

# Ohio START Team

Giving families struggling with substance abuse challenges a brand new START



Ohio START is a collaboration between Summit County Children Services and local agencies providing addiction services.

Ohio START (Sobriety, Treatment and Reducing Trauma) is an intervention program that provides specialized services to families struggling with substance abuse along with current and past trauma. A key element of this program is a certified peer mentor that is paired with a Children Services caseworker to provide intensive case management and support.

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## Ohio START Goals

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- Increase parent involvement in treatment, community recovery supports and long term well-being
- Enhance coordination of resources
- Reduce the number of repeat referrals to children services
- Keep children safe with their parents, if possible, or reunify families
- Enhance child development and emotional well-being
- Improve ability of parents affected by substance abuse to care for their children



Family Peer Mentors are a critical part of the Ohio START model. A mentor is an individual who has personal experience with substance use, who has achieved sustained recovery and who has had prior engagement with the children services system. They provide accountability and support and serve as role models.



**Erin**  
Family Peer  
Mentor

**Jessica**  
Family Peer  
Mentor



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## Services Include

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- Support from a dedicated START caseworker and family peer mentor
- Intensive case management and weekly home visits
- Priority access to treatment services
- Trauma treatment available for both the child and the adults
- Coordinated care by child protective services, a treatment provider and family peer mentor

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Colleen Stewart (START Supervisor)  
330-996-7038  
264 S. Arlington St.  
Akron, OH 44306

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