





# Strategies for Launching Community Academic Partnerships: Lessons Learned from Ohio START

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## **Our Roadmap**

1

Overview of Ohio START Intervention

2

Partnership Beginnings & Successes

Partnership Strategies

## I. Ohio START

## Substance Misuse Affects Kids & Families



Increase in the number of children entering foster care in Ohio (PCSAO, 2016; Radel, Baldwin, Crouse, Ghertner, & Waters, 2018).



Caregivers' substance use treatment needs often go unmet (GAO, 2018)



Child welfare-involved families struggling with substance misuse often are more likely to have <u>substantiated allegations</u>, children placed in <u>foster care</u>, and <u>failure</u> to reunify (Freisthler et al, 2017; Wulczyn, et al, 2019; Lloyd, Akin, & Brook, 2017)

## **Sobriety Treatment & Recovery Teams** (START)

Child welfare intervention for families affected by child maltreatment and parental substance use disorder (SUD)

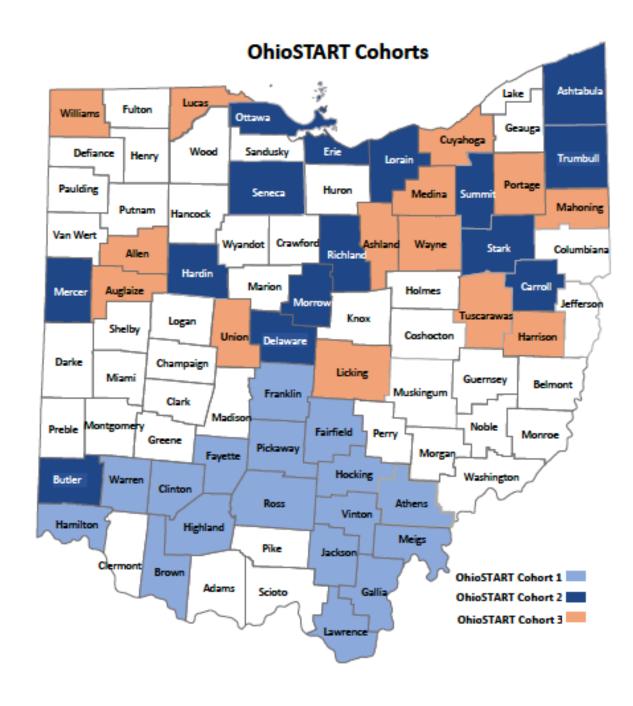
- ✓ Expedites parents' access to treatment
- ✓ Improved treatment retention
- ✓ Higher levels of sobriety
- ✓ Keeps families together during and after the intervention

Hall, Wilfong, Huebner, Posze, & Willauer, 2016 Huebner, Posze, Willauer, & Hall, 2015 Huebner, Willauer, & Posze, 2012.

#### **Key Components** Early identification of families affected by substance use disorders (screening) Quick access to quality treatment Increasing parent recovery services and engagement in treatment through peer support Focusing on family-centered services and parent-child relationships Increasing oversight for parents and children Sharing responsibility for parent accountability and program outcomes across service systems Collaborating across service systems and with the courts

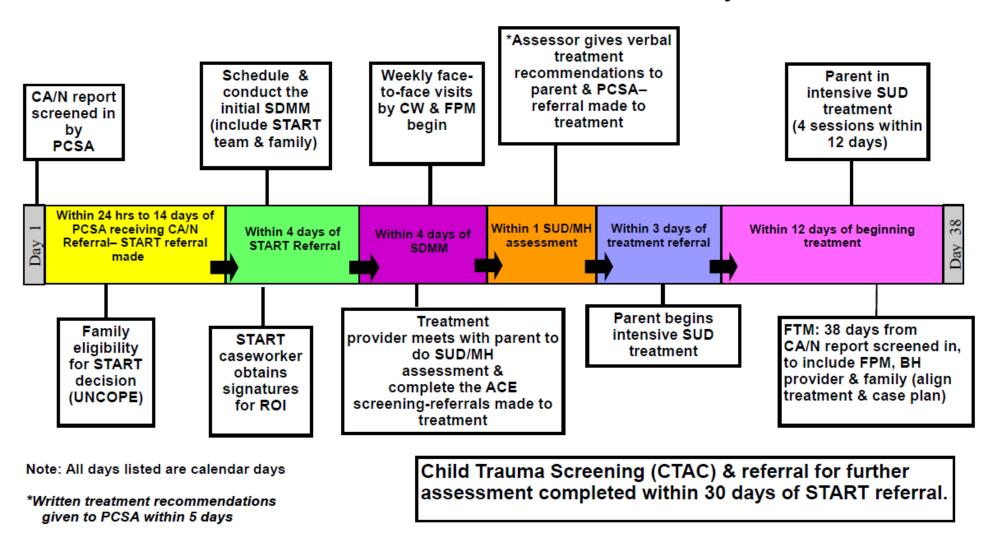


- Ohio START is adapted from the national model to also address trauma exposure
- Ohio began the implementation of the Ohio START model in April 2017
- 46 counties



## **Ohio START Timeline**

Initiation of a START Case-38 Days



# II. Collaboration Beginnings & Successes

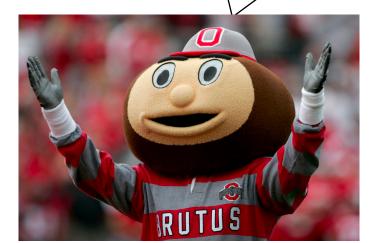
### **How Did We Connect?**

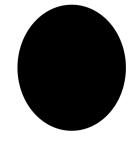
Hey, can we help?

That sounds great!

Talk to our friends at OU!









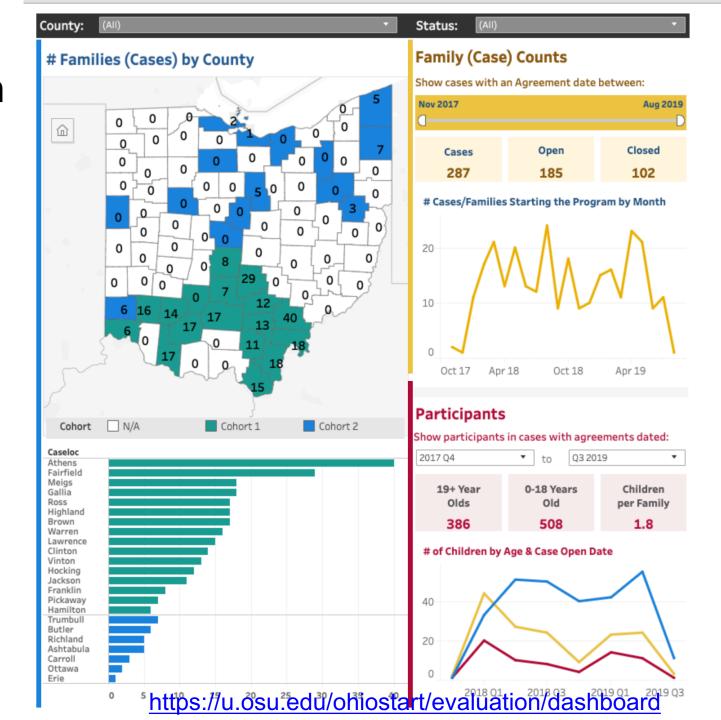
PCSAO will implement!



## Monitor Implementation → Data Dashboard

#### Audit & Feedback is effective!

- Responds to real-time data needs
- Emphasizes quality improvement
- Tailor to practice needs



## Building Evidence -> Rigorous Design

#### **Pre-test**

#### Intervention

#### Post-test

#### OhioSTART Counties

- Demographics
- Length of time in CW/ placement
- Reunification rates
- Risk factors (e.g. SUD)

- Intensive case management
- Assignment to PRS
- Timely linkage to services
- Length of time in CW / placement
- Reunification rates
- Risk factors (e.g. SUD)

#### Comparison Counties

- Demographics
- Length of time in CW / placement
- Reunification rates
- Risk factors (e.g. SUD)
- Treatment as Usual
- Length of time in CW / placement
- Reunification rates
- Risk factors (e.g. SUD)

# Building Evidence > Engage Caregivers

- Extensive Protocol Tailoring
- Considerations for:
  - Recruitment (asking busy CW professionals for help)
  - Contact (cell phone minutes)

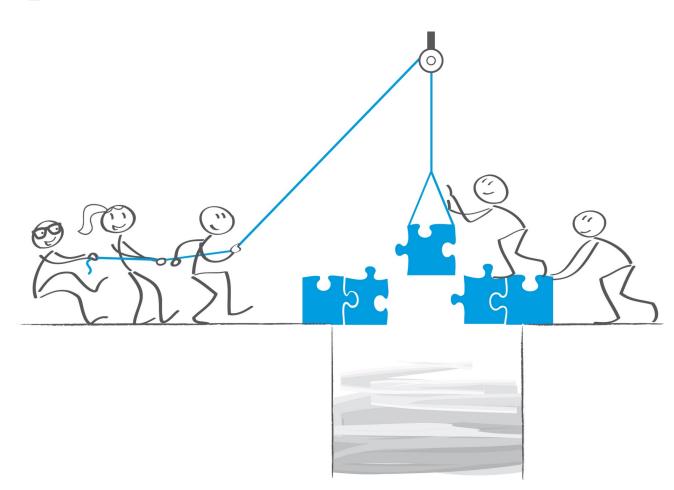


# Implementation Tools for Scale Up → New Proposals

#### "Collaboration Toolkit"

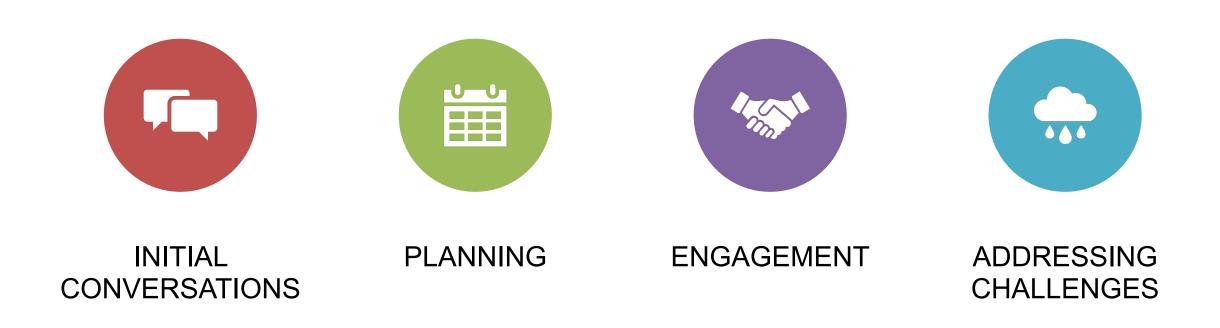
- Decision tree
- Sample contract language
- Strategies that ADAMH Boards can use to help

(NIDA R34; RWJF S4A)



## III. Partnership Strategies

## The Life Stages of Partnership



The ways we work together change over time as our project evolves

### **Questions?**

Please email us:

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https://www.pcsao.org/programs/ohio-start

https://u.osu.edu/ohiostart/