



Expansion of Family and Recovery Supports into Hocking and Vinton Counties

Proposal Summaries and Recommendation

Background: At the July 2024 board meeting, the Board approved setting aside funds for three local Athens County agencies to expand their services into Hocking and Vinton counties based on identified needs to expand family and recovery services in those counties.

My Sisters Place (MSP), NAMI Athens, and Southeast Ohio Hope Center (SEOHC) received funding to engage community stakeholders and implement a plan specific to the identified needs and strengths of each county.

Based on the planning work in SFY 2025, all three agencies were asked to provide a funding proposal to offer direct programming in Hocking and Vinton counties that are in alignment with core programs currently offered in Athens County and demonstrate direct support to families and people in recovery. The Board approved funding for MSP in the June 2025 meeting.

Current Recommendation: NAMI Athens and Southeast Ohio Hope Center (SEOHC) delivered quarterly outcome reports on their projects with measured analyses around stakeholder relationships, increased knowledge, support, collaboration, resource identification for the discovery round of funding. Based on this review, they were invited to apply for additional funding to develop partnerships and deliver programming in Hocking and Vinton counties. The application asked for a twelve-month work plan to engage community stakeholders that will result in an implementation plan specific to the identified needs and strengths of each county. The application required a work plan and outcomes.

Board staff reviewed proposals and met with each applicant to review their proposals and have a recommendation for funding awards.

Applicant: NAMI Athens

NAMI Athens provides support, education, and advocacy to individuals and families in Athens County affected by mental illness. This project expands peer-led mental health support and education services into Hocking and Vinton Counties. Services will be launched in collaboration with local partners to share space and co-promote programming within the community. Funding is requested for support staffing, a COMCorps member, facilitator training, travel stipends, and program materials. **Primary Deliverable:** Deliver evidence-based programming - Family Support Groups and Connections support groups - and mental health education for families and youth in Hocking and Vinton Counties and create the foundation for long-term, community-based mental health programming in each county.

Applicant: Southeast Ohio Hope Center

SEOHC is an OhioMHAS certified non-profit working to connect people with substance-use disorders to peer support, safe space, activities and events that support long-term recovery. SEOHC will formalize partnerships with HHC, HRS, Hocking County TASC, health departments and drug courts in Hocking and Vinton Counties. Funding is requested for personnel, mileage, materials, marketing and contract services for a PRS/Outreach professional. **Primary Deliverable:** Deliver group and individual peer support programming and formalize partnerships with HHC, HRS, TASC (Hocking County), health departments, and drug courts in Hocking and Vinton Counties, with the overarching goal to develop sustainable programming in each county.

Total Project Budget	\$ 43,457.00
Board Request	\$ 38,892.00
Recommendation	\$ 38,892.00

Total Project Budget	\$ 41,000.00
Board Request	\$ 41,000.00
Recommendation	\$ 41,000.00