In Ohio, The Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA), along with local mental health and addiction boards, providers, individuals in recovery, and other stakeholders have been transforming the state's community behavioral health system of care to better serve individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorders through Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC). Through the ROSC framework, innovative approaches to behavioral health issues have been established that put the needs of the patients and family members at the forefront of treating individuals and helping people achieve recovery.

Guided by research into all aspects of the behavioral health continuum of care, ROSC incorporates prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery supports to guide the system of care which can achieve maximum outcomes for the individual and the community. OACBHA has created a Blueprint for Ohio's Behavioral Health System based upon the ROSC philosophy that includes all of these elements to achieve success and contribute to the total health of an individual and a community.

**Prevention and Wellness Programs** - These programs play a key role with a ROSC framework due to the long-term benefits that they provide for individuals, families and communities. These programs and services help prevent or delay the onset of symptoms and build resilience within individuals to help them make informed, healthy choices that support their overall physical and emotional well-being.

**Crisis and Treatment Services** - These services provide individuals experiencing a mental health or substance-use disorder with the opportunity to address these issues in a setting that is person-centered, trauma-informed, culturally competent and designed to meet the person's needs. The bottom line is that we know that when people are able to receive the support they need to determine their path to recovery, **Treatment Works and People Recover!**

**Recovery Supports** - Recovery supports such as housing, employment, and peer support are person-centered, culturally competent, and designed to help individuals working toward or in recovery over the long-term. Mental illness and substance use disorders are chronic illnesses and individuals may need long-term supports to help them stay in recovery, stay employed, and remain in the community. Recovery supports help individuals understand and believe in recovery and ultimately, as individuals and the community, celebrate those in recovery!

**ROSC In Action**

“In state fiscal year 2016, the Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board embarked on a transformative effort with six provider agencies, our local Adult Protective Services and Richland County Juvenile Court to create a Trauma-Informed ROSC. The idea was not to bring a new evidence-based practice to Richland County, but to instead create foundational changes to organizations that would foster systemic changes to these principals in everything we do. From new staff hires, to supervision, to phone interaction with the community, to direct care of those we serve, we wanted to assure that we were acknowledging that everyone has past experiences and that everyone deserves to achieve the recovery that they see as possible.”

~ Joe Trolian, Executive Director, Richland County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care focus on connecting individuals with needed prevention, treatment, and support services within the community. The local ROSC also focuses on aspects of community inclusion, such as: housing; employment; social connections and friendship; education; health and wellness; spirituality; family; and intimacy.

As Ohio's communities continue to develop and enhance the local Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care, the philosophical goals of ROSC will help to drive and support additional change in the community. The foundation of a ROSC provides a guidepost for community transformation to ensure that changes to the payment and delivery system are driven by the needs of individuals and families throughout Ohio.

“Recovery-focused systems transformations involve more than minor refinements to existing models of treatment. Such transformations require a fundamental reconstruction of service concepts, practices, and policies. They start with the realization that no one person, episode of care, system of care, or governmental entity has the resources to support long-term individual and family recoveries for all who need it. Partnerships are fundamental to achieving transformation.”

~ William White, Preeminent ROSC Scholar

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**Do ROSC Values Lead to Positive Outcomes?**

Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care have shown to increase positive outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.

- **46%** increase in number of people served statewide
- **25%** decrease in annual cost per client
- **68%** increase in competitive employment
- **43%** decrease in emergency room visits
- **62%** decrease of acute care
- **11%** decrease in arrests

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**Sources:**
Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

William White

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