

# violence free messenger

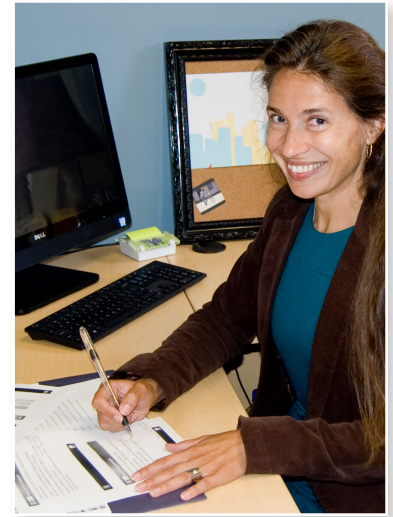
*From the Director*

## Dear Friends,

**A**s we embrace fall, please take time to commit to some self-care. In our September staff meeting we took a moment to reflect and recommit to ideas and actions of self-care. Each staff member was given a journal, with their name and meaning scrolled inside. As a culture we have gotten away from name meanings but we took time to embrace the positive meanings of our names. The journal is meant to allow staff to capture creative ideas, challenges and solutions, etc....

**D**uring the latter part of summer FVPC had the opportunity to add several new staff members to our strong team of advocates supporting domestic and sexual violence survivors. Please checkout the new staff introductions on page four. All our new staff members are excited to join the team. Please look inside to see photos and read about each new advocate who has joined our team.

**October** is domestic violence awareness month. Throughout the month FVPC has participated in multiple events throughout the community. This year we have enjoyed opportunities to visit college campuses to speak in classes for different disciplines or places of employment; and we love to come and share with others about our services to the community. If you are interested in a staff member from FVPC coming to speak to a civic or religious group, we are happy to come and do that. To schedule a speaking engagement contact Harmony, Community Relations Coordinator at [harmony.thoma@violencefreefutures.org](mailto:harmony.thoma@violencefreefutures.org) or 376.8526 ext 112. Please call so we can connect.



**Power of the Purse -Financial Abuse is Real:** Financial abuse is self-identified by victims 99% of the time when they share what they are experiencing from the abusive partner. This indicates a main resource needed to generate a change. When individuals who have not experienced domestic violence ask, "Why doesn't the victim just leave?" this question is coming from a station of privilege, where a person has not been victimized. Seventy-eight percent of Americans polled about financial abuse did not recognize financial abuse as a form of domestic abuse. (Adrian Adams, CFS, Research Brief 2011.) Financial abuse can take the following forms: abusive partner prohibits victim from working, calls and comes to the victim's place of employment to be disruptive, gives victim an allowance, keeps the finances away from the victim, puts utilities in the victim's name with slow or no payment, obtains credit cards or loans in the victim's name with slow or no payment. Thinking of the financial trap described here, imagine the difficulty and why victims cannot "just leave."

**Call to Action:** In the April of 2019 the US House of Representatives passed the updated version of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in house bill HR 1518. Now the Senate needs to move to vote for the Reauthorization of VAWA. This act has long enjoyed bipartisan support. In a time where finding common ground for the support of the most vulnerable in our society would be unifying, please consider reaching out to share your support for VAWA Reauthroization with Rob Portman's and Sherrod Brown's offices. Senator Sherrod Brown: Washington, DC: (202) 224-2315, Ohio Toll-Free: 1-888-896-OHIO (6446) or [www.brown.senate.gov/contact](http://www.brown.senate.gov/contact). Senator Rob Portman: Washington, DC: (202)224-3353, Ohio Toll-Free: 1-800-205-OHIO (6446), or [www.portman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-form](http://www.portman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-form).



## Help FVPC While You Shop for Groceries at Kroger

- **Register** your Kroger card online at [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)
- **Follow** the directions online to select FVPC-our number is **KA-150**
- **Swipe** your registered Kroger Plus card when you shop

Now, each purchase you make with your card generates support for the work of FVPC. Since November, **FVPC has earned \$563.76** from the grocery shopping of 54 households. **Thank you for your support!**



## 2019 FVPC Board of Trustees

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Carol Graff  
Diane Phillips*

# when wishes come true

Giving generously is something our donors really take seriously. They are committed to helping the FVPC mission in everything they do. When Carol Graff decided to part with her husband's car, she decided that the car would be best served as a donation to us.

A reliable vehicle could be the lifeline a survivor of domestic violence needs to transition into stable living situation.

Funds from the sale of a vehicle could also be used to help with everyday expenses for our shelter.

Thank you, Carol, for your generosity and support!



*Executive Director Debbie Matheson receiving the keys to a car donated by Carol Graff. The car belonged to her husband, Lee.*

## Mission Moment

A woman came to us awhile back with the hopes of escaping her abuser. She had to ask a friend to give her a ride to the shelter, because she did not own a car. The woman lived at the shelter and sought counseling, slowly gaining confidence. She wanted a job, but didn't have access to transportation. Through a private donation, FVPC was able to provide her with a car for work! This one thing so many of us take for granted, helped her build a violence-free and independent future. These kinds of donations directly impact our guests' ability to pursue goals of financial independence. Having a car completely changed the opportunities that were available to this woman. We were so thankful to have been a part of her journey to a healthier life.

*Counseling is available at no cost to adults, teens and children at FVPC. Just call our support line to get your counseling started. 372-4552 or 426-2334.*

## donation spotlight

Twice a month, the Xenia Domino's Pizza donates all of the pizzas for our Friday night dinners in the safe house. For over a decade, this ongoing donation has been a delightful treat for our guests.

Thank you, Domino's Pizza!



17 N Allison Ave, Xenia.  
(937) 372-9282  
[www.dominos.com](http://www.dominos.com)



846 U.S. Route 68 South  
Xenia, Ohio 45385  
(937)999-6363  
[www.deanslandscaping.net](http://www.deanslandscaping.net)

Dean's Landscaping does an amazing job keeping our grounds a welcoming place for children to play, and families to have moments of quiet time. We want to thank them for their hard work!

# purple purse challenge in full swing

**FVPC** participated in the Allstate Purple Purse Challenge again this year to promote awareness concerning financial abuse. This abuse causes major obstacles for a victim who is trying to leave their abuser. Purple Purse Challenge is meant to show us how important financial stability is to a victim's successful transition out of an abusive relationship.

Financial Abuse is Real...

When most people think of domestic violence they think of verbal and physical abuse, but research shows that financial abuse is just as common in unhealthy relationships as any other types of abuse. As we shared, 99% of domestic violence victims disclose that financial abuse and control was present in their relationships. This staggering statistic explains why it is hard for victims to "just leave".



This year at FVPC, we had a great example of a victim's success. She arrived at our safe house defeated with little to no ownership of anything due to years of financial abuse and domestic violence. Through our programming such as life skills, process group, and case management, this client was able to get a job, secure permanent housing and gain her independence back. She moved into her own house with visible confidence! October is recognized as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Throughout the month of October, we hosted an online fundraiser, *Power of the Purse*, which is a campaign intended to raise necessary funds for the mission of FVPC and to understand the realities of victims' experiences. We also wrapped up our month-long focus with the *Purses and Pastries* luncheon. We are so grateful to all who attended. Every dollar donated online for this event was *matched* by HealthPath Foundation. With your help, we made our matching goal of \$5,000! This was a great way to double your positive impact for the FVPC mission. We want to thank Allstate and HealthPath during Domestic Violence Awareness Month for giving us the opportunity to maximize our visibility in the Greene County Community so we can continue to help victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.



We have chosen a fundraising platform called Mightycause to help us in our efforts to maximize the benefits of HealthPath's matching grant. If you were unable to attend our Purses and Pastries event that raised a substantial amount of money toward this match, please consider giving to the Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County through Mightycause.com. If you prefer to give my mail, please enclose the form below with your donation. Thank you for being a supporter of the Family Violence Prevention Center.



## Giving Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Yes I want to make a single gift to FVPC today!

\_\_\_ I want to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly.

\_\_\_ I want to become a FVPC Member by giving \$100 or more per year.

\_\_\_ I want to become a Dove Giving Club Member by giving \$500 or more per year.

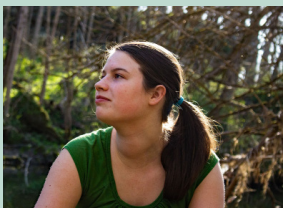
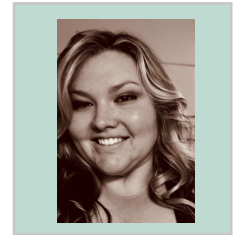
# new faces at fvpc

Please join us in welcoming the new staff that have come on board with FVPC recently. We are excited to have a great group of professionals with diverse skills all ready to bring their talents to furthering our mission. *Welcome to you all!*



"I was exposed to Domestic Violence at a very young age, moved through my life continuing to experience it along with Sexual Violence. As I reached my early thirties it wasn't until I listened to a Forensic Nurse speak about Interpersonal Violence, realized the trauma I had been through wasn't my fault and immediately knew it was my calling to help survivors. It is important for the community to know that Interpersonal Violence is happening within Greene and surrounding counties, and that showing support gives the survivors a voice they may have lost. Family Violence Prevention Center holds a strong background in social services, in multiple aspects and it is that understanding and comradery for helping survivors of Interpersonal Violence that brings us all together and allows me to say I am proud to work for such an amazing organization." -Nicole, Operations Coordinator

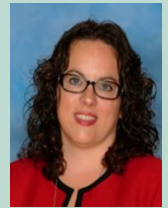
"As a member of the Greene County Community, I am avid in educating my neighbors about the work that happens at the FVPC. My role as Development Coordinator allows me to do just that while raising funds vital to the operation of this outstanding facility. I am excited to be a part of a place that is helping individuals and families recover from trauma and build strong foundations." - Elizabeth, Development Coordinator



"I have always been passionate about helping people to realize that they have intrinsic worth and value that is not dependent on what others have said or done to them. I believe all people are worthy of respect and dignity and that domestic violence and sexual assault are some of the most violent crimes because they strip people of that respect and dignity. My desire is to educate others on the effects of domestic violence and to support survivors through the trauma they are experiencing. Of all the voices my clients have heard telling them lies like they are worthless, unlovable, etc., I want to be a voice that speaks truth. There is intrinsic value in all of us, and everyone deserves to know how valuable they are." -Tori, Crisis Intervention Specialist.

"I have been an advocate serving victims of domestic and sexual violence for the past decade. I enjoy working with survivors and their families to develop advocacy support for both the primary survivors and their children. I am pleased to be able to bring my teaching services to Greene County as a trained facilitator of the program Darkness to Light, Stewards of Children. This program educates people in the community to prevent child sexual abuse."

Sommer, Crisis Response Specialist, Divert Program



"My passion for working with survivors of domestic and sexual violence originates from witnessing domestic violence as a child. Being a survivor of domestic or sexual violence can come with a lifetime of debilitating emotional baggage. My desire is to assist survivors with realizing the abuse was not their fault and support them in starting a new way of life with healthy relationships. I enjoy being a part of the process when a survivor opens up and expresses their thoughts, ideas, and feelings because so many of them have not been allowed to have a voice. Seeing the look on a survivor's face when he/she is able to gain employment and safe housing, without having to depend on their abuser is powerfully rewarding! I am excited to celebrate in the success of domestic and sexual abuse survivors." -Sabrina, Safe Housing Coordinator

"I am so excited to be working as the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at FVPC! I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to stand alongside survivors and empower them as they continue on their journey towards healing. I believe wholeheartedly in the power of community and resiliency and the possibility of a life that is driven by hope."

-Rachel, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator



# celebrating 40 years of service



As we recognize our 40th year of service to the Greene County community, let's remember the victims claimed by domestic violence. In their honor, we continue forward to celebrate all of the survivors we have assisted since 1979. From a few committed women in our community, has come this vital agency that provides **prevention, intervention, outreach, and safe housing**. With your support FVPC will continue to educate the community to prevent domestic violence, and help those who have already experienced abuse. For information on how to donate or get involved, please contact the office at (937) 376-8526. In the coming 40 years, we can create Violence Free Futures for all of Greene County together!



# award winners



## Congratulations to the 2019 Law Enforcement Excellence in Service Award Winners:

**Molly Davis**  
Communications Operator

**Kenna Longstreath**  
Parole Officer

**Officer Jacalyn Masur**  
Xenia Police

**Officer Christopher Reed**  
Xenia Police

**Douglas Collie**  
Fairborn Police

**Officer Christopher Unroe**  
Beavercreek Police

**Officer Timothy Lammert**  
Beavercreek Police

Law enforcement is an essential component of domestic violence prevention and intervention. Thank you all for your dedicated service!

# special projects

**FVPC** would like to thank our long-time supporters, board member Al Cummings, and Julia Hall, for providing the funds for us to repave the parking areas. It was a project that we very much needed to address.



*Al Cummings and Julia Hall, our faithful and generous donors*

**M**any thanks also to the crew from Mumma Asphalt & Sealcoating. They were courteous, efficient, and did a wonderful job get our lots back in good shape.



*The Mumma Men were hard at work for two days getting our parking areas prepped and ready to go. The finished project is gorgeous.*



*The front parking lot all fresh and looking great!*

# The 2019 Dove Giving Club

## about the dove club

For almost 20 years, the Dove Giving Club has recognized our most generous financial benefactors. Dove Club eligibility is based on the total amount of all tax-deductible financial gifts made or committed to during a given year. See the enclosed reply form for information on making a contribution at any level.

If you are interested in becoming a donor and having your name added to our generous list of Dove Club members, contact our Development Coordinator:

elizabeth.comer@violencefreefutures.org or call 376-8526 ext 107.

### Platinum Dove

John Garrett

### Gold Dove

Xenia Chrome Divas

John and Mary Jo Martin

Bellbrook United Methodist Church

Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.

Bill and Elaine Mercurio

### Silver Dove

Corner Cupboard Charities Inc.

Allan Cummings and Julia Hall

Phyllis J. Davis

Greene County Board Of  
Developmental Disabilities

Greene Memorial Hospital

Soin Medical Center

Jana and Mark Gruber

Elizabeth and James Hammond

Ron and Betty Herre

Richard Lapedes and Maureen  
Lynch

Mesaros Law Office

Elsie Mommsen

Rick and Becka Perales

Ed and Diane Phillips

Quanexus

Jerry Sutton and Sandy McHugh

### White Dove

Kent D Anderson

James and Susan Bash

Bellbrook Lions Club

Boyle Mechanical Solutions, LLC

John and Joy Brailey

CareSource

Joan Dautel

Carroll Day and Rebecca Morgann

Thomas and Cherie Dixon

Alek Companies

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Innovative Scientific Solutions, Inc.

Kestrel Publications

Kirkmont Presbyterian Church

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Montgomery Insurance and Investments

Network For Good

Alan Raney and Susan Stiles

Reichley Insurance Agency, Inc.

Roger and Macy Reynolds

Laura Romesburg

St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

Leo and Sandra Torresani

Andreas Walchner

### Foundation Support

The HealthPath Foundation of Ohio

Iddings Foundation

The Make Sense Foundation

Morgan Family Foundation

The TJX Foundation, Inc.

### Community Partners

Greene Giving

Kroger Company

United Way Of Clark, Champaign  
and Madison Counties, Inc.

United Way Of Greater Dayton

## 2019 Giving Members

Tim and Vicki Steininger BryanDodd,  
D.D.S.

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Phillip and Pamela Barron

Universal Technology Corporation

Clark State Community College

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Tiffany Wright

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Phil Houston

Gregory and Lynda Brendel

Faith Community United Methodist

Barbara Miller

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Benevity Community Impact Fund

The Reynolds & Reynolds Assc.Fdn.

St. Andrew UMC - Naomi Circle

Connor W. Slagle

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As You Wish Handyman Services

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Jeffrey Byrd Mechanical LLC

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Bambi and Jonathan Saxe

Maxine Tieber



380 Bellbrook Avenue  
Xenia, OH 45385

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US POSTAGE  
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XENIA OH

## *Wish List*

Items received from our "wish list" help stretch our safe house dollars.

*Currently, we need the following:*

- Used Cell Phones, Smartphones, iPods, iPads
  - African American Hair Products
  - Tissues
  - Jogging Pants
  - Pajamas
  - Brooms/Dustpans
  - Sponge mops
  - Floor Dusting Cloth Refills
  - Trash Bags-13 & 55 gallons
  - Dish Soap
  - HE Laundry Detergent
  - Cleaning utensils (*scrub brushes, sponges, etc.*)
  - Pillows & Pillow Cases (*new and neutral colors*)
  - Sheet Sets -Twin, Toddler, Crib (*new and neutral colors*)
  - Bathroom Trash Cans
  - Toilet brushes and plunger sets
  - Silverware
  - Coffee
  - Disposable Coffee Cups
  - Powdered Coffee Creamers
  - Flat Screen TV
  - Universal Remote
  - DVD Players
  - Family Movies
  - Sticky Note Pads
  - 9" x 12" Manila Envelopes
- Donations are accepted M-F from 10am-4pm by appointment by calling Harmony at 937-375-8526.
- Larger donations such as furniture and appliances are also needed on occasion.

*\*We no longer accept ink cartridges*

*The Family Violence Prevention Center Is A Member Of:*



Like Family Violence Prevention Center on Facebook

Follow us on Pinterest @ Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County  
and

familyviolencepreventioncenter on Instagram

## *Thank You*



## **PHONE NUMBERS**

**24-Hour Support Hotline**  
372-4552 or 426-2334

**Administrative Concerns**  
376-8526 or 426-6535

**www.violencefreefutures.org**