



ATHENS  
PHOTO  
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Athens Photographic Project  
Hocking and Vinton Peer Support Expansion Project  
Mid-Year Progress Update – 317 ADAMH Board  
January 27, 2026

**FY26 Objectives:**

1. Build capacity to transition operations of Hocking and Vinton Peer Houses (New Beginnings and Home Away from Home) from Integrated Services to Athens Photographic Project.
2. Build capacity to increase peer support services in Hocking and Vinton counties.

**Capacity Building Progress:**

- Site visits to peer houses to meet ISBH staff and peer house members, and to begin to understand behavioral health needs.
- Monthly transition planning meetings with ISBH regional staff and leadership.
- Partnership development with ISBH to maintain onsite engagement of existing Peer House staff members through APP/ISBH behavioral health service business agreement.
- Develop revised job descriptions for ISBH staff providing onsite peer house services.
- Identify RFP's for funding to support peer service expansion in Hocking and Vinton.
- Begin Hocking and Vinton funding proposals to ODBH and Ohio Arts Council.
- Meet with behavioral stakeholders in Vinton County in order to build relationships for collaboration and referrals, and to better understand behavioral health needs for adults and teens.
- Assess facility needs required to increase peer support groups in Vinton Co.
- Explore options for group programming space in Vinton Co., in addition to New Beginnings peer house space.
- Explore Vinton Co. facility partnership with NAMI-Athens and Recovery Connections.
- Secure 2-year lease of Sojourner's 605 W. Main St. McArthur for APP, NAMI, RC programming and office space. APP programming at this site would include adult and teen groups that are too large for New Beginnings.
- Secure additional programming space at Hopewell in Vinton.
- Submit joint funding request with NAMI/RC to County Commissioners to support 605 W. Main St. lease and peer support staff at the facility.
- Secure funding (ACC) to provide FY26 teen photo program in Hocking and Vinton.
- Recruit new adult and teen photo instructors for Hocking and Vinton through job advertisement and interview process. Successfully filled multiple PT positions.
- Begin APP Peer Recovery Specialist/APP Artist planning to fill new PRS positions.
- Collaborate with APP staff and Board on an ongoing basis to make necessary organizational changes needed to provide services/oversight in three counties.