



BOB FINNAN / GAZETTE A 12-bed women's recovery house is set to open in May at 189 Northland Drive in Medina.

## Women's recovery house to open in May



Bob Finnan  
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MEDINA — A much-needed, 12-bed women's recovery house is set to open in May.

Medina County Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Board Executive Director Phillip Titterington said OhioGuidestone, whose counselors are certified in behavioral health, will be able to provide treatment inside the facility at 189 Northland Drive in Medina.

"The construction is completed," Titterington said at Friday morning's Medina County Opiate Task Force meeting at the Medina County Health Department.

Officials are making sure all the legal agreements are completed.

"We want to follow the law," he said.

"The ultimate goal is to have a family-type facility. Eventually, in my vision, we'll see women that have children."

He's impressed with the collaboration he's seeing with the overnight facility, which will be the first of its kind in Medina County.

"People are willing to come and help," Titterington said. "We're not seeing turf issues. Eventually, we'll transition to women with children. We want to serve families."

Women will have to detox elsewhere before coming to the facility. Like Cathy's House, they'll be able to stay overnight or for as long as they need to get back on their feet.

But it's unique in the fact that they'll be able to receive day treatment and other services at the facility. Like Cathy's House, they'll have to eventually pay rent.

The city of Medina will have a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house.

Titterington said the building cost more than \$1 million and was constructed by Engleke Construction Solutions, of Brunswick.

"It's not furnished yet," he said.

The building next door to it, a former paint store, is also owned by the ADAMH Board. Plans are for it to become a trauma center for families and children, he said.

"We want to try to do it right," he said. "I've met with the architect and presented a budget. I'll be passing a collection plate.

"We're going to have one shot at this. Let's make it work."

## In other news

- Cathy's House Executive Director Jon Robinson said his facility is now certified by Ohio Recovery Housing. Cathy's capital improvement project added a bedroom to the facility and increased the size of some of the bedrooms.

"This is a big feat for us," he said.

It was required to get certified to continue getting funding from the ADAMH Board, which funds Cathy's House \$45,000 per year, Titterington said previously.

Cathy's House is not a treatment facility. Its mission is to serve the community by providing a sober-living environment for individuals making the transition from addiction to sobriety.

It can now hold up to 12 males and eight females at the facility, 515 W. Liberty St., Medina.

Cathy's House was founded in 1998 and more than 700 residents have been treated there. It provides recovery housing for men and women struggling with addiction and empowers them to live a life of sustainable recovery.

Jon Robinson is married to Stefanie Robinson, director of Hope Recovery Community.

"They are the first family of Medina County recovery," Cathy's House board president Kevin Gardiner said.

- The Opiate Task Force is entertaining a change to its name.

"We go beyond opiates," Medina County Health Commissioner Krista Wasowski said.

One suggestion was the Recovery Task Force. It is also thinking about coming up with a logo.

- Titterington will receive the 2020 Faithful Servant Award from the Catholic Commission of Wayne, Ashland, Medina's 33rd annual Pope St. John Paul II, Proclaimer of Justice Gala Dinner on April 24 at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Parish, 1800 Station Road, Liverpool Township.

"He works around the clock," ADAMH Board Planning and Program Director Tiffany Shelton said.

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