

July 2020

ODVN Pushes for Changes to VOCA Program During NNEDV's Virtual Advocacy Day

ODVN staff and board members advocated for critically important changes to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) program last month during the National Network to End Domestic Violence's first-ever virtual Advocacy Day. ODVN Board President Bridget Mahoney, Secretary Donya Buchanan, and staffers Micaela Deming and Mary O'Doherty met virtually with three members and staff for 11 members of the Ohio delegation.



Top Row: Mary O'Doherty (ODVN Executive Director) and Jo Simonsen (Linking Systems Project Manager), **Middle Row:** Donya Buchanan (ODVN Board of Directors Secretary) and Micaela Deming (ODVN Policy Director and Staff Attorney), **Bottom Row:** Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge and Bridget Mahoney (ODVN Board of Directors Chair)

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Paula Roller Leaves Legacy of Greater Collaboration, Increased Awareness and New Shelter in Delaware



Paula Roller, Executive Director at Turning Point, will be retiring August 30, 2020.

Paula Roller is no stranger to passion or perseverance. For the past 26 years, she has been the Executive Director of the Marion-based domestic violence program, Turning Point, which serves six counties in Ohio, the largest territory served by a single domestic violence program in the state. Paula will retire on August 30, 2020, and she will be sorely missed. A timeline of her efforts is marked by increased local awareness around domestic violence, greater collaboration between the program, community resources and law enforcement, an additional shelter, and growth from a budget of about \$400,000 to a budget of \$1.5 million.

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Work on Intersection of DV and Brain Injury Featured in GAO Report



ODVN's groundbreaking work on the intersection of brain injury and domestic violence was prominently featured in a newly released Government Accountability Office (GAO) report about the prevalence of brain injuries in victims of domestic violence. The GAO is a non-partisan agency that reports to Congress and often provides information at the request of congressional committees.

The report, released on June 12, recommended that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services improve data collection on brain injuries from intimate partner violence. "With better data comes a better understanding of the overall prevalence of brain injuries resulting from intimate partner violence," the report said. "This, in turn, could help ensure that federal resources are allocated to the appropriate areas and used as efficiently and effectively as possible to address this public health issue."

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Thank you Honda of America Foundation



The Honda of America Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to ODVN to support relocation assistance for survivors in 10 Ohio counties where they do business. "This grant helps survivors and their children move to safety by supporting rental deposits, utility bills and moving costs," said Shelley Marsh, ODVN's Director of Training and Program Support. Honda of America Foundation's Executive Director, Bobbie Trittschuh, added, "The Honda of America Foundation is proud to address the issue of domestic violence and support safe shelter for survivors and their children."

Thank you Allstate Foundation

The Allstate Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to ODVN. The grant will provide advocate training on the important "Moving Ahead" curriculum that helps domestic violence advocates accurately identify financial abuse and support survivors with economic empowerment strategies and tools. Thank you, Allstate, for your commitment to survivors in Ohio!



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