

September 2022

Our New Program Family Success Network

Greenleaf Family Center was selected by the Ohio Children's Trust Fund to pilot a county-wide child abuse/neglect prevention program, the Family Success Network (FSN), beginning in 2023. FSN is a community-based prevention model that offers services to families and children at risk of becoming involved with the child welfare system. Through a multi-tiered approach, this program offers an array of services to at risk families. From one-time consultations to intensive home visiting services, families can select the frequency and duration of services that will best meet their unique needs and help them to achieve their goals.

The FSN rests on six pillars of service categories that are offered through the program: family coaching, parent education, basic life skills, financial literacy, service referrals, and concrete supports. Through this holistic, family-centered, solution-focused approach families will be supported by specially trained 'family coaches' to increase their protective factors and adopt new behaviors to strengthen their family unit and mitigate risk factors for child abuse and neglect.

We are excited about this new program and making an impact in the community. For more information, email our Program Manager, Tabitha Mazza, at mtabitha@greenleafctr.org.



September is Suicide Prevention Month

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month — a time to raise awareness on this stigmatized, and often taboo, topic. You are not alone! If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, call **988**, the Suicide and Prevention Lifeline. They are available 24/7. Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for individuals age 10-34 and the 12th cause of death overall in the US. Connecting with others is a strong protective factor that reduces risk for suicide. Talk saves lives.

We are here to help by providing suicide prevention training to schools, agencies and businesses in Summit County and the surrounding area. For more information, contact Daniel Bennett, Prevention Manager at (330) 376-9494, ext. 211 or bdaniel@greenleafctr.org.



Our 2023 Night at the Races Event Returns!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023**. Continue to watch your email and our website for further updates about this fun-filled evening!



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 **Downtown Akron Kiwanis Foundation** for supporting our PEERS Parent Advocacy Program (Parent Education, Empowerment, Resources, and Support).

We are grateful for **Barberton Community Foundation's** continued support of our Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program (ASPP). Their grant will fund school-based suicide prevention services to Barberton Middle and High School students, participation in Barberton Public Schools' Summer Extravaganza to provide additional mental health education to students, and Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) gatekeeper trainings for school staff.

Our sincere gratitude to **Sisler-McFawn Foundation** for their continued support of ASPP. Their grant will support universal suicide prevention services to area students through Signs of Suicide and Sources of Strength, school staff QPR trainings, and community QPR trainings. In addition, these funds will help to enable on-going staff participation in county and state initiatives to reduce youth and adult suicide.

We are forever grateful for the \$10,000 gift from the **Elizabeth A. Dalton Irrevocable**

Trust. This major gift will bring hope, guidance, and stability to those who need it most in our community.

Our sincere thanks to **Christ Child Society of Akron** for their quarterly donation of Layette bags containing baby supplies for moms participating in our Moms and Babies First program. Our moms receive these layettes at 32 weeks of gestation.

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



Announcing Our New Teen LGBTQ+ Support Group

We proud to announce our upcoming Teen LGBTQ+ Support Group. Access to affirming and inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+ teens is critical to their mental and emotional wellbeing. In the Trevor Project's National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health 2021, it was reported that 72% of LGBTQ+ youth reported symptoms of clinical anxiety and 62% reported symptoms of depression. Additionally, the survey found that LGBTQ+ youth who identified having access to spaces which affirm their sexual orientation and gender identity report lower rates of suicide attempts.

We are here to help! Please spread the word if you know anyone who may be interested. To register contact Mike Finklestein (330) 376-9494, ext. 222 or fmichael@greenleafctr.org.

Teen LGBTQ+ Support Group


In this group, led by licensed counselors, you will:

- Learn basic coping strategies to deal with life stressors
- Gain knowledge of local and national resources to support LGBTQ+ Individuals
- Have opportunities to discuss the challenges associated with being LGBTQ+ in a safe, supportive, affirming environment
- Connect and engage with other members of the local LGBTQ+ community

Adolescents (13-17) can join us every other Wednesday from 6:00pm until 7:30pm beginning October 5, 2022 through December 14, 2022

For more information, or to schedule a brief intake interview, parents can email Mike Finklestein, LPCC at fmichael@greenleafctr.org.

This program is made possible by funding from the Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation

 **Greenleaf Family Center**

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American Sign Language Classes Are Offered This Fall and Winter - Sign up Today!

Join us for our new **VIRTUAL FORMAT** through Zoom for our **2022-2023 sessions!**

Our American Sign Language (ASL) classes will help you develop expressive and receptive skills by learning language structure, Deaf culture and fingerspelling. ASL classes will be delivered virtually through Zoom. Classes are intended for individuals 12 and older and the cost is \$100. Our Fall session takes place on TUESDAYS, Sept. 27 - November 1, 2022 from 6 pm-7:30 pm. The Winter session takes place on WEDNESDAYS, Jan. 4, 2023- February 8, 2023 from 6 pm-7:30 pm. For more information and to register, [click here](#).



Greenleaf In the Community



Our Director of Prevention and Community Services, April Brewer, attended the Stow Munroe Falls City Schools *Back to School Health & Wellness Expo* on Aug. 27. Students and visitors contributed to our Community Strengths Tree Project and we also shared information about all of our programs available to the community.

Daniel Bennett, our Prevention Manager, joined the Ray Horner Morning show on WAKR to kick off September Suicide Prevention Month. Check out his interview [here](#). Remember to connect and reach out to those around you. Talking saves lives. Call 988 to reach a crisis counselor 24/7.



We also participated in the Akron Pride Festival and Parade on Aug. 27. We proudly support our LGBTQ+ community through counseling, education and support.



Community Strengths Tree Project

Our Prevention Department has been out in the community this summer working on a special project—A Community Strengths Tree. They have been visiting events all over the County talking with children, youth, and adults about the strengths in their lives that help them be resilient when facing challenges.

Participants have been encouraged to write/draw their strengths on leaves that have been added to our Community Strengths Tree, which now represents the strength of our Summit County community. The Tree will be displayed this fall in one or more public locations to be announced soon. What helps keep you strong?



Substance Use Prevention Education Resource Program (SUPER)

SUPER program is an indicated, substance use prevention program designed to implement early intervention with adults who are showing or engaging in risk behaviors, but do not meet the substance use disorder diagnosis. The goal of this program is to provide education and skills to decrease the likelihood that substance misuse will rise to the level of abuse in the future.

SUPER is a one time, 3-hour course led by prevention facilitators, or those who possess prevention certification as recognized through the Chemical Dependency Board of Ohio. SUPER was created to fill a need in our community and is grant funded by the County of Summit ADM board allowing participants to attend the program at no cost.

For more information about the SUPER program or to inquire about the referral process, please contact Renee Roe at Greenleaf Family Center at 330-376-9494, ext. 237. [Click here](#) to access our flyer.

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**ANNUAL REPORT
2021**

Greenleaf Family Center



**Your Gift Matters - Donate
Today**

Donors like you make it possible for Greenleaf to deliver life changing care. From mental health counseling, deaf interpreting services, support for African American pregnant women, alcohol and drug prevention, to suicide prevention, **YOUR contribution helps us to do everything we can to strengthen individuals and families.**

www.greenleafctr.org

Stay connected with us.



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