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Alliance Works to Identify State's Needs

The Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence is working to bring together all disciplines working to serve survivors statewide. To that effect, the Ohio Alliance brought together providers across disciplines for two roundtables.

Both the first, "Developmental Disabilities and Sexual Violence," and the second, "Child Sexual Abuse," brought together a wide variety of stakeholders, including representatives of non-profits, medical services, and legal professionals.

The groups discussed challenges and barriers to these populations and to service providers for these populations. They also spoke about successful models for working to serve survivors in these populations, and current practices in Ohio that are work-

ing.

Though many of the issues facing children and the community of people with developmental disabilities are very different, during the roundtables it was clear that barriers and challenges to service providers can be similar across populations.



Many spoke of alienation, and difficulty working together across disciplines. It can be especially difficult when each discipline has different definitions of the populations they serve and of sexual violence within these populations.

Survivors frequently tell their stories many times to many different agencies, leading to re-traumatization. However, bringing all agencies into one room can bring up legal questions around court testimony and can cause a survivor to feel intimidated or overwhelmed.

It is clear that there is room in Ohio for us to work together to improve cross-disciplinary communication and cooperation.

The Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence will be examining the findings from these roundtables and shaping future policy, education, prevention and other work around the issues of Child Sexual Abuse, and Developmental Disabilities and Sexual Violence.

ODVN: Generous Stewards of Sexual Violence Work

The Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence would like to thank the Ohio Domestic Network for all of its work in the field of Sexual Violence. While Ohio went without a statewide sexual violence coalition, ODVN willingly engaged in continued work statewide to end sexual violence,

hosting conferences, partnering with local organizations, and hosting staff positions dedicated to this important field.

ODVN has been incredibly helpful to the Ohio Alliance as we build capacity and strength as a coalition. We appreciate so much ODVN's willingness to

partner with the Ohio Alliance as we work to grow our network of service providers, government agencies, organizations and individuals across Ohio dedicated to ending sexual violence.

Thank you, ODVN for your past and continued support of our work.



Membership Drive

As the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence continues to grow, we look forward to welcoming new organizations and individuals. We've been working to build the resources and benefits available to membership, and are excited to share with you ways we can serve you.

Our website, www.oaesv.org, continues to expand, and when visiting you'll see current information on the work we're doing, a job board where members can post available positions, updates on relevant policies and legislation, a statewide events calendar, and so much more. In Sep-

tember we'll be launching our comprehensive statewide resource database for survivors, co-survivors and anyone serving survivors and co-survivors statewide.

Additionally, through e-mail, we send lots of up to the minute information. Our staff works hard to stay up-to-date on media coverage of sexual violence, events statewide, the work and successes of our members, policy, and action alerts.

You may not be aware that members of the Ohio Alliance also have access to a resource lending library, trainings and information,

and scholarship money for attending trainings as well.

Take the convenient step of joining us directly through our website at www.oaesv.org/join.html, or print out a membership form from there and send it in.

"Most recently, CRCC Megan O'Bryan was appointed to a special task force to investigate how the police handle cases of sexual assault and missing persons."

House Bill 391

House Bill 391 is legislation that would allow an address confidentiality program to be established in Ohio, adding it to the 37 states that already have similar programs in place to allow individuals who fear for their safety to have their address shielded from public records.

Currently House Bill 391 is pending before the Senate's State and Local Government and Veteran Affairs Committee. Although the house is currently in summer recess, there's still a lot of work that can be done.

The Chairman of the committee, state Senator Jim Hughes can be reached at:

Senator Jim Hughes (R)
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, Ground floor

Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 466-5981
E-mail: SD16@senate.state.oh.us

You can contact Senator Hughes and request that he make passing House Bill 391 a priority upon return to the legislature in the fall. Call, e-mail, write a letter, or request a face-to-face meeting if you are in the Columbus area.

A statement from an Anonymous Ohio Survivor said this:

Passing House Bill 391 would throw a roadblock in the way of an abuser trying to find and harm his victim. Because it is the most dangerous for a person after they leave an abusive relationship, it is so important to find ways to be safe, and shielding addresses from public record is a simple way we can help. When leaving abusive relationships, there are so many things to worry about: finances, work, housing, children: it is a difficult maze to

maneuver. To know that a new address can be kept out of public records and away from the abuse is one thing off a victim's plate. Please urge your local lawmakers to make this a priority, to put survivors' safety first."

You can also visit the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence's website to locate and contact your local State Senator and let them know you want to see House bill 391 move forward when the legislature is back in session. Simply visit <http://www.oaesv.org/policy.html>.



Justice League of Ohio

From Justice Leagues of Ohio's E-mail Update, 7-19-2010: Sometimes it's difficult for many of us to maintain a sense of courage and faith in our every day lives; courage to live life without fear of failure, courage to fight for what we believe in, faith in the overall goodness of humanity, and the faith to believe that anything is possible.

It can be more difficult for those whose lives have been scarred by violence. It is even more difficult to maintain courage and faith when individuals in the very system designed to protect deny those victimized by crime fair and equal access to justice. Often the denial of crime victims' rights is due to a lack of knowledge of specific crime victims' rights laws, other times it's a clear choice to ignore them.

The Justice League exists to help those scarred by violence maintain

courage and faith and obtain equal access to justice by protecting their legal rights throughout the criminal justice process. In addition the goal of The Justice League is to educate and provide technical assistance to criminal justice officials and the community about crime victims rights laws and work cooperatively to ensure that crime victims rights laws are consistently applied throughout the state of Ohio.

Today we celebrate a young girl and her family who summoned the courage and faith to never give up their pursuit for justice.

After enduring nine years of sexual and physical violence as a child, this young girl and her family were forced to endure nearly three more years of abuse because her right to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect was violated by a justice official. As a result she

was initially denied equal access to justice.

The Justice League has assisted the family since the summer of 2009. It has been a long difficult journey but because of the family's strength, courage, and faith the following officials took notice and action:

On July 12, 2010 Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray's special prosecutors, Emily Pelphrey and Mindy Kowalski, secured an indictment of 6 counts of rape, 3 counts of gross sexual imposition, and 1 count of intimidation of a witness against George Butler.

On July 13, 2010 the Knox County Sheriff's Office responded quickly and arrested George Butler shortly after the warrant for arrest was issued.

On July 14, 2010 George Butler was arraigned and Knox County Common Pleas Judge Otho Eyster

set a \$250,000 cash surety bond. This bond appropriately acknowledges the serious nature of the crimes, potential flight risk, and serious concern for the victim's safety.

This young girl and her family now have a renewed sense of faith in the criminal justice system thanks to these officials, and Knox County Victim Advocate Dianna Oswalt, and the assistance of The Justice League.

“Today we celebrate a young girl and her family who summoned the courage and faith to never give up their pursuit for justice.”

Job Opening at Women Helping Women

Education and Outreach Supervisor

Women Helping Women, a non-shelter crisis intervention agency, is seeking a full time professional to join its leadership team to manage and deliver education services and coordinate the agency's volunteer program. BA/BS and 3 years experience in the field of sexual assault/domestic violence required, including 1 to 2 years of direct service delivery to survivors and 1 to 2 years of supervising direct service delivery.

Demonstrated ability in: management and administration; all aspects

of community education including the ability to design, deliver and evaluate training/education; and computer literacy (MS Office, databases, email) are required. This position also requires flexible hours (some evening/weekend), access to reliable transportation and on-call responsibilities.

Demonstrated ability in: grant writing/reporting, relationship & coalition building, systems advocacy and media relations preferred.

Salary range: \$27,600 to \$41,400.

Resumes to info@womenhelpingwomen.org or Director, 215 E. 9th Street, 7th Floor, Cincinnati OH 45202. No phone calls. Persons of diverse populations are encouraged to apply. EOE



**Ohio Alliance to End
Sexual Violence**

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Officially established in April of 2009, the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence is a coalition of sexual assault and domestic violence organizations throughout Ohio working to eliminate all forms of sexual violence. OAESV provides support, advocacy, policy information and funding to organizations working to advocate for the rights and needs of survivors and co-survivors of sexual violence.

**To become a member please e-mail
membership@oaesv.org.**

**For more information please e-mail
info@oaesv.org.**

