Advocates Celebrate Big Win for Survivors: Gov. DeWine's Budget Includes $200M for DV Services

ODVN and its member programs are extremely grateful to Gov. Mike DeWine and Attorney General Dave Yost for prioritizing domestic violence and sexual assault services in their proposed budgets.

New advances in Ohio's criminal justice system agree to keep funding the budget. More than 80% of Ohio's ODVN and its member programs will get farther in the fight against domestic violence thanks to the proposed $200 million investment in the current and next biennium. These investments will keep survivors safe and increase services for survivors and families in Ohio since 2013 when most of their VOCA grants were cut by 90% or more.

Read Full Article

Advocacy Day Press Conference Will Be Live Streamed

ODVN's Advocacy Day press conference will be live streamed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 22. Register here to watch the Advocacy Day speakers virtually.

New Housing Program Accepting Applications

$1.87 Million Available to Help Rural Homeless Survivors

ODVN is a new housing program, RACHA II, accepting applications from Ohio’s 88 counties to help homeless survivors in their communities. The HUD RANCH Rural Housing grant will provide funds for at least 6,500 units of rental assistance and 1,000 homes for purchase over five years. The grant supports housing advocates at 36 ODVN member programs who are responsible for providing supportive services, helping survivors find apartments, securing landlords, and improving the ones and in the area to help meet HUD guidelines.

The $1.87 million was transferred to ODVN from the Hope and Housing and Survivors Resource Center in Akron. Participants are not required to have a housing advocate from one of our member programs to be considered for more information about RACHA II. Questions can be submitted to info@odvn.org.

ODVN Announces New Hires and AmeriCorps Members

Housing Program

Yalena Sanders is the Housing Liaison Manager for the RACHA II Program, providing housing services and engineering management for survivors in need. She works closely with the RANCH Compliance Coordinator, demonstrating implementation and works closely with ODVN Housing and Compliance Coordinators.

Ansley Hargett is the Housing Liaison Manager and works closely with Yalena Sanders with the RACHA II Program. She also works to ensure compliance with policies and procedures, data collection, and tracking visits.

Kendall Birdsall is the Case Management Specialist for the RACHA II Program, providing housing services and engineering management for survivors in need. She works closely with the RANCH Compliance Coordinator.

Other New Hires

Adrain Cherry is the Administrative and Program Coordinator for the GBVAP and ODVN’s HOT Program. As the first point of contact for organizations serving the GBVAP, Adrian regularly responds to questions from grantees and partner programs in tracking those efforts.

Eric Gagnon is ODVN’s new Communications Coordinator in its Advancement team, VWSA, is a four-year double major in public affairs and science and psychology at The Ohio State University.

Thank You to Our Funders!

Thank you to Columbus Gas and Ohio and the NiSource Charitable Foundation for their continued support of ODVN’s Domestic Violence Assistance Program. The program provides life-saving assistance for domestic violence survivors in Ohio by providing emergency donations for rent, utilities, groceries, medications, and other critical needs.

Finally, ODVN thanks the State Family Fund for its generous $10,000 grant that supports the Nonviolent Assistance programming in central Ohio.