

July 2021

A Fond Farewell and Thank You to Don Pavlik

Dawn Glenny, CEO

Today is a most melancholy day for me, and as I sit down to write this article, I think I am still in denial – which is why I have put it off as long as possible. Being an Executive Director of a non-profit agency is a most rewarding and very challenging role. I can't imagine doing this without the expertise, advice, and support of the Board.

Today I say good-bye to the only board member on Greenleaf's board that has served this agency longer than I have been here. Don Pavlik, Senior Vice President at PNC Bank has served Greenleaf since 2012 and done so admirably. Don has served both as the Board Treasurer (two times), Board President, and Board Vice President. Interestingly, Don served as the Board President relatively early in his Board service and then jumped right back into a Treasurer's role after serving as the Board President.

Greenleaf has been through some trying times at the agency since I have been here, and we have had to make some difficult decisions. We have weathered the loss of significant funding over the years, survived terminating a defined pension plan which required refinancing the agency debt, come through a cyberattack which not only encrypted our files, but also our back up files, and of course found our way through COVID.

Don's expertise as a banker, his ability to keep the best interests of the agency in the forefront of his mind, and his other significant community involvement have been key to the success of this agency. To say he will be sorely missed does not even begin to capture the high regard I hold him in. Several weeks ago, when he and I had lunch

FUNd to Win OSU Tailgate Event Save the Date: Oct. 2



Join us for a fun filled football tailgate party on Oct. 2 and become a champion for individuals and families in our community that are strengthened by our programs and services. The OSU vs Rutgers tailgate party will take place at the **Thirsty Dog Brewing Company TapHouse** on Grant Street in Akron.

To purchase tickets, become a sponsor and learn more, [click here](#).

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together, he said “keep in touch”. I told him to be careful what he asks for because I have no intention of letting him slip away without seeking his wise counsel and advice in the future.

In addition to the Board at Greenleaf, Don has served on as many as 10 community boards at the same time in the past and been an officeholder on many. He takes each of these commitments as seriously as the commitment he made to serve on the Board at Greenleaf.

A very special thanks to his wonderful wife, Jodi, and his two daughters as well, since service to the community often means attending a lot of fundraisers, and not being home as much as they might like.

Thank you, Don. I can't thank you enough for the way you care about this community and for your board service. You are one of a kind.

Dawn

Our CEO Update

As I sit down to write this update, grateful comes to mind! I am so grateful for the staff of this wonderful agency – we came through COVID stronger than ever and that's due to the commitment of this wonderful team to serve our community, no matter what!

I would also be remiss not to mention the Board of Directors here. Our Board has been a rock and unwavering sounding board through COVID. Every Executive Director's dream is to have a Board that's supportive and provides their expertise in circumstances such as these.

The staff at Greenleaf has also managed to be reaccredited and start up three new programs through COVID and expand an existing program into a neighboring County. More to come on these new programs in our next newsletter!

Please save the date for our one and only fundraiser this year, October 2, 2021 at the TapHouse on Grant Street. We will gather in a COVID safe place to celebrate yet another Ohio State Football victory that day. Tickets can be purchased through the link above.



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Our Appreciation



We are grateful to the following foundations who have supported our important programming through their generous grants.

This organization is supported by a grant from **The Hudson Community Foundation**. We appreciate their \$4,000 grant for our Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program (ASPP) at Hudson Middle and High school and Seton Catholic School during the 2021/2022 school year.

Our thanks to **Peg's Foundation** for their \$5,000 grant to support ASPP in Summit and Portage counties during the 2021/2022 school year.

During unprecedented times, we appreciate our partners in the community who support the valuable work we do to strengthen families.

As always, thank you for caring about Greenleaf Family Center!

Dawn



Greenleaf's New Program! The Substance Use Prevention Education Resource (SUPER)

We all know that not everyone who has a negative consequence of drug or alcohol use, such as a DUI, has an actual, diagnosable substance abuse disorder. Greenleaf will soon have a new program to help prevent those who may be experiencing some negative consequences of substance misuse from developing a substance abuse disorder. The program is funded by the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board (ADM).

The Substance Use Prevention Education Resource (SUPER) will be a three-hour prevention education program designed to provide education and skills to participants that will reduce their risk and increase their overall wellness. Sessions will include information regarding the impacts of drugs and alcohol, personal values, the eight dimensions of wellness, low risk drinking guidelines, and community resources.

Most referrals are expected to come from community courts and treatment providers. Participants must have a current AOD Assessment which indicates this level of intervention to be appropriate (ASAM.5).

The first session will take place on Tuesday, July 27 from 5:00-8:00 pm. Eight additional sessions will be offered from September through June 2022.

For more information, please contact Renee Roe at 330-376-9494 Ext. 237 or renee@greenleafctr.org.



The College of Wooster Thanks Our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program

Hi Sam and Tye!

We just wanted to thank you both on behalf of all of The College of Wooster participants for leading such amazing ASL classes. Your enthusiasm at 7:00 at

night was so impressive and we all had a lot of fun. We learned so much in your class in such a short amount of time. We really appreciate all the work you put into these classes to connect them to our interests and the time you took to get to know us all. I hope you have a great summer and we will definitely be in touch to have these classes again next year!

Thank you again!

Rachel Semel

Communication Sciences and Disorders '22

NSSLHA, Vice-President

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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.



Virtual American Sign Language Classes Begin in September

Our American Sign Language (ASL) classes are now offered in a new **VIRTUAL FORMAT!** Join us through Zoom for our sessions beginning in the Fall and 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](#).



Mark Your Calendars!

Night at the Races is Feb. 19, 2022

COVID-19 impacted all our lives in ways we could never have imagined and it caused the cancellation of our 2020 event. Mark your calendars for Feb. 19, 2022 and be ready for an even bigger and better fun-filled evening! Continue to watch your email, mail and **website** for updates.



You Can Make a Difference!

Individuals and families are struggling in increased ways like never before.

You can help! 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 moms, alcohol and drug prevention, to suicide prevention, **YOUR contribution helps us to do everything we can to strengthen individuals and families.**

By making a gift today, YOU are investing in your community to provide life changing support. *Please give your most generous contribution of \$25, \$50, \$100 or whatever you can afford.* You can also join our **Circle of Friends** giving program by becoming a recurring monthly donor.

Thank you for your support!

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