



Josh Scism, chief operations officer of the NDI, also recently named superintendent of Larue Carter Memorial Hospital to facilitate the transition ahead, displays an impressive amount of planning for the construction of the Institute, which will open in late 2018.

Project Update

The Neuro-Diagnostic Institute and Advanced Treatment Center: much more than just a new building

The Neuro-Diagnostic Institute and Advanced Treatment Center (NDI) is on schedule to open late next year. The facility, [announced to much fanfare in 2015](#), will not only be a state-of-the-art building but will also offer new treatment options to help patients in their recovery goals. Here are a few of the lesser-known details about the building's progress and future treatment opportunities.

Current staff assisted on room design

Considering that patient care and a collaborative care team are two of the most important elements of our mission at the state psychiatric hospitals, it was critical to involve Larue Carter clinical and support staff in all phases of the NDI design. In early 2016, various members of the Carter team met to discuss early building design based on functional needs for the new hospital. Guidon Design, a local firm specializing in health care facility design for government clients, guided Carter staff through various exercises around building logistics, unit support designs and a “day in the patient life at the NDI.” This was a phenomenal way to involve staff and tap their wisdom as clinical providers.

Whether it be the unique “cube” units that will be found on floors 4-7, the very innovative and contemporary treatment mall or advanced treatment clinic, Larue Carter staff had hand in all phases of the design.

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Eric Zeronik from Pepper Construction (right) gives Mark Newell, deputy director, State Psychiatric Hospitals, a tour of the site.

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Lighting will play an important role

The NDI will not only *look* modern, but will offer established and emerging techniques for patient care. An example of this is the use of innovative “tunable” LED lighting fixtures in several units. These fixtures are not only energy efficient, but will allow staff to vary the light spectrum to mimic circadian rhythms – also referred to as an individual’s “body clock.” An example of this would be setting a unit’s lighting to remove blue hues in the

evening to mimic the changes that occur in natural light in the evening hours.

Location, location, location

The NDI will be located on the campus of Community Hospital East in Indianapolis and will feature a Psych-Med unit with the intention of staging patients needing or recovering from acute medical care provided at Community East. This unit will focus largely on patients with limited mobility, whose care coordination on campus can be closely monitored as they efficiently move from the NDI to Community East and back using only a hallway instead of needing to be transported many miles in vehicles.

Expanding from eight to 14 units

The new hospital will have as many as 14 different operating units, up from Larue Carter’s current eight, and each will be individually focused on a type of patient care. With this expansion, the NDI will be staffed with a very diverse skill base, representing new opportunities for medical training, research and contemporary inpatient behavioral health care for virtually every sector associated with the NDI’s patient populations.

Overall, the NDI project underway represents a new way of thinking about how the state psychiatric hospitals approach patient intake, assessment and treatment planning.



Run the State 5K and Hike Series

Last year's Run the State 5K Series was such a success that it is back for 2017 and better than ever. This year, hikes have been added to the 5K series, for a total of nine events powered by Go365 and Invest In Your Health!

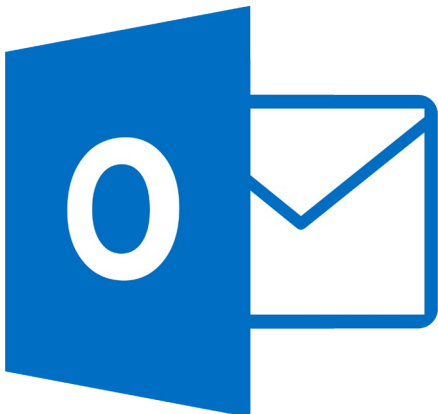
Check out the full schedule of events this summer, and see when a hike or 5K is slated for your area. There is an event within about an hour's drive of most Indiana counties. Plan ahead and schedule the day with family members and coworkers to enjoy the beauty of Indiana's state parks. A breakdown of each event is on the Invest In Your Health website. If you're interested in attending, register soon – these events fill up fast! Registration and additional information is available by [clicking here](#).



DFR runners completed the Triple Crown of Running

Congratulations to staff from the Floyd County Division of Family Resources who participated in the Louisville Triple Crown of Running, a series of three races over three weekends.

Pictured, back row: Andrea Ingle, Carley Hartlage, Annette Green and Kristina Govert. Front row: Amanda Rothrock, Roseann Scherer and Denise Asher.



32,000 email subscribers can't be wrong

Did you know that FSSA reaches over 32,000 individuals through email alone! Aging, DDRS and DMHA each have their own email listservs that allow them to send out updates on services, policies, deadlines and other divisional news. If you would like to receive these divisional updates please click on the division name below to sign up.

- [Aging](#)
- [DDRS](#)
- [DMHA](#)



New funding coming to help Indiana combat opioids

The Division of Mental Health and Addiction will soon be playing an even bigger role in addressing the opioid and addiction crisis in Indiana, thanks to a \$10.9 million Opioid State Targeted Response grant the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) officially announced last week.

This additional funding will be used in a variety of ways, all to expand treatment and support recovery for Hoosier struggling with addiction. For example, the money is expected to allow DMHA to improve access to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), including helping patients with the costs of those treatments and training more physicians to offer MAT. There will also be even greater focus on providing treatment and coverage for younger offenders in the juvenile justice system similar to how DMHA aids adult offenders through the Recovery Works program.

“Our state is poised and ready to put these dollars to immediate use when they start to arrive in the coming weeks,” said DMHA Director Kevin Moore. “These welcome new funds will complement and enhance strategies we already have underway, so we see this grant as being a force multiplier in our targeted efforts around the state.”

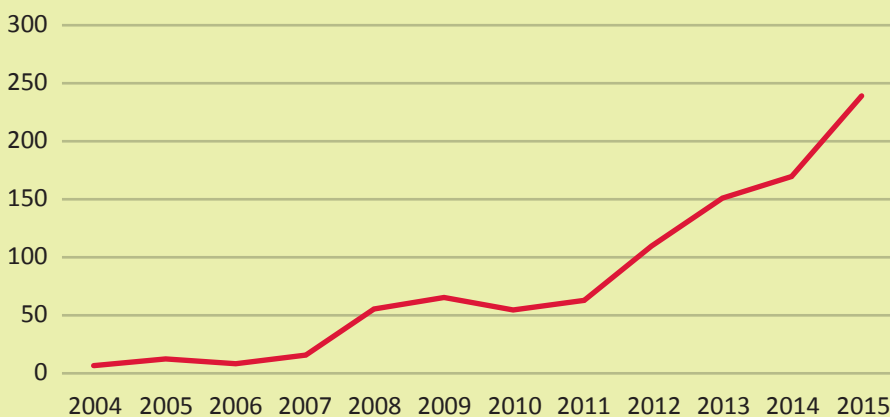
Attacking the drug epidemic is one of the five “pillars” of Governor Eric Holcomb’s “Next Level” agenda, and FSSA is collaborating with other state agencies to prioritize the crisis and continue to deploy strategies and resources in ways that create significant impact for Hoosiers based on specific issues we face.

The bulk of the funding will go toward expanding residential and detox programs, specifically serving pregnant women and already identified high risk areas of the state. There will also be a training and placement program for recovery peer support specialists in emergency rooms in high risk counties. And \$500,000 will be used by the state to purchase and

distribute naloxone kits for distribution to local health departments. Naloxone is a fast-acting drug that blocks or reverses the effects of opioids, which is particularly effective during emergency overdoses.

Finally, look for FSSA to also launch a public awareness campaign in the near future aimed at reducing the “stigma” surrounding treatment for substance use disorders so more Hoosiers will feel comfortable taking steps toward achieving recovery.

Indiana Drug Deaths Involving Heroin, 2004-2015



Source: Indiana State Dept. of Health, Epidemiology Resource Center, Data Analysis Team



In honor of National Nutrition Month in March, Richmond State Hospital hosted two events for patients and staff, a Healthy Fitness Fair and a nutrition fair – “A Taste of Culture.” Both events were geared toward helping participants adapt to a healthier lifestyle.

David Ames demonstrates plank exercises during the Healthy Fitness Fair.

State Psychiatric Hospital happenings

Richmond State Hospital staff along with Ball State University nursing students worked with patients in a class setting and on their own time to craft 13 tiny little hats for babies at Riley Hospital for Children.

Veronica Crosby and Maggie Wissel from Richmond State Hospital are pictured along with Ball State Nursing Students.



Evansville State Hospital staff collected 200 food items and made a monetary donation to the Salvation Army as part of their War on Hunger campaign.

Pictured, from left to right: Aaron Curl, Megan Conner, Tonya Smith, Paula Hurst, Debbie Davis, Vicki Sprengel, Brenda Plump, Steven Schiavone-Larue and Kathy Osborne.

Five Questions



Name: Lacey Kottkamp

Title: Indiana Head Start State
Collaboration Director

Education: Bachelor of Science
from Purdue University

1 What attracted you to a career here at FSSA?

I wanted to have the opportunity to make an impact on children in Indiana. State-level work seemed like the perfect fit for me to use my relationship building strengths, as well as my love for data-driven decisions, to make a difference in the lives of children and families in our state.

2 What gives you a sense of accomplishment professionally?

I love seeing the impact I have made on the systems that I support. Just knowing that the work I do every day, though not necessarily visible to the early childhood community, continues to be impactful. And that the decisions that we make at the state level are able to move the needle and drive necessary and beneficial change for early care and education professionals and the children and families that they serve. With early childhood education being such a hot topic these days, I truly believe that we are making history and modeling to other states what a high-quality early childhood education system looks like. Who wouldn't feel accomplished to be a part of a team like that?

3 What do you want FSSA workers to know about the work you're doing?

I am working hard to align the work of the Head Start community in Indiana with all of the

great work that is happening through all of our state agencies. I have been working with other agencies and divisions to create state-level interagency agreements to try and streamline some processes for the neediest families in our state. I am also working to help strengthen the relationships between other family and social services in Indiana with Head Start grantees across the state.

4 What is the best advice you can offer, based on your years of experience?

The way you treat people is everything. Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence. You have been assigned this mountain to show others it can be moved.

5 What about your background might your co-workers find surprising?

I haven't taught in a preschool classroom in over 5 years, but I still find myself on a strict eating schedule that aligns with the classroom schedule. I have a morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack almost every day! I also really miss mealtimes with the kiddos. Those conversations were priceless! But I'm lucky to be in a role now where I still get the opportunity to be in classrooms periodically. It really is the best of both worlds!