

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)  
Dana Lasenby

BOARD OFFICERS

Dennis G. Cowan, Chair  
Malkia Newman, Vice Chair  
Jonathan Landsman, Treasurer  
Adam Fuhrman, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

Bijaya A. Hans, M.D.  
Yolanda Giles, M.D.  
Pastor Douglas Jones  
Sarah May  
Christina Root  
John Paul Torres  
Yvette Woodruff  
John Young

**Attn: Community Editors**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Suzanne Weinert**  
**248-758-1991**  
[weinerts@oaklandchn.org](mailto:weinerts@oaklandchn.org)

**Kaylee Salveta**  
**248-464-6349**  
[salvetak@oaklandchn.org](mailto:salvetak@oaklandchn.org)

## **OCHN Launches Community Behavioral Threat Assessment Program**

**OAKLAND COUNTY, MI (March 15, 2024)** – Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) is thrilled to announce the launch of its Community Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) program. At an event held today, Friday, March 15, 2024, OCHN gathered with elected officials and community partners to discuss this timely initiative, given the recent verdicts related to the Oxford tragedy.

The Community BTAM program’s goal is to prevent targeted acts of violence in the community through the implementation and management of intervention strategies. The program also aims to identify and assess concerning behaviors, implement and manage intervention strategies, and prevent targeted acts of violence in the community.

The event opened with OCHN’s Chief Medical Officer, Vasilis Pozios, M.D., and highlighted OCHN’s progressive justice initiative programs. Event programming focused on the important role community partnerships play in preventing community violence.

“The launch of Oakland County’s Community BTAM program will provide an essential foundation for effective behavioral threat assessment that applies to schools, higher education, community agencies, and workplace environments,” states OCHN’s Executive Director and CEO, Dana Lasenby.

An overview of the Community BTAM model and discussion of how the program interacts with the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM), developed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) GAINS Center was provided. OCHN uses the SIM to develop programs that connect individuals with mental health and substance use disorders to treatment.

“OCHN is proud to work with various stakeholders to implement creative solutions, like the Community BTAM program, to reduce targeted community violence and divert people with mental health and substance use disorders away from the justice system and into treatment,” said OCHN’s Chief Medical Officer, Vasilis Pozios, M.D.

The event also featured Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter, Senator Rosemary Bayer, the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office (OCSO), and the Oakland County Prosecutor’s Office to highlight the importance of collaboration and the Community BTAM program. Assistant Special Agent in Charge Josh Hauxhurst from the Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI) and Captain Todd Hill from the OCSO discussed the role of their respective organizations in mitigating threats and targeted violence. Other event attendee’s included school resource officers, juvenile court, community corrections, health division, emergency management, clinicians, physicians, and community stakeholders.

To learn more about OCHN or connect with OCHN’s Justice Initiatives Team, visit [www.oaklandchn.org](http://www.oaklandchn.org) or visit the BTAM page [here](#). Non-emergency Access services can be reached at (248) 464-6363. If you or someone you know needs immediate assistance, call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988.



**Pictured:** Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter



**Pictured:** Senator Rosemary Bayer



**Pictured (left to right):** Markeisha Washington, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Oakland County Prosecutors Office; Supervisory Special Agent Chris Tarrant, FBI; Special Agent Brett Mason, FBI; OCHN’s Chief Medical Officer, Vasilis K Pozios, M.D.; OCHN’s Director of Training & Justice Initiatives, Trisha Zizumbo; Rawle Andrews JR., Executive Director for the American Psychiatric Association

## **About OCHN**

OCHN is contracted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to lead a provider service network and manage care for approximately 29,000 Oakland County residents at more than 400 service sites across the county. People who receive public behavioral health services through OCHN's provider network include those who have an intellectual or developmental disability, mental health concerns, or substance use disorder. Most of these individuals have Medicaid insurance coverage.

OCHN's goal is to ensure these individuals are aware of and have access to services and supports that will improve their health and quality of life, as well as ensure their engagement in full community participation. Its mission to "inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities" reflects an unyielding belief in a "Valuable System for Valued People." Programs and supports provided by OCHN's service network are available at [www.oaklandchn.org](http://www.oaklandchn.org).

-END-