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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**NATIONAL GRANT FUNDS INDIVIDUAL RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES**  
***Recovery support for about 200 eligible individual Stark residents including Justice involved adults, active Military or National Guard***

*Stark County, OH (August 7, 2015)* – Applications are now being accepted through Aug. 30 for individual assistance with recovery supports for about 200 eligible Stark Countians through the Access to Recovery IV grant with funding through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA.)

The Access to Recovery (ATR) grant enhances substance abuse recovery for individual Ohioans by funding a broad array of client-centered, community-based services and supports. This initiative provides vouchers to a projected 4,362 adults statewide for the purchase of recovery support services from a cohort of ATR-approved providers. About 200 qualifying Stark applicants will be accepted into the program.

Recovery support services available to ATR participants include Peer Support/Recovery Coaching, Life Skills, Spiritual and Faith-Based Support, Employment Services, Job Training, Recovery Housing and GAP benefits.

Eligibility criteria for ATR participants include:

*Criminal Justice Involved Adults*

- Resident of Stark County (or being released to)
- Age 18 or older
- A positive screening for a substance use disorder or substance use disorder in remission as evidenced by a bio-social assessment with a diagnosis completed within the past 12 months from the enrollment date
- Income must be 200% or below the federal poverty guidelines
- Criminal justice-involved, living in the community (or being released to the community), may or may not be under supervision, Criminal justice activity within five years of discharge for a misdemeanor or felony

*Active Military/National Guard*

- Resident of Stark County
- Age 18 or older
- Substance use disorder or substance use disorder in remission
- Demonstrated need for ATR covered services
- Not required to have criminal justice involvement

To apply, download the ATR IV handbook and the ATR IV application from the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHR SB) of Stark County by visiting <http://www.StarkMHR SB.org/ATR>. Completed applications must be emailed to [proposals@starkmhrs.org](mailto:proposals@starkmhrs.org). Applications may also be delivered in person to the MHR SB office located at 121 Cleveland Ave SW, Canton, OH 44702 to the attention of Frank Aquino, Program Coordinator. All ATR applications must be submitted via email or hand delivered by 4:00 p.m. on Aug. 30, 2015.

This is Ohio's third ATR award (ATR II, ATR III, ATR IV) for a total of \$36.6 million in support. With the addition of clients served through this current award, Ohio will have provided services to more than 19,000 residents with the help of ATR funding.

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***About Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County***

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County is a multi-faceted organization of expert professionals, dedicated volunteers and concerned community leaders close to mental health and addiction needs right here at home. MHR SB is responsible for planning, funding and monitoring public mental health and addiction prevention, early intervention and treatment services delivered to the residents of Stark County. It is one of 51 Boards coordinating the public behavioral health system across Ohio. The Board also advocates for residents with behavioral health issues at both the local and state levels and provides educational opportunities for local providers and other community stakeholders. For more online about the work of the Board, visit [www.StarkMHR SB.org](http://www.StarkMHR SB.org).