



## JEFFERSON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

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OhioRISE a hit at Massillon Fall into Wellness

MASSILLON – OhioRISE was a popular participant during the Fall into Wellness with Massillon health fair Sept. 28. The program is growing in Stark County, with more people learning about the services OhioRISE can offer children and families.

Jefferson County Educational Service Center (JCESC) OhioRISE (Resilience through Integrated Systems and Excellence) is a Medicaid managed care program for children and youth with complex behavioral health and multisystem needs in Stark, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe and Tuscarawas Counties and operated by the Jefferson County Educational Service Center. OhioRISE was formed to coordinate resources and put families in touch with what is available.

OhioRISE care coordinator Megan Mayle kept busy, alternately answering questions from the public about the program's services and visiting with other service providers to build those partnerships that support the children of Stark County.

Different agencies have their unique niches, and OhioRISE has the advantage of coordinating multiple providers to meet the specific needs of a child at risk as part of the "wraparound" philosophy.

"At the end of the day, we're all still serving the same youth, and all the different facets of where that youth or family might need support."

Mayle, who grew up in Stark County, is knowledgeable about the people and the area's needs. She was enthusiastic to introduce people to OhioRISE.

"There's a lot of community partners that we work with, and a lot of community partners we have not met yet," she said. She pointed out some agencies such as Head Start that OhioRISE often partners with.

Anne Taylor, executive director of imaging services, pain management and integration with Aultman Health System, one of the organizers, said this was the third annual gathering in Massillon, geared to bring resources to the community. The event usually sees 300-400 people and more than 40 community partners that could be acquainted with OhioRISE.

"We definitely depend on our community partners to make our event successful," she said. "We are so appreciative that OhioRISE has come to join us."

Mayle said the good turnout provided some ideal opportunities to get the word out.

"There were a lot of community members and partners here, so definitely good connections made on both sides. A lot of us here serve the same members of our community," she said. "It's good to find other sources of support for that, and resources that we can expand."

Mayle spoke with representatives of Stark County Mental Health Addiction and Recovery, afterward saying theirs could be a valuable partnership and they could work together on crisis safety plans for clients. She set up future meetings.

Cassie Johr, homeless navigation specialist for Stark County Mental Health Addiction and Recovery, saw potential in OhioRISE.

"We're going to reach out and try to get our services connected," Johr said. "Our vision here is just to help anybody that we can."

Erin Stewart, community engagement coordinator with Compass Sexual Assault Education Prevention and Support in Stark, Tuscarawas and Carroll Counties said Compass and OhioRISE could work well together to serve individuals from vulnerable populations.

"Because OhioRISE works so closely with those communities, I think it's an amazing opportunity for a partnership to just help serve those people who need the most support."

Michelle Harhay, population health care coordinator with My Community Health Center, was interested.

"We have many patients who have complex needs, and they have children that are facing these behavioral problems and everybody's looking for help but they don't know where to start, so this is great to have. I'll be able to share this with our social workers, that way they can help connect the families of patients to OhioRISE."

KeAunte Harris said OhioRISE could be valuable for her Beyoutiful Weirido mentoring program for girls.

"OhioRISE is great because it gives opportunities for different organizations around our community to come together to help these kids that need help with different things. Each group provides different programming for the kids that need it."

Elisabeth Mobberley, prevention health educator with Canton City Public Health, said OhioRISE offered some unique connections.

"I'm excited for the resource meetings, and I'm excited to start doing presentations for OhioRISE clients."

Christine Gogerty, public health nurse at the Massillon City Health Department, said her agency and OhioRISE were "100 percent" likely to work together.

"We would be able to collaborate very well with OhioRISE in the Massillon Health Department. We do a lot of community outreach events," she said. "We would love to get our outreach coordinator in touch with Megan and see what we can do to collaborate together."

Jeannine Fogle, triage manager and data manager at Access Health Stark County said they have worked with OhioRISE and their services mesh well in a "wraparound" approach.

"I really appreciate the way they have things set up. It's easy to navigate through, which is exactly what our clients need. So far, OhioRISE has been very helpful with the clients that we have referred," she said. There has been positive feedback. According to a recent survey she conducted, in the past two weeks, six clients reported they had benefitted from OhioRISE services. "They got good service from OhioRISE."

To learn more about OhioRISE, call 740-792-4011, email [ohiorise.info@jcesc.org](mailto:ohiorise.info@jcesc.org) or visit OhioRISE online at <https://www.jcesc.k12.oh.us/CareManagementEntity.aspx>

Photo outline:

OhioRISE care coordinator Megan Mayle, left, shares information about the program during the Fall into Wellness with Massillon health fair. Members of the public and service agencies were interested in OhioRISE and its work putting children with multisystem needs in touch with resources.

