

Public Awareness Committee Charter

I. Introduction and Statement of Purpose:

The Executive Council of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities approved the establishment of a Public Awareness Committee on December 19, 2005. The purpose of the Public Awareness Committee is to give Boards the information, resources and other necessary tools they need to increase the awareness of behavioral health issues in their respective communities. The Committee will do this by:

- Developing an effective statewide community behavioral health public awareness campaign that can be carried out jointly by the leadership of the Association and the local Boards;
- Sharing knowledge and expertise about working with the media and other public information outlets;
- Identifying public awareness activities and audiences for whom those activities are most effective;
- Serving as the brain trust on levy campaign strategies; and
- Developing and maintaining a levy campaign clearinghouse.

II. Committee Organization:

The President of OACBHA is responsible for appointing the chairperson of the Public Awareness Committee. The chairperson must be a Board Executive Director and member of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities. Other members include Board Executive Directors or their designees.

The Public Awareness Committee will meet at least once every other month. The Committee has the authority to appoint subcommittees as needed, and may assign ad hoc members to serve on these subcommittees.

III. Committee Responsibilities:

The Public Awareness Committee shall accept assignments from the Association's Executive Council, Mental Health Division and the Alcohol and Drug Division. In the event that the Committee determines it would like to take on a specific task, it must first seek the approval of the Executive Council.

IV. Staff Responsibilities:

An Association staff member will attend each Committee meeting and will be responsible for maintaining the minutes of each meeting. Minutes shall be circulated to the full membership no later than 7 working days after a meeting is held. The staff person shall provide a written summary of the Committee's work for inclusion in the General Membership Meeting packets and report out as needed at Division meetings.