The National Association of Counties awarded the Montgomery County Community Overdose Action Team (COAT) an Achievement Award in the human services category for efforts made to reduce opioid deaths. The award honors innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents. Human Services Planning and Development, which oversees the county’s unique Human Services Levy collaborative, submitted COAT for the award. ADAMHS is a key player in COAT, a community partnership with more than 200 people from over 100 organizations. COAT co-chairs are ADAMHS Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley and Public Health Commissioner Jeff Cooper. “COAT is a unique solution to the opioid epidemic and now the focus is on workforce development to have a drug-free ready workforce,” said Jones-Kelley. The award is to be presented in Nashville in July.

In an effort to address the safety and economic threat of drug abuse in the workplace, ADAMHS launched Wellness @ Work to empower businesses to create a plan that will prevent and respond to substance abuse issues. So far, leaders have participated in the free workplace management assistance course that includes attract and retain quality employees implementation of second-chance policies. Another training session will be held in the fall.

Kudos to Training Director Jennifer Cox named a Top 100 instructor in the country by Mental Health First Aid – USA and The National Council of Behavioral Health. “Mental Health First Aid is there’s still a barrier that needs possible,” said Cox. More than 3,650 people received training on various subjects from ADAMHS in Mental Health First Aid in 2017. The public eight-hour education program that factors and warning signs of mental illnesses
in youth and adults, builds understanding of their impact, and overviews common supports. You can sign up for the next Mental Health First Aid Training by registering online: www.mcadamhs.org

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Welcome to new Board of Trustees member Jeffery Startzman, the Municipal Prosecutor for the Village of Brookville. Startzman has a Juris Doctorate Degree from The Ohio State University. He received the oath of office from ADAMHS Notary Connie Harris at last Wednesday’s board meeting.

Have you downloaded our new smartphone app to find addiction and mental health treatment information, plus more? The easy-to-use app also gives users directions from their current location, direct call ability and the insurance payments providers accept. Plus, users can find supportive services such as naloxone training, hotline phone numbers and housing services available.

If your organization would like printed material about the app to place in information holders in your organizations lobby or to give out to visitors, please send an email requesting the specific number of cards needed to astevens@mcadamhs.org