. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

The Levy replaces the existing Levy that expires December 2022 at the same millage of 1.3. **This Levy creates no new millage**. The Levy will raise about **2.85 million dollars** which is nearly half of the ADAMHS annual budget.

## BOTTOM LINE, HOW MUCH WILL I PAY IN TAXES IF THE LEVY PASSES?

A mill generates one dollar of taxes for every \$1,000 of a property's assessed value. Assessed value is for taxes only and is usually lower than your property's fair market appraised value. We estimate that collection for this Levy, which will begin in 2023, will cost the owner of a \$100,000 home approximately **\$46 per year**.

The Hancock County community has supported the Levy since 1967 – 55 years and counting!

May 3, 2022

