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OhioGuidestone, MetroHealth partner to help trauma survivors

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Through the newly formed partnership and with funding through the Victims of Crime Act, eligible MetroHealth patients will be able to receive help free of charge, including advocacy, employment and other vital services from OhioGuidestone, a Berea-based nonprofit offering behavioral health care services.

OhioGuidestone and MetroHealth have formed a new partnership to expand immediate support available to survivors of traumatic incidents, such as violence and abuse, during and after hospitalization free of charge, according to [a news release](#).

With funding through the Victims of Crime Act, eligible MetroHealth patients will be able to receive help that stretches beyond addressing physical trauma, including advocacy, employment and other vital services from OhioGuidestone, a Berea-based nonprofit offering behavioral health care services.

The services will be available in the home, community or via telehealth as often as needed, according to the release.

"Any person, man or woman, who survives a traumatic injury, can benefit from intervention beyond the physical – this is a way to treat the whole person physically, mentally and emotionally," said Jill Tayfel, OhioGuidestone director of community counseling, in a provided statement. "We are helping them have more productive and empowered lives, which we believe will allow them to successfully seek and keep employment."

Tayfel also said in the release that the organization is seeing an increase in family violence as social distancing increases stress.

Normally individuals must go through assessments and receive specific diagnoses for these services to be billed to Medicaid or insurance, but people will now be connected with resources regardless of insurance status or diagnosis in order to "prevent the cycle of reoccurrence by also addressing their emotional and financial recovery," according to the release.

Upon referral from MetroHealth, a staff member from OhioGuidestone will develop an individually tailored plan, including case management, victim advocacy and support in working their case through the justice system, according to the release. An OhioGuidestone Workforce 360° career coach will also assist survivors in finding and maintaining employment.

"The importance of a whole-person approach to recovering from trauma is integral for overall wellness. The ripple effects of trauma extend far beyond the walls of The MetroHealth System," said Megen Simpson, manager of MetroHealth Trauma Recovery Center, in a provided statement. "With added stressors as a result of COVID-19, the need for direct and continued services for survivors is amplified. This partnership with OhioGuidestone provides a pathway of how health and communities intersect; eliminating barriers to access and extending a continuum of care within individuals' communities to ensure they continue on their path of resiliency."

Inline Play