ODVN Launches Substance Use and Mental Health Project with Support from HealthPath Foundation and the American Rescue Plan

Cheryl Stahl joins ODVN as the Substance Use and Mental Health Program Director.

For years ODVN program directors have asked for more training and support for their advocates who feel unprepared to work with survivors who struggle with substance use and mental health issues. Thanks to funding from the HealthPath Foundation and the American Rescue Plan, ODVN launched a new substance use/mental health initiative in the spring.

The three-year project will be led by Cheryl Stahl, a licensed professional clinical counselor, who has worked in both outpatient and residential drug and alcohol treatment programs for the last 17 years.

Survey: Inadequate pay plagued Ohio’s victim service workers

A new report sheds light on how poorly workers in the anti-violence movement are compensated for their vital work with some of Ohio’s most vulnerable crime victims.

The Domestic Violence Compensation Questionnaire Report was a collaborative effort among ODVN, the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence, the Ohio Network of Child Advocacy Centers, and the Ohio Victim Witness Association.

The report, based on surveys of 456 hourly and salaried staffers from victim service organizations across Ohio, was organized by ODVN Prevention Team members Rebecca Cline and Dr. Sandie Ortega.

ODVN Announces New Hire and Staff Changes

Taylor Smithby is the new Administrative Coordinator. She coordinates ODVN’s listed program which includes assisting advocates and programs with applications, processing payments, and building community partnerships with programs and hotels. In addition, she assists with the distribution of Communication Program such as processing payments for vendors within the program.

ODVN is aligning its policy and systems work and is revising staffing to reflect the new coordinated focus. Moris York (left) is now serving in the Policy Director role, where she will monitor and develop legislative proposals and represent ODVN in national and state domestic and sexual violence efforts; Lisa DeJeter, Esq., (right) is the Director of Systems Advocacy and Policy Counsel.

Thank You to our Funders!

The Cardinal Health Foundation honored Human Resources Executive Brian Wirth for his nine years of service as a member of ODVN’s Board of Director. ODVN received a $5,500 Essential to Community Leadership Grant in recognition of Brian’s volunteerism.

The Longaberger Family Foundation gave ODVN a $5,000 general operating support grant to support its advocacy work. This is the second grant ODVN has received from the foundation. ODVN greatly appreciates the continued support of our work.

Thanks to the Allstate Foundation for a $10,000 grant from the Moving Ahead Grant Program. ODVN will use the funding to train more than 250 advocates from domestic violence programs to support survivors with financial education, job readiness, and economic empowerment. The Allstate Foundation has been an ODVN partner for more than a decade.

Save the Date

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Press Conference & Advocacy Day

Wednesday, December 12th at 10 a.m.

Ohio Statehouse Atrium

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Ohio Domestic Violence Network