Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Eastern Ohio Regional Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council
Request for Grant Applications

I. Overview:

Founded in 1984, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) strives to support efforts designed to prevent child abuse and neglect within the State of Ohio. The OCTF believes that child abuse and neglect can be prevented by investing in strong communities, healthy families and safe children. Drawing on years of experience with child abuse prevention and community awareness programs, the OCTF officially announces the availability of funding to support prevention programs and community education campaigns in Ohio aimed at supporting families and eliminating child abuse and neglect.

The OCTF and the Eastern Ohio Regional Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council announce the availability of funds for support for programs that address the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Proposed programs should address the strategies identified in the Eastern Council's Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan. (See Attachments E). The funding is authorized under Ohio Law 5101:5-1-01. The OCTF Board allocated $3.8 million in grant funding for SFY 2017 and $3.8 million for SFY 2018 for the regional prevention and outreach plans statewide. The total award amount for the Eastern Region's prevention plan services, and outreach plan is approximately $447,438 for the 18-month period of the remaining SFY 2017 and SFY 2018. Approximately $232,147 has been allocated for proposed programs related to providing high quality care and education early in life and $201,791 has been allocated for proposed programs related to providing mentoring services to youth to promote positive social and emotional development.

The OCTF and the Eastern Ohio Regional Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council are interested in receiving applications for projects that are innovative and well developed in addressing primary and secondary child abuse and neglect prevention in the following counties of Eastern Ohio: Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Muskingum, Noble, and Tuscarawas. This first funding period is for 18 months of service. All funded programs should begin no earlier that February 1, 2017 and be completed no later than June 30, 2018. Dependent upon completion of program goals, objectives, and funding availability services/programs may receive future funding for 12 month periods through June 2021. Local government and private nonprofit human service or educational organizations are eligible to apply for funding.

Questions regarding the application and funding may be emailed to preventioncoordinator@ohio.edu and must be received no later than 48 hours before the application deadline. Applications under this announcement must be received by the Eastern Council's Regional Prevention Coordinator no later than **5:00 p.m. on January 12. Absolutely no late applications will be accepted. Applications and attachments must be emailed to the Regional Prevention Coordinator at preventioncoordinator@ohio.edu. No faxed or paper applications will be accepted.**

II. Funding:

The state has $3.8 million available across the state for SFY 2017 and another $3.8 million for SFY 2018. Matching funds or in-kind contributions are not required but those applications identifying match will be considered stronger applications. Applications must include a detailed project budget that complies with the OCTF's requirements for the receipt and use of these funds. The funding period of the grant will

begin February 1, 2017 or upon issuance of a State of Ohio purchase order (whichever is later), and last through June 30, 2018. This is a reimbursement grant and funds will be paid to each grant award recipient upon submission of an invoice for services performed with reimbursement to occur monthly. Unspent funds in SFY 2017 can be carrier forward to SFY 2018 upon Council approval.

III. General Background:

The mission of the OCTF is to prevent child abuse and child neglect through investing in strong communities, healthy families and safe children. As Ohio's sole public funding source dedicated to child abuse and child neglect prevention, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) is in the forefront of prevention activities throughout the state. From establishing guidelines for evidence-based program development to accessing innovative prevention curricula; producing educational and public awareness materials; and impacting social service policy legislation, the OCTF provides expertise and resources for legislators, the media, state agencies, and the public.

Since its creation in 1984, the OCTF has funded primary and secondary prevention strategies conducted at the local level, in addition to initiatives and projects of statewide significance, which are all designed to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and child neglect. Primary prevention is defined as services and programs that promote the general welfare of all children and families before abuse or neglect occurs and are accessible to everyone in the community. Secondary prevention programs are activities and services that are provided to a specific population identified as having risk factors for child abuse and child neglect and are designed to intervene at the earliest warning signs of child abuse or child neglect, or whenever a child can be identified as being at risk for abuse or neglect.

Starting in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016, local trust fund prevention efforts were shifted to a regional model and are now led by Regional Prevention Councils. Each council is directed by a regional prevention coordinator in partnership with county prevention specialists. Together, the regional prevention coordinator and county prevention specialists conducted a baseline comprehensive needs assessment and created a prevention and outreach plan for the region. Ohio University's Voinovich School serves as the regional prevention coordinator for the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council. Email **preventioncoordinator@ohio.edu** to request a copy of the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council's baseline comprehensive needs assessment report and prevention plan. The Council's Prevention Plan executive summary, description of needs in the region, strategies to prevent child abuse and neglect in the region, evaluation plans and logic model are available as Attachments E.

The regional council is asking for applications that address the region's prevention plan, specifically strategies 1 and 2.

IV. Requirements:

Interested organizations must submit applications that provide an in-depth child abuse prevention project, which must include a description of an evidence-informed or evidence-based child abuse and child neglect prevention program designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and child neglect. The OCTF can fund only primary and secondary prevention programs as outlined in section 3109.13 of the Ohio Revised Code. Primary prevention is defined as "activities and services provided to the public designed to prevent or reduce the prevalence of child abuse and child neglect before signs of abuse or neglect can be observed." Secondary prevention is defined as "activities and

services that are provided to a specific population identified as having risk factors for child abuse and child neglect and are designed to intervene at the earliest warning signs of child abuse or child neglect, or whenever a child can be identified as being at risk of abuse or neglect." The OCTF cannot fund tertiary prevention programs or services.

Catchment areas must be outlined in the proposal. Applications covering any of the counties in the region will be accepted but applications covering more than one county in the region are strongly encouraged.

In order to be awarded funding, an application must at minimum demonstrate:

- All activities held by the applicant for this project will focus on primary and/or secondary child abuse and child neglect prevention.
- The applicant's proposed project aligns with one or more of the region's prevention plan strategies.
- The proposed project makes evident how it addresses at least two of the five protective factors as intended by the prevention plan strategies (Concrete Supports, Parental Resilience, Knowledge of Childhood Development, Social Connections, Social-Emotional Competency of Children).
- The target population to be addressed in the proposed project is in alignment with one or more of the region's prevention plan strategies.
- The applicant's plan to inform, recruit and retain target participants of the proposed project.
- The applicant's ability/willingness to be a part of a regional approach to child abuse and neglect prevention. This entails the participation in data collection related to participants in the proposed project as well as program/curriculum implementation, documentation/sharing of lessons learned for the Council and the dissemination of regional outreach materials.
- The ways the applicant will maximize the participation of vulnerable populations such as racial and ethnic minorities, children and adults with disabilities, homeless families and those at risk of homelessness, unaccompanied homeless youth, adult former victims of child abuse and child neglect or domestic violence, members of other underserved or underrepresented groups, fathers, or any other special populations that meet local needs.
- The proposed prevention project is culturally and linguistically appropriate for the target population.
- The applicant's procedures, policies and practices support a culturally sensitive perspective.

V. Knowledge:

Applications must demonstrate to the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council that the organization has sufficient knowledge about child abuse and neglect prevention, including but not limited to:

- Knowledge of primary and secondary child abuse and child neglect prevention; such as experience in providing programs that support families to prevent child abuse and neglect.

- Knowledge of the protective and risk factors for child abuse and neglect prevention.
- Knowledge of recruiting families for primary and secondary child abuse and child neglect prevention.
- Knowledge of methods for program evaluation.

VI. Outcome Measures:

Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council requires that its grants have measureable outcomes, or objective measures of the grant's effect. By doing so, we believe we maximize the impact of our grant dollars. It also enables us to share with others the data-driven information about successful – or not so successful- approaches to strengthening families.

Be sure to create outcome measures that are reasonable and realistic, and based on information that will help you to best assess the impact and efficacy of your grant. You will be asked to report on progress towards your outcomes when reporting to the Eastern Regional Prevention Council.

Impact that your program has on the target population can be presented many different ways. Some will use a pre-test followed by a post-test after services have been rendered. Some may use a family survey after the services have been offered in order for the family to evaluate the impact of the services. Successful applications must demonstrate how they will determine the impact the grant has on the target population.

When developing outcome measures for your program, scales are often used to track change over the life of the intervention. One such scale is the Protective Factors Survey (PFS). All proposed strategies that propose services to parents and/or caregivers with multiple sessions over a period of time must use the PFS to measure at minimum two protective factors the program is intended to address. The evaluation plan for evidence-based programs with identified program outcomes and evaluation methodology must adhere to developer requirements at a minimum. If a scale other than the PFS is used, the application must refer to the validity and reliability of the scale.

Awardees will be required to collect and report on the following process and outcome measures:

- The number of all people reached by the program.
- The number of participants in the program that fell under the following categories: racial and ethnic minorities, children and adults with disabilities, homeless families, families at risk of homelessness, unaccompanied homeless youth, adult former victims of child abuse and child neglect or domestic violence, members of other underserved or underrepresented groups, fathers, and other special populations that meet local and regional needs.
- The number of service activities conducted (i.e. training session, home visits, counseling sessions etc.) The activity documented is dependent upon the nature of your particular grant and the services to be offered in the grant.
- The results of your impact outcome measures.

VII. *Requirements for Funded Projects:*

By submitting an application for this funding, your organization agrees that, if selected for one of the grant awards, it will comply with the following requirements:

- To sign by an authorized representative of the applying entity and promptly return the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council grant agreement that will be provided following the Council's award announcements;
- To follow the directions of the assigned Regional Prevention Coordinator, who is responsible for overseeing the performance of grant requirements;
- To acknowledge the OCTF as the funding source at events and on all printed material related to the funded program;
- To include the OCTF logos on all promotional material;
- Quarterly data and progress reporting must be completed and submitted to the Council.

VII. Funding and Allowable and Unallowable Expenditures:

All applicants must complete and submit a budget form as part of their application packet. All proposed expenditures must directly relate to the service of conducting primary and/or secondary prevention programs within the community. For definitions of what are allowable and unallowable expenditures, please see the corresponding document in Attachment D or visit the OCTF website (www.jfs.ohio.gov/octf).

IX. Submitting Applications:

Applications under this announcement must be received by the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Coordinator no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 12, 2017. The application packet and any attachments must be emailed to the Regional Prevention Coordinator at preventioncoordinator@ohio.edu. No faxed or paper application packets will be accepted.

A complete application packet is defined as:

1. Completed Application ***limited to 10 pages*** (RFGA Attachment A)
2. Completed Program Participation spreadsheet (RFGA Attachment B)
3. Completed Budget Form (RFGA Attachment C)

A complete application packet must be received by the Regional Prevention Coordinator by the stated deadline, both date and time, to be considered. Applications received after this date and time will not be reviewed. The OCTF is not responsible for applications delivered by any other means.

Applicants will receive a confirmation of receipt email within 24 hours upon submission of application during normal business hours, indicating the Regional Prevention Coordinator received the application. This notification will not assess completeness of any sections within the application itself. Applications submitted after the stated deadline will not receive a confirmation of receipt email.

X. Selection of Awardees:

Only organizations whose application meets all required, or mandatory, criteria within the 10-page limit; **and** who present a project model that is highly likely to achieve the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council's goals for the expenditure of these funds, will be considered for an award. The Regional Prevention Coordinator will assess application packets for completeness. Only those packets deemed complete will be evaluated/scored. The Grant Application Review Criteria and maximum point value for each of the topics to be addressed by the applicant is listed below. The Regional Prevention Coordinator, representatives of the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council, and independent evaluators from Ohio University will assess the applications for how clearly and completely the application provides the information asked on that topic, and the extent to which the information presented indicates that the applicant has the capability of planning, implementing, documenting, and evaluating a project that meets the OCTF's needs for child abuse and neglect prevention. Points will be awarded up to the per-topic maximum, and will be based on the quality and completeness of the response. All points earned for all topics will be totaled for each application.

The Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council will make the final decision on funding and will prefer higher-scoring applications for award over lower-scoring applicants; however, the Eastern Ohio Regional Prevention Council may, at its sole discretion, take additional factors including but not limited to region wide geographic distribution and diversity into its selection decisions.

During the review period, Regional Prevention Coordinator staff may contact applicants for clarification of items in their application packet or to provide additional information and/or answer questions.

The Regional Prevention Coordinator will notify the applicant of the Council's decision concerning their application for funding.

In the event of any surplus of funds after all qualified applications are considered, the OCTF will reserve the right to determine whether or how to distribute unused or uncommitted funds. These options may include, but may not be limited to, awarding funds to another application received through this RFGA, distributing those funds to one or more of the other grantees selected for award, or utilizing the regional prevention funds in other projects or obligations as permitted by the funding authority.

The OCTF is under no obligation to award any funds for this project, and may cancel or postpone this selection process at any time if for any reason the OCTF decides not to proceed. All selections of applicants for funding are subject to certain legal and administrative reviews prior to being finalized. Payments to grantees are subject to submission of a proper invoice for payment in accordance with this RFGA and the resulting grant agreement. The awarding of funds is contingent upon the availability of funding to the OCTF and certification of funds pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 126.07.

Grant Application Review Criteria and Maximum Scoring

Topic	Score	Comments
Submitted on time	Yes/No	
Background Description of organization and history Background checks Description of a completed project a. Outcomes b. Diverse populations c. Prevention project d. Program evaluation	/5	
Program Narrative		
Summary of Program	/5	
Significance with program	/5	
Aligns with Council's Prevention Plan	/15	
Activities	/10	
Target population	/5	
Strengthens families	/15	
Participant engagement	/5	
Goals, objectives, and activities	/10	
Timeline	/5	
Evaluation plan	/15	
Number of providers/participants to be served	/5	
Budget and Budget Narrative	/10	
	110 possible points	