



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ohio Medicaid to Fund Statewide Projects to Train More Than 1,000 Health Professionals

COLUMBUS, OHIO — The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announces the launch of a new program aimed at training more than 1,000 students, residents, fellows and practitioners to better serve Ohioans of all ages enrolled in the Medicaid program. The Ohio Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program (MEDTAPP) Healthcare Access Initiative will partner with 15 departments and programs from six of Ohio's foremost colleges and universities and local clinics, nontraditional community-based practice sites, hospitals, mental health clinics and other health care sites. The goal is to support the development and retention of health care providers to better serve Ohio's Medicaid population. Participants also will be trained to use emerging health care delivery models and evidence-based practices.

“These projects will provide unique and diverse training opportunities,” said Ohio Medicaid Director John McCarthy. “After they graduate, participants will go on to work at clinics in neighborhoods that need doctors and other health care professionals. Participants can help people there with both their short-term and long-term health needs, and help them learn more about what it takes to maintain a healthy lifestyle.”

Ohio Medicaid has secured approximately \$2 million in federal funds for this initiative in state fiscal year (SFY) 2012 and more than \$8 million in SFY 2013. The MEDTAPP Healthcare Access Initiative is a partnership between Ohio Medicaid, the Ohio Department of Mental Health, the Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Board of Regents, and Ohio's colleges and universities. The following university departments and programs will receive MEDTAPP funds:

- The University of Akron – College of Nursing
- Case Western Reserve University – School of Dental Medicine and Departments of Family Medicine/MetroHealth System, Pediatrics and Psychiatry
- Kent State University – College of Nursing
- The Ohio State University – Colleges of Dentistry and Nursing, Moms2Be Program, Interdisciplinary Behavioral Health Education Program, Interdisciplinary Curriculum Development Program, and Medicaid Practice Placement and Learning Experiences Partnership Program
- University of Toledo – Department of Psychiatry
- Wright State University – Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the Community Psychiatry Collaborative (involving the Departments of Psychiatry, Geriatrics, Community Health and Family Medicine).

Ohio Medicaid has contracted with the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center to administer the MEDTAPP Healthcare Access Initiative. For more information, please visit

<http://grc.osu.edu/medicaidpartnerships/healthcareaccess>.

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