

## **Issue 6 - Fairfield County ADAMH Board** **November 6, 2018 Levy – Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is Issue 6?**

The Fairfield County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health (ADAMH) Board is asking Fairfield County residents to vote for Issue 6; a 1-mill, 10-year property tax levy on the November 6, 2018 ballot. The funding provided by this levy is needed now more than ever to expand and provide critical services and programs to residents across Fairfield County.

### **2. Who/What is the Fairfield County ADAMH Board?**

The Fairfield County ADAMH Board is responsible for planning, funding, and monitoring public mental health and substance abuse services in Fairfield County—and has been doing so for more than 50 years. The Board is a statutorily created 14-member board with members requiring approval and appointment by the Fairfield County Commissioners or the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Many are not familiar with ADAMH by name but readily recognize the support it provides through its Network of Care Agencies. A few examples of these agencies include: New Horizons Mental Health Services, The Recovery Center, Tyler's Light, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fairfield County, Lancaster/Fairfield Community Action Agency, Fairfield County 2-1-1 (Information and Referral), Lutheran Social Services of Southern Ohio, and The Lighthouse. For a full list, you can visit: [www.fairfieldadamh.org/service-providers](http://www.fairfieldadamh.org/service-providers).

### **3. What will Issue 6 fund?**

Every year thousands of residents, including children, receive help from Fairfield County ADAMH through its Network of Care Agencies, but more help is needed. The funds from Issue 6 will be used for various, needed programs and services, including:

- Expanding mental health services for children
- Increasing services to help address the opioid epidemic
- Providing suicide prevention education and services for youth and adults
- Growing school- and community-based education and prevention programs
- Helping people who are in recovery with finding a job or housing
- Offering more early-intervention and in-home services to help children with emotional or mental health problems

### **4. Who does Issue 6 help?**

Residents who receive help include children, teens, adults and seniors. The local need for our residents with addiction and mental health disorders keeps increasing year after year. In fact, neonatal addictions have more than doubled in Fairfield County over the past decade, and with the opioid epidemic, we need these local services now more than ever. When individuals with addiction and mental health issues get the help they need, there is a positive impact on their families, friends, neighbors, classmates, co-workers, and employers. We all benefit.

### **5. How will the funds from Issue 6 be allocated?**

Fairfield County ADAMH's service allocations can be broken into three main categories: treatment, prevention, and recovery supports. As of February 2018, the percent of allocation for these three areas was 54%, 19%, and 27% respectively.

With the 1-mill levy projected to generate approximately \$3.65 million annually, below is a breakdown of the planned allocations in the first year of funding for new and expanded services to address the county's most-

urgent crisis and prevention needs. With passage of Issue 6, the remaining levy funds will be allocated to additional, specific needs after further assessment to ensure timely and optimal focus on current circumstances such as federal and state policy changes including Medicaid expansion and demographic shifts.

<b>New and Expanded Services</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Mental Health Crisis Response and Beds for Adults	\$1,000,000
Addiction Treatment and Support Services	\$750,000
Expansion of Crisis Services for Children and Youth	\$500,000
School- and Community-based Education and Prevention Programs	\$500,000

**6. How much will Issue 6 cost taxpayers?**

Issue 6 will cost taxpayers less than \$3 a month (\$2.91) per \$100,000 of property valuation.

**7. What happens if Issue 6 does not pass?**

The Fairfield County ADAMH Board will have to make some tough decisions about funding services and programs. Currently, the Board’s total annual budget is \$4.2 million, which consists of all local, state, and federal funding. With state funding cuts and more residents needing help with alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health disorders, it is critical for local entities like the Board to keep providing these important programs and services.

**8. How do I know the money from this issue will be spent responsibly?**

For more than 50 years, the Fairfield County ADAMH Board has been a good steward of taxpayer dollars in its planning, funding, and monitoring of public mental health and substance abuse services in the county. All funds are processed through the County Auditor’s office and are included in the annual County audit by the State of Ohio’s Auditor’s office.

In addition, the ADAMH Board has actively sought and been awarded federal and state grant opportunities to enhance its services and programs and supplement the public funding currently provided. In particular, in 2013, the Fairfield County ADAMH Board was awarded one of six Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Abuse Grants in the country. One component of the grant focused on collecting and sharing data with the community to ensure its services are meeting the needs of those that it serves.

**9. Does the Fairfield County ADAMH Board receive any other local funding?**

The Fairfield County ADAMH Board has one existing local levy. This 0.75-mill levy was most-recently renewed by Fairfield County voters in 2014 with 61% of the vote. Our local investment with this levy is about \$1.67 a month per \$100,000 of home valuation. It generates approximately \$2.3 to \$2.5 million annually for ADAMH. As a renewal levy, taxes did not increase when it was approved by voters.

**10. When is the voter registration deadline?**

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 is the deadline to register to vote or update your voter registration to vote in the November 6, 2018 election. **You can do this online** at: MyOhioVote.com. For more information, call Fairfield County Board of Elections at 740-652-7000 or visit their website: [www.fairfieldelections.com](http://www.fairfieldelections.com)

**11. When does early voting begin?**

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 is the first day Ohio voters have the opportunity to vote early by mail or in-person. If your voter registration is up to date, you will receive an application to **vote early by mail** from the

Secretary of State. Fill it out, place it in an envelope, stamp it and mail it in. Then, you'll get your ballot in the mail (beginning October 10th) so you can vote early, from home.

If you would like to **vote early in-person**, visit the Fairfield County Board of Elections office, located at Liberty Center, 951 Liberty Drive, Lancaster, OH 43130, during the dates and times listed below.

- Weekdays, Oct. 10 – Oct. 26: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Weekdays, Oct. 29 – Nov. 2: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Saturdays, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 4: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 5, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.