



Expressions

Maumee Valley Guidance Center

Connie Planson, President & CEO

Volume 7, Issue 1

Ohio Department of Health Visit

On September 18, 2014 Ohio Department of Health Director, Richard Hodges and his staff toured the Integrated Health Care offices at Maumee Valley Guidance Center in Defiance, Ohio. Les McCaslin, CEO of the Four County ADAMhs Board facilitated a discussion on the Integrated Health project in the Four County area.



Left to Right: Pam Pflum, Connie Planson, Richard Hodges, Rhonda Muehlfeld, Les McCaslin

Inside this issue:

<i>Youth Case Management - The Storybook Adventure</i>	2
<i>Signs of Suicide</i>	2
<i>SSVF Program</i>	2
<i>The Joint Commission</i>	3
<i>Employee Retirement</i>	3
<i>Donations</i>	3

Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services Visit



Left to Right: Connie Planson, Anne Goon, Tara Brodbeck, Mark Hurst, Kathy Coate-Ortiz

On October 27, 2014, Mark Hurst, M.D., Medical Director and Kathy Coate-Ortiz, LISW with OMHAS, along with Anne Goon and her staff from Henry County Health Department toured the Integrated Health Care offices at Maumee Valley Guidance Center in Defiance, Ohio. Connie Planson, CEO, MVGC and Les McCaslin, CEO, Four Co. ADAMhs Board explained the Integrated Health Project and discussed behavioral health care services in the rural area.

Board of Directors:

Paul Barnaby
Mandi Johnson
James Harris
David Westrick
Glenn Miller
Lewis Hilbert
Cheryl Kehnast
William Brenner
Denny Shannon

Youth Case Management—Storybook Adventure

Maumee Valley Guidance Center recently participated in The Storybook Adventure featuring author, illustrator, musician Barney Saltzberg. The Storybook Adventure included many activity stations and other community agencies to promote literacy for children. Participating in this program gave MVGC the opportunity to promote youth case management.

Youth case management is available to any youth receiving services at MVGC that is between the ages of 3 and 18, who have been identified as SED (seriously emotionally disturbed) or has a chronic and severe behavioral and/or emotional issue which significantly impairs or interferes with their ability to function adequately within their family, school, and/or community. The youth case manager can assist the child and their family by providing linkage to community resources, advocacy, and outreach, assistance in achieving personal independence, facilitation of further development of daily living skills, and activities that increase the individual's capacity to positively impact his/her environment.



Signs of Suicide

Maumee Valley Guidance Center was awarded the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation Grant for the third year. Defiance County had been identified as one of the counties in which suicide rates exceed both national and state averages for youth. MVGC was able to provide a comprehensive program of evidence-based youth prevention strategies to the Health classes of Defiance, Tinora, and Fairview High Schools.

During school year 2013/2014, Maumee Valley Guidance Center provided Signs of Suicide education to 368 students and screened 217 students with parent consent. Of the 217 students who were screened, 45 scored positive for depressive symptoms and 18 students were at risk for suicide.

We look forward to providing this service to the Defiance County Schools for this school year.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families—SSVF Program



Maumee Valley Guidance Center is pleased to announce that we have been awarded grant money for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program (SSVF) for this 2014/2015 grant year through the Department of Veterans Affairs. This program helps Veterans in the five county areas of: Fulton, Henry, Defiance, Williams and Paulding counties. The primary aim of supportive services (SSVF) program is to help Veterans and their families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness quickly regain stability into permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis. Since MVGC has started this program two years ago, we have helped 153 Veterans and their families. To learn more, please contact Jenny at (419) 785-3825.

Maumee Valley Guidance Center Awarded Behavioral Healthcare Accreditation from The Joint Commission

Maumee Valley Guidance Center has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Behavioral Health Care Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal of Approval® is a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to providing safe and effective care.

MVGC underwent a rigorous on-site survey in June 2014. During the review, compliance with behavioral health care standards related to several areas, including care, treatment, and services; environment of care, leadership; and screening procedures for the early detection of imminent harm was evaluated. On-site observations and interviews also were conducted.

Established in 1969, The Joint Commission's Behavioral Health Care Accreditation program currently accredits more than 2,100 organizations for a three-year period. Accredited organizations provide treatment and services within a variety of settings across the care continuum for individuals who have mental health, addiction, eating disorder, intellectual/developmental disability, and/or child-welfare related needs.



Maumee Valley Guidance Center Employee Retires after 16 years of Service



Garnet Waldfogel began employment at Maumee Valley Guidance Center on December 17, 1998 as a Customer Service Representative. As much as we are all happy for her to be starting a well-earned retirement, there is no doubt, there are many people who are also a little sad. Garnet has made a huge contribution to her job, going above and beyond her normal duties to make things run smoothly. She is a widely trusted and respected team member. Good Luck Garnet in your retirement years.

Community Donations, Assistance, and Grants

Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) - monetary
Fort Wayne Zoo—Tickets
Enviro-Care Lawn & Landscape –monetary
Unknown source—monetary

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

-John Fitzgerald Kennedy .

Maumee Valley Guidance Center

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www.maumeevalleyguidancecenter.org

Enhancing the Quality of Life for
Those We Serve



Mission Statement

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of those we serve across the life span emphasizing treatment, community involvement, and innovative programs and to diminish the prevalence of behavioral health disorders. Our mission also supports preservation of the attributes, traits, and qualities of small community life unique to Northwest Ohio.



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