

THE ADAMH STAR

An newsletter of the Fairfield County ADAMH Board



Our Mission: To promote healing, support recovery, and provide prevention and treatment services of mental health and addiction disorders within our community

WHAT IS INSIDE

STAFF FEATURE - 1

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES - 2

FUNDS AWARDED - 2

NETWORK OF CARE AGENCIES OF THE MONTHS - 2



STARLIGHT CENTER

BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARCY FIELDS, LISW-S

On May 26, 2022, the Fairfield County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board (ADAMH) joined community leaders, stakeholders, and neighbors as ground was officially broken on the construction of the STARLight Center, a stabilization facility that will be located at 336 E. Locust Street in Lancaster.

The STARLight Center, the first of its kind in Fairfield County, will be able to treat eight individuals struggling with mental health issues and 12 people battling substance use disorders.

“I commend ADAMH for recognizing that healthy communities are the foundation of healthy lives and that an organization can only be as successful as the community and neighborhood in which it operates,” said Lancaster Mayor David Scheffler, an event speaker. “We have seen the impact substance use and mental health issues have caused our community, and it’s not something that we can ignore.”

The STARLight Center will be staffed with nurse practitioners, clinicians, and counselors and will not only ensure the best in care for those in need but will also allow people the dignity and convenience of being treated in their own community, close to their families and natural supports.

“When voters passed the Fairfield County ADAMH Board levy in 2019, the main reason was to provide this facility,” Fairfield County Commissioner Jeff Fix said during the ceremony. “How exciting that we’re here today officially starting this amazing project for our community.”

“We have received overwhelming support from our community partners, including local law enforcement, local government, and our friends at Fairfield Medical Center,” said ADAMH Executive Director Marcy Fields, LISW-S, who was also an event speaker.

Other speakers at the groundbreaking ceremony included:

- Sheriff Alex Lape and Chief of Police Nick Snyder
- New Horizons CCO Megan Golden
- OhioGuidestone Regional Executive Director Amanda Wattenberg
- Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Office of Community Planning and Collaboration Regional Coordinator Emily Clegg
- Fairfield County ADAMH Board Chairperson Jonathon Combs, Ph.D.

The Fairfield County ADAMH Board plans the STARLight Center to be operational by 2023. For more information, visit www.fairfieldadamh.org/STARLight-Center.html.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES



Jonathan McCombs, Ph.D.

Leadership Changes

At the Board meeting on 6/28/22, Jonathan McCombs, Ph.D., stepped down as chairperson but will continue to serve as an ex officio member. Joe Palmer became the new chairperson with Laura Coholich, LISW, becoming the vice-chairperson. The Board nominated and elected Todd McCullough as the new Board secretary.



Joe Palmer



Laura Coholich, LISW



Todd McCullough



FUNDS AWARDED

On June 21, 2022, the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners announced that they have awarded ADAMH and Lutheran Social Services Faith Mission of Fairfield County a \$3M subgrant through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to expand the homeless shelter and build supportive housing. As the county focuses on building tomorrow now, Commissioner Jeff Fix said, "We're excited about what the ADAMH Board is doing."

NETWORK OF CARE AGENCIES OF THE MONTH

The ADAMH Board recognizes and congratulates the following as Network of Care Agencies of the Month:

- May — [New Horizons Mental Health Services](#)
- June — [Family, Adult & Children First Council](#)
- July — [Fairfield Center of Hope](#)