



BOARDS OF EXCELLENCE IN PREVENTION

**Silver Level
Informational Session
October 13, 2026
1:00-2:30pm**



Your Presenters:

- ▶ Allison Zepernick, BSBA, OCPS, ICPS
- ▶ Andrea Hoff, MPA, GPC, OCPC, ICPS
- ▶ Amy Hamilton, MPA, OCPC, ICPS
- ▶ Katie Cottle, MS, CHES, OCPC, ICPS



Sponsoring Organizations

What is the Boards of Excellence in Prevention Initiative?

- ▶ Purpose: To support Behavioral Health Board Authorities across the state of Ohio in understanding effective prevention, based on prevention science and best practices, and how to maximize public dollars to support prevention services while ensuring provider compliance with Ohio Administrative Code.
- ▶ The Boards of Excellence in Prevention (BEP) Initiative is a competitive funding opportunity that will be conducted in four levels with incentives tied to each phase a Board completes



What is the Boards of Excellence in Prevention Initiative?

Ohio Behavioral Health Board Authorities who participate in the entire Boards of Excellence in Prevention Initiative (BEP) will:

- ▶ Understand the science, theories, and models that are the foundation of the prevention profession.
- ▶ Be knowledgeable of the prevention provider requirements outlined in Ohio Administrative Code.
- ▶ Support at least one board staff member in obtaining their certification as an Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist (OCPS) or an Ohio Certified Prevention Consultant (OCPC).
- ▶ Develop a comprehensive plan that is responsive to the prevention needs of their service area and maximizes the efficacy of the public dollars they administer that are allocated to support prevention services in their communities.



High-Level View of BEP

- ▶ Bronze - Participants will receive prevention foundational knowledge substantiated by prevention science.
- ▶ Silver - Participants will assess the behavioral health needs of their Board areas and develop an individualized systems change prevention plan that is responsive to those behavioral health needs.
- ▶ Gold - Participants will create and administer an implementation plan and corresponding evaluation plan for the prevention systems change plan, all embedded within a change management approach.
- ▶ Platinum - Participants will actively participate in the Partners of Excellence in Prevention Learning Community to receive ongoing mentoring and support to ensure all systems change approaches are implemented successfully and with long-term sustainability.



Current Funding Opportunity for Phase 2:

Silver Level Pilot

- ▶ The second level - Silver - provides learning and professional development opportunities that will build select Boards' capacity to assess their county's behavioral health prevention needs and translate those findings into a data-driven, systems-level prevention plan.
- ▶ Participating Boards will engage in a learning community with their peers and receive ongoing trainings, coaching support, and technical assistance that will strengthen their local efforts by building an effective infrastructure for overseeing and coordinating the planning, funding, and delivery of behavioral health prevention services.

This is a pilot program with a limited amount of funding.



Who is Eligible to Apply?

- ▶ Behavioral Health Board Authorities as defined by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 340
- ▶ This funding opportunity is available to all Behavioral Health Board Authorities in Ohio who have responsibility for overseeing and coordinating the planning, funding, and delivery of behavioral health prevention services who have either completed the Bronze Level Boards of Excellence in Prevention or demonstrated knowledge and application of the concepts covered in the Bronze Level learning community.
- ▶ Boards who have at least one participating staff member who holds a Registered Applicant (RA) certification or higher and this staff member must be designated as the Board Point of Contact and this individual must be under the supervision of a professional holding an appropriate certification according to Ohio Administrative Code (OCPS, OCPC, and/or CHES).



Participation Requirements

- ▶ Ensure a team of at least one and no more than three participants can fully and consistently participate in the initiative to ensure continuity as the learning materials build upon one another from one session to the next. A Prevention Supervisor must be included in the total number of three participants. The roles and expectations are as follows:
 - ▶ **Board Point of Contact** - Must fully participate in the initiative, including attending all learning community sessions and coaching sessions.
 - ▶ **Prevention Supervisor** - Must attend all individual coaching sessions. It is strongly encouraged that the prevention supervisor also attends all of the learning community sessions for continuity and support.
 - ▶ **Additional Board Staff Member (optional)** - If included in your application, this individual must fully participate in the initiative, including attending all learning community sessions and coaching sessions.

Participation Requirements

- ▶ The Board Point of Contact must, at minimum, hold a Registered Applicant (RA) certificate from the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board and be actively pursuing the Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant (OCPSA) certification.
 - ▶ Regardless of their current level of prevention certification, the Board Point of Contact is expected to be working toward the next level of certification, including the OCPSA, Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist (OCPS), or Ohio Certified Prevention Consultant (OCPC).
 - ▶ The Board staff member(s) who commit/s to obtaining prevention certification as a part of this initiative must have a Prevention Supervisor who meets the qualifications outlined in Ohio Administrative Code. Specifically, this supervisor must hold an active Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist (OCPS), Ohio Certified Prevention Consultant (OCPC), or Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) certification. It is strongly encouraged that Prevention Supervisors specifically hold an active prevention certification (OCPS or OCPC) for support and consistency in applying this content to Board practices.
 - ▶ The Prevention Supervisor may or may not be employed by the Board, but they must attend and fully participate in all coaching sessions related to this initiative. Boards may choose - and will be incentivized - to have the prevention supervisor also attend and participate in the learning community sessions.



*If applicants experience challenges finding a supervisor,
they can request assistance by reaching out to Alli at
azepernick@youthriveconsulting.com*

Participation Requirements

- ▶ Attend three 3-hour virtual learning community sessions on prevention best practices. Participants will be required to adhere to the Ohio Coaching and Mentoring Network's (OCAM) virtual training decorum requirements, including having cameras on during all training sessions.
- ▶ Attend two 1-day in-person sessions and one 2-day in-person session located in Columbus, Ohio. Lodging and mileage reimbursements will be provided through this opportunity.
- ▶ Participate in monthly individualized coaching sessions with an assigned coach.
 - ▶ All individuals identified in the Board's application to participate in this BEP initiative - including the Board Point of Contact, Prevention Supervisor, and an additional Board Staff member - must be in attendance during these sessions.
- ▶ Complete a Pre- and Post-Evaluation Survey to assess the current levels of prevention knowledge and competencies prior to and at the completion of the initiative. The Pre- and Post-Evaluation Survey must be completed by all participants who attend community learning sessions.



Participation Requirements

- ▶ Complete a Boards of Excellence in Prevention Feedback Survey to provide information that will ensure quality improvement for future initiatives.
- ▶ Demonstrate a commitment to applying the knowledge and strategies learned through the initiative by designing and presenting a Final Deliverable that reflects the ability to create more comprehensive and effective prevention programs in their communities.



Additional Participation Requirements for Direct Applicants

- ▶ Demonstrate ongoing prevention supervision in compliance with Ohio Administrative Code.
- ▶ Submit an application that includes:
 - ▶ An inventory of their current prevention programming funded by the Board that demonstrates understanding and application of the Prevention scope of practice and includes the six Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) strategies, risk and protective factors, and Social-Ecological indicators.
 - ▶ A gap analysis that analyzes the required components in the inventory and reflection document.
 - ▶ A completed pre-assessment survey that demonstrates understanding and application of prevention science, the prevention scope of practice, and Board- and provider-level compliance requirements.

Learning Community Session Schedule

Session #	Learning Content	Date	Time	Virtual or In-Person
N/A	<i>“Welcome to the Boards of Excellence in Prevention!”</i>	December 10, 2026	2:00-3:00	Virtual
1	<i>“Seeing the System: Mapping the Prevention Landscape”</i>	January 14, 2027	9:00-4:00	In-person
2	<i>“Understanding the Need: Data, Trends, & Contributing Factors”</i>	February 18, 2027	1:30-4:45	Virtual
3	<i>“Focusing the Work: Readiness, Priorities, & Gaps”</i>	March 11, 2027	1:30-4:45	Virtual
4	Day 1: <i>“Designing the Response: Strategies that Match Need & Readiness”</i> Day 2: <i>“Strengthening the System: Building Capacity for Impact”</i>	April 21-22, 2027	9:00-4:00 each day	In-person
5	<i>“Aligning the System: Strategy, Resources, & Decision-Making”</i>	May 18, 2027	1:30-4:45	Virtual
6	<i>“Congratulations Graduates! Presenting the Practical Application of Boards of Excellence in Prevention”</i>	June 24, 2027	9:00-4:00	In-person



*The in-person sessions will be held at the **Ohio University Dublin Integrated Education Center, 6805 Bobcat Way, Dublin, OH 43016.***

Lodging and mileage reimbursement will be offered as a part of this opportunity, as well as **breakfast and lunch.**

Incentive Schedule

Action Items	Incentive	Release Date of Incentive
Attendance at all six of the training sessions by the Board Point of Contact, the Prevention Supervisor, and an additional participating Board staff member. Attendance at all monthly individualized coaching sessions by the Board Point of Contact, the Prevention Supervisor, and additional participating Board staff members.	\$1,000 per person for a maximum of \$3,000 (the Board Point of Contact, the Prevention Supervisor, and up to 1 additional Board staff member that has chosen to participate)	No later than July 2027
The Board staff member(s) obtains an Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant (OCPSA) certification as approved by the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board	\$1,500 per person for a maximum of \$3,000 (the Board Point of Contact and 1 additional Board staff member that has chosen to participate).	No later than July 2027 contingent upon OCPSA certification approval
Board staff member(s) obtains the next certification level, the Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist (OCPS) certification or the Ohio Certified Prevention Consultant (OCPC) certification	\$2,000 per person for a maximum of \$4,000 (the Board Point of Contact and 1 additional Board staff member that has chosen to participate)	No later than July 2027 contingent upon receiving OCPS or OCPC certification approval
Completion of the entire Silver Level Boards of Excellence in Prevention initiative referenced in the RFA	Designation as a Silver Level Board of Excellence in Prevention. A plaque signifying this designation and recognition that acknowledges the designation that can be used for communication purposes, such as in press releases and annual reports.	June 2027



Receive up to \$10,000 in total cash incentives for participating in this Silver Level cohort!

All direct-applicant Boards selected to participate in this initiative are required to submit a completed and signed IRS Form W-9 at the start of the initiative.

Proposal Requirements

- ▶ Proposals must be submitted as a Microsoft Word document, using Calibri or Arial font in size 12, with 1-inch margins on all sides.
- ▶ Applicants must submit the following information:
 - Board Specific Information
 - Prevention Certification Status
 - Statement of Interest
 - Use of Data in Decision-Making
 - Commitment Statement
 - Additional Application Requirements (for Direct Applicants only)

*Proposals must be submitted via email to
azepernick@youthriveconsulting.com*

*For Boards that have completed the Bronze Level initiative,
please list “Boards of Excellence in Prevention Silver
application” in the subject line of the email.*

*For Boards applying to Silver directly, please list “Boards of
Excellence in Prevention Silver Direct application” in the
subject line of the email.*



Scoring Guide

<u>Score</u>	<u>Description</u>
9–10	Exceptional – The application exceeds expectations. It is thorough, well-organized, and clearly demonstrates a strong understanding of the initiative.
7–8	Strong – The application meets all expectations with minor weaknesses. It presents a solid commitment that aligns well with the initiative’s goals and shows strong potential for success.
5–6	Adequate – The application meets basic requirements but may lack detail or clarity in key areas. The plan is generally feasible but could be improved with more specificity or stronger alignment with initiative goals.
3–4	Weak – The application does not fully meet expectations. It lacks detail or shows limited alignment with the goals of the initiative.
1–2	Poor – The application is incomplete or does not address core requirements. It lacks clarity, detail, and alignment with initiative goals.
0	Not Addressed – The application did not address the relevant section or question.

*For Boards that have completed the Bronze Level initiative, applications can earn a total of 50 points.**

For Boards applying to Silver directly, applications can earn a total of 70 points.

**** The rubrics are designed to measure the same types of factors and can be compared based on the proportion of points earned, rather than simply the raw point total.***



Current Funding Opportunity for Level 2:

Silver Level Pilot

- ▶ The application process opened on October 1st, 2026.
- ▶ Applications are due October 30th, 2026, by 11:59pm EST.
- ▶ Once approved, Boards will complete one survey:
 - Pre-Evaluation survey
- ▶ Individuals who meet all participation requirements will receive 3 prevention Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for each virtual learning session, 6 CEUs for the one-day in-person sessions, and 12 CEUs for the two-day in-person sessions.
- ▶ At their very last session, participants will be responsible for developing and presenting a final deliverable that demonstrates how they will practically apply the knowledge and skills they have acquired through their participation in the initiative.





Applications due *October 30, 2026, by 11:59 pm EST*

*Late submissions will not be reviewed or
considered.*

*Submit all applications via email
to azepernick@youthriveconsulting.com
with “Boards of Excellence in Prevention
Silver application” OR “Boards of
Excellence in Prevention Silver Direct
application” listed in the subject line*

Question & Answer Period!





Applications due October 30, 2026, by 11:59 pm EST

Late submissions will not be reviewed or considered.

Submit all applications via email to azepernick@youthriveconsulting.com with “Boards of Excellence in Prevention Silver application” OR “Boards of Excellence in Prevention Silver Direct application” listed in the subject line