

Today's weather
 **HIGH: 80**
LOW: 57
Sunrise: 6:13
Sunset: 8:35

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MEDINA ADAMH BOARD

Child, family trauma center in the works

Sara Crawford
The Gazette

MEDINA — The Medina County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board, with the help of a \$750,000 capital grant from the state, is working to create a 6,000-square-foot child and family trauma-informed outpatient center.

"In response to the increasing need for youth services and family services, we wanted to focus on creating a site, if you will, where it is a trauma-informed approach," said ADAMH Board Executive Director Phillip Titterington.

According to the Trauma-Informed Care Implementation Resource Center, a trauma-informed approach understands that health care organizations and teams need to have a complete picture of the patient's situation to provide health care services with a healing orientation.

"We've had several commu-

nity meetings, meeting with other partners and collaborating because there's a lot of opportunity there, such as job and family services (and) other providers," Titterington said.

The ADAMH Board has contracted with OhioGuidestone to provide multiple services ranging from mental health services, substance use, assessments, counseling, case management and psychiatric services.

OhioGuidestone will also serve transitional-aged youths, which are individuals who are 16 to 25 years old.

"It's really a facility dedicated to the youth population designed to meet their needs and really not retraumatize them," Titterington said.

Titterington said the goal is to create a warm and inviting atmosphere for youth and their families at ease when heading into the center.

TRAUMA

From A1

He said that the building will have warmer colors, with open seating areas and friendly staff to make the experience more comfortable.

"Everywhere they look there's trauma and to be able to be comfortable that at least takes some of the trauma away," Titterington said.

Titterington said that the plan is to have several rooms for people to go into, rang-

ing from a sensory room to a playroom to an art room, all with the proper staff.

"People handle in therapy different ways," Titterington said. "Just like in recovery, there's no really one way that works for everyone."

Currently, the ADAMH Board is in the construction contract phase to find the best bidder. Once that is approved, Titterington said that people will begin to see some dirt moved.

The outpatient center will be put into a building that the

board purchased not far from the ADAMH Board's office on Northland Drive in Medina.

Titterington said the building will be renovated and then expanded. He said that he is unsure of how fast everything will happen due to supply chain issues, but hopes to see progress in the summer.

"We have the opportunity here where we can put those youth services in one area," Titterington said.

Contact reporter Sara Crawford at (330) 721-4063 or scrawford@medina-gazette.com.

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ADAMH Board Executive Director Phillip Titterington

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