



Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Ohio's Prevent Child Abuse America Chapter

Preventing Human Trafficking in Ohio:

A grant partnership supported by the Ohio Children's Trust Fund and the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force

In February 2015, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) awarded \$90,000 in the form of eight mini-grants to organizations across Ohio to fund human trafficking prevention programs to meet the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force Recommendation that called for **the provision of youth prevention services to the at-risk youth population**. The OCTF funded local agencies to identify and assist at-risk youth populations, train adults who have contact with at-risk youth, and target the larger community in which at-risk youth live.

Four key strategies were utilized to stop human trafficking before it starts:

2015 Grantees

Bellefaire JCB

University of Toledo

Crime Victim Services

Gallia and Lawrence Family & Children First Council

Youth Empowerment Program

Ottawa County Job & Family Services

Sisters in Shelter

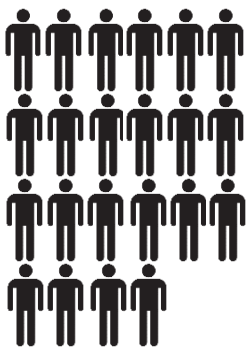
Children's Advocacy Center of Guernsey County



Strategies

1. Train adults who have contact with youth and are responsible for their safety and well-being
2. Educate youth on recruitment tactics and decrease vulnerabilities by increasing self-esteem and social support
3. Increase the awareness of the larger community in which at-risk youth live
4. Engage survivors

Between February and June 2015, the grantees made significant strides in addressing human trafficking prevention in Ohio:



22

Potential victims were referred for services



413,115

Individuals were reached through outreach and awareness efforts

1,652 youths
& **1,041** adults

Received human trafficking training





Grantee Highlight: Ottawa County Department of Job & Family Services' See Something Say Something

Through a partnership with the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition and Ottawa County Sheriff's Office, the Ottawa County DJFS developed and widely disseminated a local reporting protocol on suspected human trafficking using the slogan, "See Something, Say Something." By utilizing this protocol and training staff that have contact with at-risk youth and families, nine potential victims of human trafficking were referred for services.

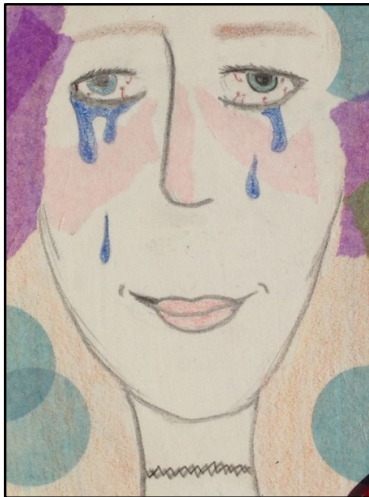
Grantee Highlight: Crime Victim Services of Northwest Ohio's Peer Mentorship Program



Crime Victim Services of Northwest Ohio trained peer mentors to provide education on human trafficking, including tips for prevention methods in three schools: Bluffton High School, Lima High School and Lima Middle School. The youth received t-shirts (pictured on the left) and white ribbons to help bring awareness to their schools.

Bluffton High School students also created posters addressing institutional-level risks surrounding human trafficking and presented them to the rest of the student body during their lunch hour.

Grantee Highlight: Ohio Youth Empowerment Program



These self-portraits created by youth are reflections of their strengths and vulnerabilities, helping to foster the self-awareness necessary to prevent future victimization. Through Power to Impact Global Foundation's Youth Empowerment Program, educators and survivors of human trafficking guided youth and young adults ages 12-24 in discussing the definition and scope of human trafficking, safe methods for identifying and reporting suspected incidences, and prevention strategies for individuals and communities. Through art, central Ohio youth shared their dreams, goals and hopes for healthy, safe and promising futures. The artwork and reflections were created by youth from The Dowd Center, Focus Learning Academy, the Star House at The Ohio State University and St. Francis DeSales High School. Many of these youth face daily challenges of homelessness or transitional living conditions. With greater confidence, awareness and direction, and by using the power of art, they have reduced the likelihood that they will fall victim to human trafficking.