

Give Hope Through Healing



CHILD AND ADOLESCENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health is the primary local provider offering pediatric mental and behavioral health treatment. In 2016, the organization served 4,534 Stark County children. With support from the Foundation and Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery, Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health is redesigning its medical services department in order to meet community demand in innovative ways:

- Making it easier to diagnose and treat less urgent cases directly through pediatricians, in consultation with psychiatrists as necessary;
- Establishing a Center for Excellence to train medical and mental health professionals to meet the mental and behavioral health treatment needs of social services agencies and primary care practices; and
- Redesigning medical teams to expand the role of advanced practice nurses, who will manage medication regimens under the supervision of a psychiatrist.

This three-point plan will help the organization remain sustainable while ensuring communitywide access to excellent treatment.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

The Domestic Violence Project is the only Stark County organization specializing in legal advocacy services for survivors of domestic violence. Trained legal advocates help clients understand their rights, support them throughout the legal process, accompany them to court, connect them to other services, and remain in contact with them as long as necessary. They also train police and court personnel on using lethality assessments to identify high-risk abusers.

In addition, the organization provides mental health and substance abuse counseling for survivors. The counselors have specialized expertise in helping to address the root causes of trauma. Over time, counseling can help restore a sense of dignity and self-esteem.

Support from the Foundation and other funders will enable the Domestic Violence Project to continue providing these vital services.



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Awareness is the first step in healing.

– Dean Ornish

Give Hope Through Community

FAIRLESS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Households in the Fairless Local School District have seen a very slow recovery since the 2008 recession. The district has lost 500 students, and demand has increased for mental health services, academic support, and help with purchasing school supplies. Many more students now qualify to receive free or reduced-price school breakfasts and lunches.

The Fairless Alumni Association recognizes that although students from low-income households can count on receiving these meals on school days, there is still a need for access to supplemental food when school is not in session. The Association plans to feed 300 students during weekends, holidays, and breaks throughout the year. The food provided is child-friendly, so the children can prepare it themselves.

Foundation support will help the Association pursue and secure sustainable funding to ensure a consistent supply of food.



HAMMER AND NAILS

Hammer and Nails has completed home repair and improvement projects for more than 1,600 homeowners who are senior citizens, low-income parents, or disabled individuals.

The organization's dedicated volunteers (many of whom are skilled tradespeople) shore up porches, repair roofs, weatherize homes, and install wheelchair ramps all over Stark County.

Residents are required to work alongside the volunteers to complete projects whenever possible.

Demand for services has increased steadily in recent years, consistently outpacing the organization's capacity.

The Foundation is providing operating support and helping Hammer and Nails secure its future by devising a plan for leadership succession and board engagement. The result? Increasing numbers of Stark County homeowners will comfortably and safely remain in their own homes for many years to come.

STARK EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

In recent years, the Stark Education Partnership has focused its collaboration and advocacy efforts on increasing high school graduation rates and increasing the number of graduates going on to college. Great progress has been made:

- In 2005, Stark County high school graduation rates ranged from 67 to 99%. By 2014, the range was 83% to 99%.
- Since 2001, the number of Stark County students going on to college has increased by 35%.
- The number of students earning a college degree has increased substantially, from 18% in 2012 to 37% in 2014.

The Partnership also helped to develop the successful local grant proposal for the Ohio Department of Education's *Straight A* program, which has helped narrow achievement gaps and facilitate students' success.

With support from the Foundation and other local funders, the Partnership continues working to improve educational outcomes throughout Stark County.

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If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else.

– Booker T. Washington