



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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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 Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, awarded \$90,000 in grant funding to eight organizations to develop and implement human trafficking prevention programs across the state. These projects will identify and assist at-risk youth populations and give them information and resources to help prevent human trafficking.

“The essential work these organizations are undertaking will represent a significant step in our ongoing struggle to reduce and ultimately prevent this insidious crime,” explained OCTF Executive Director Kristen Rost. “I applaud them for their initiative and commitment to preventing human trafficking throughout Ohio.”

Because of these programs, community members, professionals, families and at-risk youth in 22 Ohio counties will receive much-needed human trafficking prevention services, outreach and advocacy.

The following eight organizations will receive funding:

- Bellefaire JCB, *Cuyahoga County* (\$15,000)
- The Children's Advocacy Center of Guernsey County, *Guernsey and Noble Counties* (\$10,633)
- Crime Victim Services, *Allen, Defiance, and Putnam Counties* (\$15,000)
- Gallia and Lawrence County FCFC's, *Gallia and Lawrence Counties* (\$8,750)
- Ottawa County Department of Job and Family Services, *Ottawa County* (\$7,300)
- Power 2 Impact Global Foundation DBA Ohio Youth Empowerment Program, *Franklin County* (\$3,318)
- Sisters in Shelter, *Crawford, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Huron, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Williams, Wood, Wyandot Counties* (\$15,000)
- The University of Toledo, *Lucas County* (\$14,999)

“Governor Kasich is committed to preventing the exploitation of children and recruitment of children and youth into human trafficking,” said Elizabeth Ranade-Janis, Ohio's anti-human trafficking coordinator. “We are thrilled to reach more of Ohio's kids through partnership with this diverse group of organizations.”

*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 88 county partners to serve all Ohio communities.*

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