

Forensic Mental Health Navigator



**Department of
Mental Health &
Addiction Services**

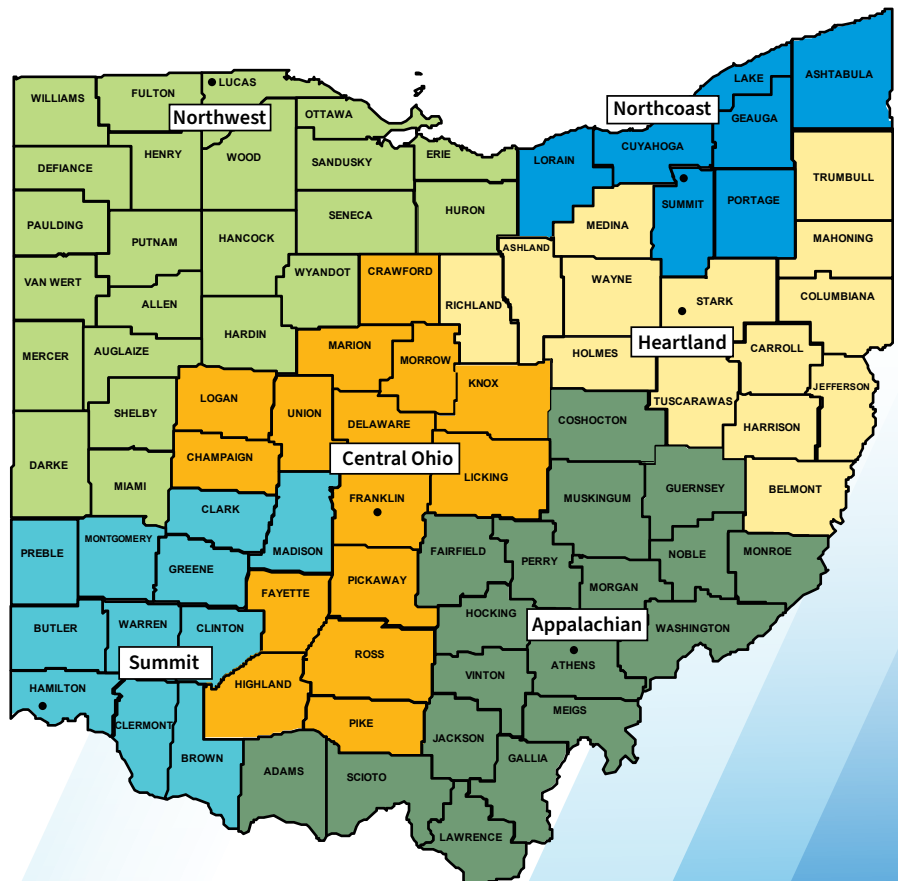
Mike DeWine, Governor
LeeAnne Cornyn, Director

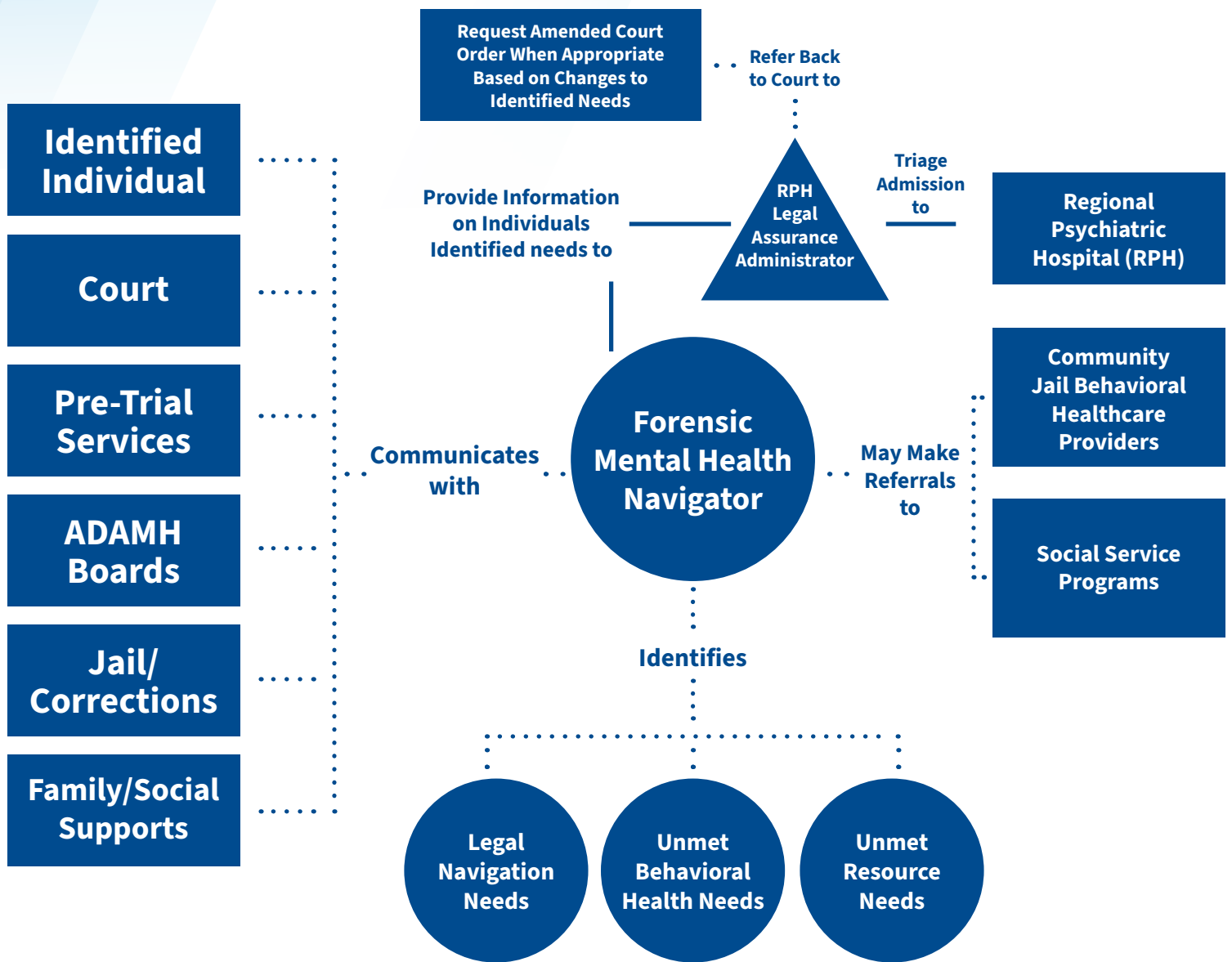
The Role of the Forensic Mental Health Navigator

The role of the Forensic Mental Health Navigator (FMHN) is designed to support the monitoring and facilitate the navigation of individuals court ordered to a State Regional Psychiatric Hospital (RPH) by a criminal court. They will serve individuals who have been ordered to an RPH for evaluation, competency restoration, or to begin a criminal court commitment post case finding of Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) or Incompetent to Stand Trial, Unrestorable with Criminal Court Jurisdiction, and are waiting either in a jail or community setting for admission.

The FMHN is a licensed staff of an OhioMHAS run RPH with experience in the forensic mental health system. They will have the unique ability to leverage their knowledge and experience working in behavioral health systems to inform case navigation, remove barriers, and fill gaps as individuals navigate between courts, jails, communities, and RPHs. The FMHN will not directly provide treatment, but will understand treatment and court systems, including how to access, advocate, and navigate effectively with the overall intention of helping individuals navigate to the right environment for the right level of treatment in the most efficient manner possible. They will work under the direction and guidance of Legal Assurance Administrators at the RPH and serve the entire catchment area of their RPH.

RPH Catchment Map





The FMHN will work directly with courts, jails, ADAMH Boards, providers, social service agencies, attorneys, court personnel, family/social support systems, and RPHs in a unique position designed to support not only the individuals they serve, but also the systems, navigating what can often be complex and complicated pathways individuals travel between criminal justice and behavioral healthcare systems. They will act as a liaison between the systems involved with the individual, working to gather information about any unmet needs, and connecting that individual to the most indicated and efficient pathway to meet those needs while waiting for admission, which includes beginning competency restoration education in their current setting when and where appropriate. The FMHN will also make recommendations to the RPH Forensic Director/LAA for individuals when changes to triage and/or ability to access competency restoration at a different level of care and/or request a re-evaluation of competency to stand trial may be indicated. For questions, please contact the OhioMHAS Bureau of Forensic Services at ForensicServices@mha.ohio.gov