



Ohio Children's Trust Fund

Ohio's Prevent Child Abuse America Chapter



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Ohio Awards \$90,000 for Human Trafficking Prevention

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF), in collaboration with the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, awarded over \$90,000 in grant funding to seven organizations to develop and implement human trafficking prevention programs across Ohio. These projects will identify and assist at-risk youth and provide them with information and resources to prevent human trafficking.

"The more we raise awareness about human trafficking the more people we can protect before they become victims," said Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. "With effective advocacy, outreach, and prevention programming, these organizations will help countless at-risk Ohioans."

"These organizations are stepping up to the plate to deliver vital services to support both at-risk youth as well as the adults who have contact with them and are responsible for their safety and well-being," explained OCTF Executive Director Lindsay Williams. "I commend them for their initiative and commitment to providing innovative, educational and collaborative services to help prevent human trafficking throughout Ohio."

Because of these programs, community members, professionals, families and at-risk youth across Ohio will receive much-needed human trafficking prevention services, outreach and advocacy.

The following seven organizations will receive funding to provide services:

- Asian American Community Services, *Franklin County* (\$6,920)
- The Children's Center of Medina County, *Medina County* (\$11,588)
- COMPASS Family & Community Services, *Mahoning County* (\$15,000)
- Gracehaven, *Franklin County* (\$11,750)
- Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program, *Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Perry, Gallia, Vinton, and Morgan Counties* (\$15,000)
- YMCA Youth Opportunities Program, *Lucas County* (\$15,000)
- YWCA-Hamilton, *Butler County* (\$15,000)

"Human Trafficking Awareness Month provides an important opportunity for Ohioans to take a collective stand against the exploitation of men, women and children," said Sophia Papadimos, State Anti-Trafficking Coordinator. "The state is dedicated to empowering local leaders and advocates with the resources they need to prevent and respond to human trafficking in their communities."

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund is the state's sole public funding source dedicated to preventing abuse and neglect. Housed within the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund works with its partners in every county to serve all Ohio communities.

To learn more about Ohio's anti-trafficking efforts, please visit humantrafficking.ohio.gov.

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