



**June 2023**



**FAMILY SUCCESS  
NETWORK**

## **Our New Family Success Network will Launch July 1**

Greenleaf Family Center is excited to announce that on July 1, we are launching a new program called the Family Success Network (FSN), funded by Ohio Children's Trust Fund. This program is designed to strengthen families and provide caregivers with support to achieve their goals. The program staff, known as Family Coaches, will help families navigate systems by connecting them with available services in their community. Every family will have access to a Family Coach that can offer interested families financial assistance, support managing parenting struggles, and creating a personalized family success plan.

Our staff has been working with agencies all throughout Summit County to develop an appropriate implementation into the community. The way we view the Family Success Network is that it **MUST** be community and partnership-based to be the most successful. We also find that the beauty of this program is that it is family-leading, meaning that there are no requirements to the program and every decision is made by the caregivers. Our staff works closely with families in the areas they want support in, and we encourage families to be their best.

Here at Greenleaf, we believe in strengthening families and our core values align with the mission of the Family Success Network. We could not be more excited to launch this program into Summit County and see how the families in our community can thrive when they have everything they need to be successful.

## **Our Appreciation**

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

Our Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program is supported by a grant from **The Hudson Community Foundation**, and we are grateful. This grant will provide programming to Hudson students during the 2023/2024 school year.

We thank **First Energy Foundation** for their generous grant to support recruitment, engagement and retention efforts in our Moms and Babies First program.

Our sincere gratitude to **Peg's Foundation** for their grant to support youth suicide prevention in Portage and Summit counties during the 2023 - 2024 school year.

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



## FUNd to Win OSU Tailgate Fundraiser

Save the Date - Saturday, Oct. 14

Come join the fun at Thirsty Dog Brewing Co. Taphouse and cheer on The Ohio State Buckeyes as they face Purdue on Oct. 14. Watch the game, enjoy delicious food, soft drinks and craft beers and participate in our raffles and football Squares Board for a chance to win at the end of each quarter.

Watch our website and your email for more information.

[Learn More Here](#)



## Greenleaf in the Community

Our Prevention Manager, Daniel Bennett, participated in an educational and compassionate session regarding mental health at the **Rotary Club of Akron's** District Conference on Friday, April 28. Daniel was on a panel with mental health experts from Northeast Ohio to discuss how mental health needs have shifted following the COVID-19 pandemic, the disparate impact being felt by marginalized and vulnerable populations, and the role each of us can play in helping to reduce the stigma associated with seeking help.



Mark Byrd, Advocacy and Support Service Coordinator for our Community Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CSD) program, led two educational sessions for first responders on Deaf culture, basic American Sign Language (ASL) communication and best practices when working with a Deaf victim. We are grateful to the **Akron Fire Department** for hosting us on April 25 and 26 and to the **City of Akron, Ohio - Mayor's Office**, for funding this program through the American Rescue Plan Act, Violence Intervention and Prevention grant.

To learn more about our CSD, [click here](#).



Greenleaf's Moms and Babies First program shared information and resources for expectant and pregnant African American women at the **East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation** Community Outreach Fair on Saturday, May 13. This family friendly event featured other local resources as well including utility and mortgage assistance, affordable housing and employment assistance. Other partners included the Fifth Third empowerment bus, Akron Fire Department, Akron-Summit County Public Library, and METRO Regional Transit authority.

## A Shout Out to Our Moms and Babies First Program

Greenleaf Family Center has multiple programs to support families, moms, and moms-to-be! Kia shared, "You have no idea how happy I was to see all the wonderful supplies you gave me for my son...I am so grateful for all of you."

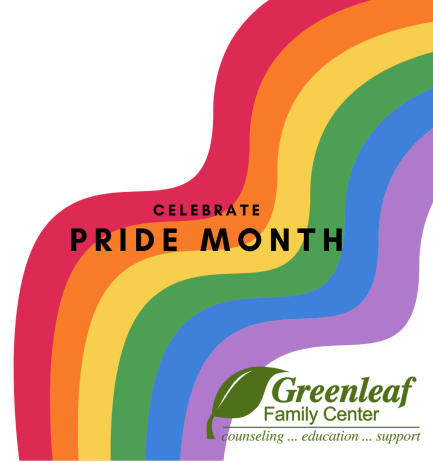
For more information call 330-376-9494 or email [MABF@greenleafctr.org](mailto:MABF@greenleafctr.org) or [click here](#).



## Celebrate Pride Month in June

Join us as we celebrate Pride month during June. Pride month is a time to recognize the diversity of one's identity, culture and expression in the

LGBTQ+ community. We can all come together to learn about the individual experiences of people in the LGBTQ+ community and gain a better understanding of each other and the issues they face.



## June 15 - Community Health Worker Appreciation Day

Community Health Worker Appreciation Day is a day dedicated to the important role of CHWs to improve the health outcomes in low income, underrepresented, and minority communities. They assist women in these communities to help ensure a healthy pregnancy, delivery, and follow-up medical care.



CHWs also share information and resources to help remove obstacles in our community member's health and wellness. And they work to improve health care quality. We are grateful for our CHWs in our Moms and Babies First program and the impact they make in our community!

## Greenleaf's Adult LGBTQ+ Support Group Meets Every Wednesday

Are you or someone you know looking for a safe, supportive and affirming environment to discuss the challenges associated with being LGBTQ+? We realize that while much has changed, discrimination, stigma and bias still exist. This can lead to mental health challenges in the LGBTQ+ community.

We are here to help! Below is information on our adult support group that meets every Wednesday. **You can join at any time.** If you are interested, please email Heather Finklestein, LPCC-S at [fhather@greenleafctr.org](mailto:fhather@greenleafctr.org) or call our office at (330) 376-9494.

# Adult LGBTQ+ Support Group

(For adults aged 18 and up)

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

Join us every Wednesday from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm beginning March 29, 2023.

This group is ongoing, and members can join at any time.

For more information and to schedule a brief intake interview, email Heather Finklestein, LPCC-S at [heather@greenleafctr.org](mailto:heather@greenleafctr.org)

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



580 Grant Street  
Akron, OH 44311  
P: 330-376-9494  
F: 330-376-4525



## 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 and families with young children, alcohol and drug prevention, to suicide prevention, **YOUR contribution helps us to do everything we can to strengthen individuals and families.**

[www.greenleafctr.org](http://www.greenleafctr.org)

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