Lake County Safety Council Thursday, February 10 Meeting



Back to the Basics – Understanding How Mental Health Issues & Addiction Impact the Workplace Sandra Tenkku, Community Outreach Specialist

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Lake Health Occupational Services







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Lake Health Occupational Services



Occupational Health Clinic Locations

Your employees will never be far from a University Hospitals Occupational Health Clinic. With multiple locations, our clinics provide a comprehensive menu of services, including drug and alcohol screenings, physicals, injury and follow-up care, vaccinations and more to meet the unique needs of your organization.

In addition to our full-service Occupational Health Clinics, our UH Urgent Care locations offer acute illness and non-trauma injury care during after-hours and on weekends.

UHhospitals.org/EmployerSolutions

UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – ASHLAND
 2212 Mifflin Avenue, Suite 215, Ashland
 419-281-4440

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

 UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – BEACHWOOD 3619 Park East Drive, Suite 205, Beachwood 216-464-6211

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday

3. UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – CHARDON 510 Fifth Avenue, Chardon 855-525-3622

8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday through Friday Pre-employment physicals: Wednesday and Friday

 UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – MEDWORKS 39000 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville 440-329-7490

7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Fridays Appointment only. Pricing may vary.



 UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – MENTOR UH Brunner Sanden Deitrick Wellness Center

8655 Market Street, Mentor 855-525-3622

8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

 UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – PARMA 6115 Powers Boulevard, Suite 200, Parma 440-743-7373

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday

 UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – PORTAGE 3957 Loomis Parkway, Ravenna 330-297-2385

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday

 UH OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH – WILLOWICK 29804 Lakeshore Boulevard, Willowick 855-525-3622

8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday

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Behavioral Health & Workplace Safety



"Behavioral Health"

An "umbrella" term for mental illness and/or substance-use disorders (addiction)

(More later re specific illnesses)





Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services

Established by Ohio Statute; every Ohio county has one.

Work is overseen by a board of directors; all Lake County residents who serve without compensation.

The Lake County ADAMHS Board has a well-earned reputation as one of Ohio's best.



We evaluate mental health and recovery needs in Lake County.

We fund initiatives that help people who are dealing with mental illness and/or addiction.

We facilitate services that help families cope and deal more effectively with the illnesses of their loved ones.

We monitor the effectiveness/efficiency of local mental health and recovery services.

www.HelpThatWorks.us

Behavioral health issues can impactyour company in many ways:

Workforce safety
Workforce morale
Absenteeism
Financially



Myth-Busting



Mental illness isn't very common.

One in five adults experience a mental health issue. Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States.



Children don't get mental illnesses

Children as young as three have been treated for depression.

In Ohio, suicide is the second leading cause of death for kids age 10-14 and children as young as seven have died by suicide.

On reaching puberty, girls are affected by depression twice as often as boys (as far as we know).

People with depression are lazy and just need to "pull themselves up by their boot straps".

Depression is a serious illness that affects the brain's "wiring". Asking someone with depression to just tough it out is a bit like asking someone with severe arthritis to do a triathlon.



Mental illnesses aren't treatable.

Mental illnesses are very treatable. Unfortunately the stigma surrounding mental illness sometimes is a barrier between needing and getting help.



Talking with someone who may be suicidal might push them toward an attempt.

In many cases the person will experience a sense relief to have someone to talk with.

A person who says they're thinking about suicide probably won't really follow through.

The vast majority of people who attempt suicide talk about it beforehand.

No one I know would have that.

Behavioral health issues are present in all races, ages, religions, and socioeconomic statuses.

One in Five

20% of your employees will experience mental illness.

40%

Of those only four in ten will get treatment.



One in Seven

One in seven of your employees will experience substance-use-disorders.

10%

Of those only one in ten of will get treatment.



Why are those treatment numbers so low?

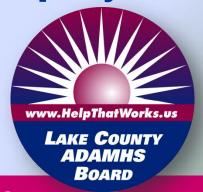
Largely, the answer is stigma. No one hesitates to reach out for help with physical illnesses. Unfortunately that's often not the case with behavioral health issues.





Most employees dealing with BH issues don't feel like they have an easy-to-access, "comfortable" way to talk about that at their workplace.

It's vital that you address that in your company.



Mental illness overview

There are different types of mental illness.

Depression

Anxiety Disorders

Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)

Bipolar Disorder

Schizophrenia



We're going to focus on those most likely to impact your employees.

Depression

Anxiety Disorders

*"Languishing"





Depression



What depression isn't:

It's not having a bad day.

It's not something to be ashamed of.

It's not a character weakness.



What depression is:

A legitimate, serious, treatable illness.

Depression creates physical changes in the brain.



Depression symptoms

Lack of energy; fatigue

Loss of interest in previously pleasurable activities

Change in appetite; unintentional weight gain or loss

Increased use of alcohol or other substances

Sleep issues

Agitation or aggression

Feelings of low self-worth, guilt or shortcomings

Difficulty concentrating or making decisions

Sometimes* thoughts of suicide



Untreated depression can mean intolerable, endless, emotional pain.





Anxiety Disorders

The most common mental health concern in the United States.

We all experience anxiety. But when feelings of fear and distress become overwhelming and prevent us from doing everyday activities, an anxiety disorder may be the cause.

Anxiety Disorders

If untreated, anxiety disorders can be severely impairing.

Inability to make decisions

Restless, lack of focus

Sleep/appetite problems

Excessive fright, distress, or unease during situations that typically wouldn't spur those



Anxiety symptoms

Feelings of apprehension or dread

Feeling tense or jumpy

Restlessness or irritability

Anticipating the worst; watching for signs of danger

Pounding or racing heart; shortness of breath

Upset stomach

Sweating, tremors, twitches, headaches Insomnia, fatigue



Suspected that Anxiety Disorders and Depression have both tripled since COVID.



Examples of how illnesses can impact job performance and workplace safety



When someone is experiencing symptoms of mental illness, it can impact....

How safely they operate machinery

One's ability to complete tasks

Focus on work at hand

Prepare or plan ahead

Work well with colleagues

Problem-solve

In the most severe cases, become danger to self and coworkers

www.HelpThatWorks.us

Things that are important to employees

A feeling that they matter.

Supervisors, peers checking in on each other.

A place to turn for help.

Open, honest, clear communication from the top.

Acknowledgement that stress/uncertainty may be an issue for some.

Expectations/boundaries.

www.HelpThatWorks.us

How to help in the workplace

Get a committee together, we want to help one another.

Identify and implement models for change.

Promote and offer wellness education programs.

Create a culture of people actually using their breaks.

Communication and using sensitive language.



If you think someone may be suicidal...

Ask.

Listen.

Know how to access resources.

QPR



How to listen to someone





How to help yourself

Maintenance

- What do you enjoy?
- Physical activity
- Breathing techniques
- Healthy eating
- Boundaries
- Life Style
- Connection



Remember....

Do not label someone as their disorder Words do matter

- Substance use disorder vs. addict or user
- Someone with a disorder vs. disorder
 - Example: someone with bipolar disorder vs. a bipolar person
- Death by suicide vs. committed suicide
- Attempted suicide vs. unsuccessful attempt

Treatment works.

- It increases productivity, lowers absenteeism, and improves workplace safety.
- It's readily available in Lake County.
- Someone's personal financial status is never a barrier to getting help.



Resources



If there's urgency...









Offering 24/7 Help with Urgent Mental Issues

Call 24/7 440-953-TALK

440-953-8255



If there's no urgency...



440-350-2000



If there's no urgency...

www.HelpThatWorks.us



