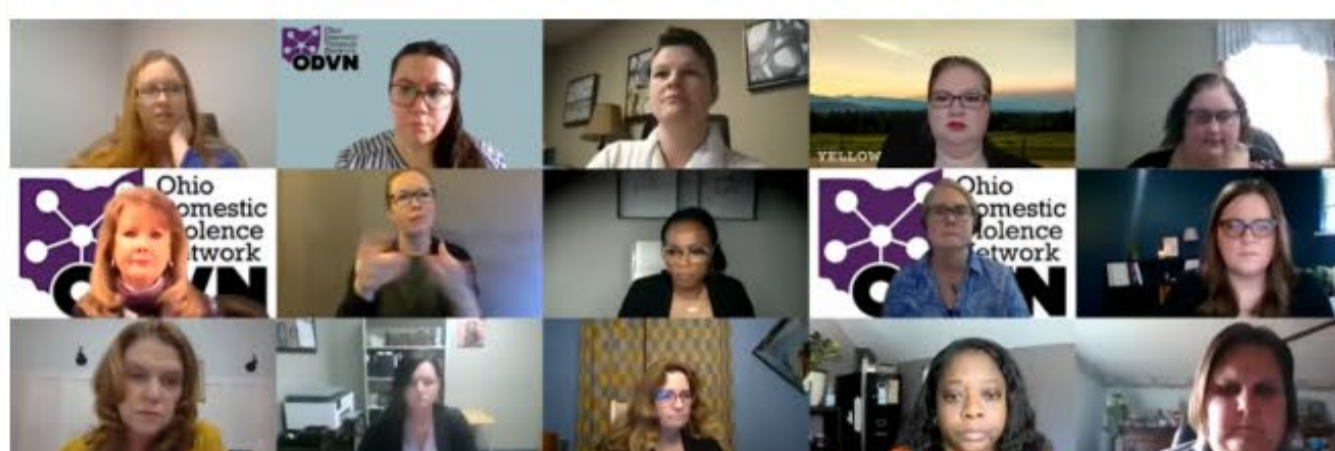


April 2021

House Budget includes \$2.1 Million to Support Services for Domestic Violence Survivors



Participants at Advocacy Day pushed for increased funding for services at ODVN member programs.

The House budget released Tuesday includes \$2.1 million in annual funding for domestic violence services, an increase of \$1.1 million. ODVN requested \$5 million.

Advocates for survivors cheered the additional support for domestic violence services but said they will continue to push elected officials to fund domestic violence services appropriately when the Senate takes up the budget in the coming weeks.

"We have more work to do," said Kristin Shrimplin, President and CEO of Women Helping Women in Cincinnati. "\$2.1 million is welcomed, but doesn't fit the need. Ohio can do more!"

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ODVN Launches 2 New Housing Programs

ODVN launched two programs this year that help survivors find permanent housing safely and quickly.

The Fresh Start Housing Project provides housing assistance grants to 29 programs in communities outside Ohio's urban areas. The grants pay for housing advocates who are linking survivors to the housing assistance available through the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan. ODVN greatly appreciates the support and assistance of the Ohio Department Services Agency (ODSA) which is providing the funding.

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Nancy Grigsby Announces Her Retirement

After 41 years of working in the movement to end domestic violence, Nancy Grigsby, ODVN's Legal Assistance Program Director, announced her plans to retire in the fall.

"The first day I stepped into a battered women's shelter, my life began a path that transformed my understanding of the world and myself. I cannot imagine a better career to have undertaken. Survivors and their children have been such amazing teachers. Getting to work with other advocates has been the second-best gift of this work. I am sad, excited, and also not ready to totally let go of this important work. I'm also looking forward to my next chapter and taking some time for myself."



Nancy Grigsby founded ODVN's legal assistance program in 2010.

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Thank You to These Donors: The Longaberger Family Foundation and HealthPath Foundation



Thank you to the HealthPath Foundation for a Community Connections grant for \$8,000. The grant will fund Living Well trainings for frontline advocates who serve domestic violence survivors. The trainings will provide self-care skills advocates can use themselves and teach to survivors and their children.

Thank you to the Longaberger Family Foundation for a \$15,000 grant to support ODVN's Legal Assistance Program.

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