

## The Youth Behavioral Health Services Assessment Project

Kent State University's Center for Public Policy and Health, in collaboration with Prevention Action Alliance, RecoveryOhio and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), is **conducting a critical statewide assessment of Ohio's behavioral health system**—specifically focused on children and families. Your input is essential in ensuring this effort reflects the real challenges and opportunities within your organization.

### What is this project about?

We seek **to understand how Ohio's youth (under 18) and their families experience and access behavioral health care**—spanning prevention, early intervention, treatment, and crisis services. This includes information about barriers to providing services, gaps in services, needed supports and services, and overall experiences working with families.

### Why now?

Behavioral healthcare providers are navigating a time of uncertainty—amid conversations about a potential rollback of Medicaid expansion, recent SAMHSA funding reductions, and the impact of workforce challenges. **Your voice is vital in shaping how Ohio responds.** This project will directly inform OMHAS strategies, new programming, and future funding decisions, including grant opportunities that aim to support and sustain behavioral health services across the continuum of care.

### What's the ask?

We want to hear from behavioral health providers – frontline staff, provider leaders/supervisors, CEOs, CCOs, and CMOs – who serve youth and their families throughout the state. We ask that this **invitation be routed to those individuals at all levels who are positioned to speak to system-level operations and challenges**. While frontline staff (e.g., nurses, case managers, certified peers) are valued contributors, the scope of this project includes a strategic and administrative lens.

We are recruiting behavioral health providers to **participate in a virtual listening session or interview**. Each listening session/interview will be conducted virtually and will last about 60 minutes. **You will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card for your time.**

### Click/scan to sign up to participate

If you would like to participate in a listening session/interview, please use the QR code or link below to access our project website and provide your contact information. If you have questions about this study, please contact Deric Kenne, PhD, Kent State University ([dkenne@kent.edu](mailto:dkenne@kent.edu)).

[https://kent.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_abfaZmn9bTvppPM](https://kent.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_abfaZmn9bTvppPM)

