

April 2022

Would You Like a Ride on the Goodyear Blimp? Our Night at the Races Event Can Help Make that Happen!

During our 2022 **Night at the Races**, we will be live auctioning a ride for 2 on the Goodyear Blimp. You can bid to ride on this Akron Legend by attending the event. Tickets are currently on sale, as well as horse naming, sponsorships, and program advertisements.

Don't miss your opportunity to join us on **June 18** for this exciting, action-packed event. Your ticket includes dinner, soft-drinks, and desserts. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a Post Time of 7:00. This event is cooler friendly and BYOB. Enjoy this amazing evening while raising money to support the many programs that Greenleaf has to offer.



[Tickets and More Here!](#)

Our Appreciation

We are grateful for the following foundations and funds who have supported our important programming through their generous grants and gifts.

Our thanks to the **Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation** for supporting LGBTQ+ mental health support groups for adults and adolescents in the Greater Akron area.

We appreciate our partners in the community who support the valuable work we do to strengthen individuals and families.



Shout Out to Greenleaf Prevention Staff

At the end of March, Barberton High School hosted a movie screening on anxiety for families called *Angst*. They also showed the screening in the classrooms for the students. Our prevention staff, along with other community partners, were asked to host discussions on anxiety following the film presentation with the students.

We received glowing feedback from many Barberton staff members including an English teacher

who shared with us, "I just wanted to give you some feedback...I absolutely loved our guest, Renee, from Greenleaf! She was approachable, relatable, and had a good sense of humor. She handled a sensitive topic with empathy and was very knowledgeable. She was able to handle shy students who don't always jump to participate, and she was able to redirect students who often get off track. Her presentation was valuable, and time well spent."

We are so proud of our staff at Greenleaf and the amazing work they do in our community!

Help for Hurting Hearts Benefit Dinner and Show Thursday, May 19

Join us for this benefit to bring awareness to the issues of suicide, substance abuse and overdose in our community and the effects they have on families and friends. Connect with Keynote Speakers, Linda and Dave Maynard, as they discuss their own experience with loss. Dave and Linda are native Ohioans and the parents of two young adult children, Noah and Hannah. The family faced horrific pain last summer that too many families are enduring, losing Noah to an accidental overdose. They will share their story in hopes of sparing others the same heartache. Additionally, Greenleaf staff will talk about hope, help-seeking, and local resources, and then unwind with entertainers Lonnie Jay Freeman followed by Kavan, the worlds #1 Rock and Roll Elvis. All proceeds benefit Greenleaf Family Center.

This benefit dinner and show will take place at the **Hartville Kitchen**. Dinner includes a full course meal (fried chicken or roast beef, green beans, potatoes, dessert, and beverages). Tickets cost \$52 each (if purchased online through Square) or \$50 if paid by check in advance and mailed to us. Doors open at 5:00 pm with dinner and speakers beginning at 5:45. The deadline to purchase tickets is Tues., May 10.

[Click here for the flyer and to purchase tickets](#)

April is Minority Health Month Learn More About Our Moms and Babies First Program

Moms and Babies First (MBF) is a home visiting program offered in partnership with the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative. Community Health Workers (CHW) provide education and support to pregnant African American mothers and their infants with the goal of healthy pregnancies, a reduction in prematurity, a reduction in infant mortality, and access to health care and immunizations for infants up to age one. The goal of the program is to ensure healthy pregnancies so that all babies will thrive and celebrate their first birthdays.

We have provided Ohio's Black Infant Vitality Program since July 2012. MBF helps to reduce the number of low-birth-weight babies and infant deaths within the ethnic communities of Summit County. CHWs conduct regularly scheduled home visits, educate clients on prenatal/postpartum care, and connect clients to community agencies for assistance and incentives that MBF cannot assist with. The program targets women early in their pregnancies (preferably first trimester) who may have risk factors that can contribute to poor pregnancy outcomes. We are proud to say our CHWs have been providing services in the community for a combined total of 54 years!

One Mom participating in MBF explains how grateful she is for the support and encouragement she receives through the program.

"I would like to say that the Program and Ms. Kisha have been such a Blessing to me & my Children. First off, I appreciate Ms. Kisha so much from checking in on me, supporting me during my pregnancies and after especially during my times of being hard on myself. She was there and she is so resourceful and helpful! I feel like I don't thank her enough but when I say she is like an Angel in disguise, she really is and is always there at the perfect times no matter how busy she is. Having that support during pregnancy and having her to call on with my doctors appointments and concerns when I didn't understand something down to having 2 Kids back to back, under 2, she has been there and gave me so much encouragement and knowledge. The support and resources I have been given have been helpful, especially as a single mother doing everything alone. Having this support has made my priority of being a parent less stressful. I've learned so much especially about taking care of myself first. Thank you so much for everything. I really appreciate it. "

[Learn More](#)

For more information, call (330) 376-9494, Ext. 232. To refer to the Moms and Babies First Program, please go to <https://www.helpmegrow.org/> or call (216) 930-3322, (440) 389-3322, or 1 (800) 755-GROW.



Did you know?

AmazonSmile

Do you make purchases through Amazon? Did you know that AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Greenleaf Family Center every time you shop, at no cost to you.

AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com and AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% to us.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Project MKC Assists our Moms and Babies First Program

Greenleaf is proud to partner with Project MKC, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization located in Youngstown, dedicated to serving the most vulnerable children in Northeast Ohio. Their funding comes exclusively through donations from the community. Through our partnership, we receive diapers for our clients in the Moms and Babies First and KISSS programs free of charge. To find out more about Project MKC or to make a donation, visit their **website**.

Project MKC
BECAUSE
ALL CHILDREN
DESERVE TO FEEL
SPECIAL

Our Mission: To make the lives of children and their families a little brighter by focusing on their individual needs with the help of volunteers.



Your Gift Matters - Donate
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