



February 2022

Welcome to 2022!

A Message from Our CEO

Happy New Year to all! 2022 sure has come in with a wintery blast of reality! In 2022 Greenleaf will be focusing on implementation of a new strategic plan approved by the board in the summer of 2021. Strategic work is always challenging, but instrumental to the ongoing success of any organization.

We were grateful to have the opportunity to bring on 4 new programs to our robust services last year including the KISSS (Kids and Infants Safety Supports and Supplies), ARMI (Automobile Repair and Maintenance Initiative) in cooperation with Summit County Job and Family Services' NEXT program and community partners, SUPER (Substance Use Prevention Education Resource) funded by the ADM Board, and the Multidisciplinary Representation Team (MRT) pilot program at the Summit County Juvenile Court. Our PEERS program also entered a new partnership with Portage DD to support their families and we also began providing counseling services to students in the Revere Local School District and are exploring opportunities in other schools as well!

Suicide awareness and prevention have become increasingly significant in the community as individuals and families are challenged by COVID and the isolation COVID has caused for many. The new Sources of Strength program which started in the Fall of 2021 enhances prevention efforts in the schools by actively engaging students in the process. Our suicide prevention services have also grown in recent years to not only include adolescent suicide prevention but also the provision of suicide prevention strategies to school personnel and community members. The QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) curriculum assists school

Our Appreciation

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

Our sincere gratitude to the **MG O'Neill Foundation** for their generous \$5,000 grant to support our mission.

Our sincere gratitude goes out to **The Clonrock Foundation** for their \$5,000 donation to support our Moms and Babies First and Celebrating Families! programs.

We are grateful for **Synthomer Foundation's** \$2,500 grant to support our Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program.

Our thanks to **Barberton Community Foundation** for their generous \$1,500 grant to help fund our Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program for Barberton middle and high school students and staff as well as QPR training for Barberton city employees during 2022.

Our thanks to the **Maynard Family Foundation** for their \$1,000 gift to support the important work we do in the community.

We are grateful to the **Henry V. & Frances W. Christenson Foundation** for their generous \$500 grant to support our general fund.

We appreciate our partners in the

personnel to support students and area employers to learn more about how community members can support their employees who may be experiencing depressive thoughts.

With so many of our families still effected by COVID concerns, and the need to deliver services in a multitude of ways, our focus in 2022, as in all years, will be to meet the needs of our community and the families we have the privilege to serve through our programs.

We plan to host our annual Night at the Races in June this year, though we had to skip this event in 2021 and have already rescheduled it in 2022! Tickets are on sale now, as are sponsorship opportunities. We hope to see you there!

Dawn Glenny

Get your Tickets Today! Our Night at the Races Has Been Rescheduled for June 18, 2022

The COVID surge has once again caused us to reschedule our event to keep everyone safe and healthy. Mark your calendars for **June 18, 2022** and join us for fun-filled evening of racing, raffles and great food! This fan favorite event is returning! We look forward to seeing you at St. George Antiochian Church in Fairlawn.

Don't miss out! Get your tickets, name a horse, become a sponsor, buy ads or make a donation by clicking on the button below.

**Get your tickets, name a horse or
make a donation here!**



community who support the valuable work we do to strengthen individuals and families.



Our sincere gratitude goes out to everyone who supported us with donations throughout 2021 including our Year-end Annual Appeal. We couldn't do our important work without you! You have made a difference in the lives of the families and individuals we serve and we are grateful. You are thinking of others during these uncertain times which truly reflects your kindness and generosity. Thank you!

Thank you!

You have made a difference!

With gratitude,
the Board of Directors and Staff
of Greenleaf Family Center

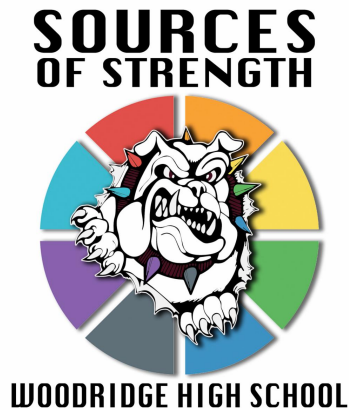


Sources of Strength - Woodridge High School

Greenleaf has partnered with Woodridge High School to bring **Sources of Strength**, an evidence-based suicide prevention program, to Summit County. Sources of Strength is a youth-led initiative, where students work together to enhance their existing strengths, while working to build up areas of weakness. The program provides students with a wheel of common strengths which serve as protective factors against suicide, bullying, and substance use.

Students created targeted projects and school wide campaigns based on a section of the wheel to implement with their peers. Sources Woodridge began with a training in October, followed by an introduction campaign including a student designed logo, introduction videos, and a distribution of donated brownies to all staff and students. Their second campaign with weekly activities will run through the month of March, with a title of *I Am Stronger*.

The goals of the program are to inspire peers, focus on mental health, create a safe place and to discover strengths to improve life. For more information, please contact Daniel Bennett, Program Coordinator at bdaniel@greenleafctr.org or (330) 376-9494, ext. 211.



Board of Directors Updates

Mid-2021 the board of directors at Greenleaf developed a new strategic plan for the agency to guide us through the next three years. Special thanks to our board for the extra time involved in working with our facilitator to develop and begin the implementation of this plan. The board developed six strategic areas for growth at the agency. Watch for updates as the strategic plan is operationalized in 2022!

A very special thank you to Terry Finn who served in 2020 and 2021 as the Board President. Terry has been on the board at Greenleaf since 2014 and guided the agency through COVID specific concerns and our strategic work.

The board also wants to thank Lakisha Miller-Barclay for her board service these past years as Lakisha embarks on new and exciting professional and personal journeys.

We welcome Dennis Loughry who began his term on the board in January 2022. Dennis currently serves on the City of Tallmadge Council as Council President and Council at Large and has many years of service in the community on his resume! He is a member and past President of Rotary International, a Trustee of the Tallmadge Foundation, and a past President of the Downtown Akron Kiwanis. He previously served on the board of education in the City of Tallmadge and was the Executive Director of the Tallmadge Chamber of Commerce.

2022 also brought new leadership to the board. At the conclusion of the annual board meeting in December 2021, Jennifer Hanzlicek ascended to the board presidency from the President-Elect position. Jennifer works for Sherwin Williams (Intellectual Property Counsel) and has served on the board since 2013. Daniel Glass, an associate attorney in the Corporate Transactions and Securities practice group at Thompson Hine was elected to serve as board Secretary and Laura Brelin, Associate Major Gifts Officer at Akron Children's Hospital, was elected to the President-Elect seat on the board. Mark Valentine remains the agency Treasurer. Congratulations to each of you!

Did you know?

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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.



Virtual American Sign Language Classes Begin on April 14, 2022

Our American Sign Language (ASL) classes are now offered in a new **VIRTUAL FORMAT!** Join us through Zoom for our sessions continuing through the Spring of 2022. The classes are intended for individuals age 12 and older and the sessions run for 6 weeks. ASL classes will help you develop expressive and receptive skills by learning language structure, Deaf Culture and Fingerspelling. We hope to see you there! Learn more and register [here](#).



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