

2008/2009



# Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation

2008/2009 Annual Report

*Connecting for Life*

# Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation

## 2008/2009 Investors and Sponsors

OSPF thanks all who have provided financial support to the foundation during 2008 and 2009. These generous supporters have empowered OSPF to fulfill its mission and vision to promote suicide prevention as a public health issue; advance evidence-based awareness, intervention, and methodology strategies; and eliminate stigma and increase help-seeking behavior for all Ohioans.

### Investors

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration**  
**Ohio Department of Mental Health**  
**Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug  
Addiction Services**  
**Ohio Department of Education**

### Sponsors

**Suicide Prevention Education Alliance**  
**Union Savings Bank**  
**Hancock County ADAMHS Board**  
**Franklin County ADAMHS Board**  
**Montgomery County ADAMHS Board**  
**Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition**

## 2008/2009 Donors and Supporters

**Eddie Allen**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor  
**Ellen Anderson**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Robert Bartha**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor  
**Charlotte Bell**, Volunteer  
**Tracee Black**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Dave Brewer**, Volunteer  
**Joyce Calland**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Marla K. Chudy**, Donor  
**Valerie Connolly**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**James Cook**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor  
**Charles Corder**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Andy Denton**, Volunteer  
**Colette Dollarhide**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Julie Erwin-Rinaldi**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor  
**Jack and Susan Farnham**, OSPF Board of Directors,  
Donor  
**Carolyn Givens**, Donor  
**Mike Gordon**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Amy and Patrick Graham**, Donors  
**Darcy and Paul Granello**, Donors  
**Jeannette S. Harrison**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Yvette W. Hensley**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Lisa Hinkelman**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Cheryl Holton**, Donor, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Teri Kinsway**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Cheryl Kish**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Randall LaFond**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor

**John Logan**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Pat Lyden**, Volunteer  
**Mark McDaniel**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor  
**Merissa McKinstry**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Dean William Meezan**, OSPF Board of Directors  
**Doug Merril**, Volunteer  
**Josephine Ridley**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Rabbi Daniel A. Roberts**, OSPF Board of  
Directors, Donor, Volunteer  
**Shamrock Club of Columbus**, Doner  
**Janet Shaw**, Donor, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Patricia Sheldon**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Angela Smith**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Cathy Smith**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Chelsea Stevenson**, Volunteer  
**Charleta B. Tavares**, OSPF Board of Directors,  
Donor, Volunteer  
**Ian Taylor**, Volunteer  
**Dawn Thomas**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Dean Turner**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor,  
OSPF Advisory Committee, Consultant,  
Volunteer  
**Lisa Velardo**, Consultant, Volunteer  
**Carole Vesely**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Kris Washington**, OSPF Advisory Committee  
**Phill Wilson**, Volunteer  
**Joan Wyler**, OSPF Board of Directors, Donor

# Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation

325 Stillman Hall • 1947 College Road • Columbus, OH 43210  
(Headquartered in Ohio State's College of Social Work)

Phone (614) 292-8585

Fax (614) 247-6173

Web [ohiospf.org](http://ohiospf.org)

*Connecting for Life*



Art by Rhoda Miller





100th Garrett Lee Smith Program Site celebration

**SPRC’s Managing and Assessing Suicide Risk Trainings**

**Goal:** Train at least 150 behavioral health professionals each year in suicide assessment

Year 1 progress:	Training	Attendees
	• Train the Trainers	20
	• Clermont	60
	• Marion	50
	• Paint Valley	50
Year 2 progress:	Training	Attendees
	• Hamilton	60
	• Summitt	100
	• Franklin	50
	• Columbiana & Mahoning	70

The time is always right to do what is right.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

**Priorities for the Biennium**

- Expand and increase programming for both County Suicide Prevention Coalitions and the Mental Health Checkups for Youth Project (Garrett Lee Smith-SAMHSA grant), the goal to have an active coalition and Mental Health Checkups for Youth site in every Ohio county.
- Continue the Public Awareness Campaign by educating the Ohio General Assembly, other state agencies, and the Ohio business community that suicide is a preventable public health problem.
- Continue to build public/private partnerships.
- Build a research and evaluation platform for sustaining Ohio’s suicide prevention efforts.

Connecting for Life



The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF) was launched in 2005 to create a catalyst for change in attitudes and perceptions regarding the stigma attached to mental illness, alcohol and drug addiction, and, specifically, suicide. Today, OSPF is both a state and national leader in suicide prevention.

OSPF Staff/Team

Carolyn Givens • Cheryl Holton • Debra Copeland • Harry Warner • Paul Granello

Mission

To promote suicide prevention as a public health issue and advance evidence-based awareness, intervention, and methodology strategies that support all Ohio-based suicide prevention efforts.

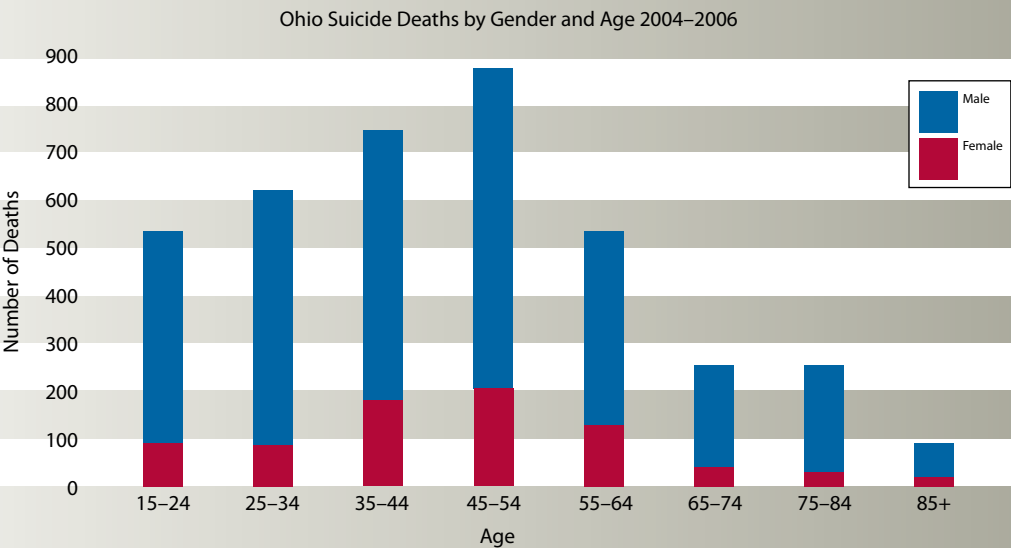
Vision

To provide suicide prevention organizations information and resources, raise awareness, eliminate stigma, and increase help-seeking behavior for all Ohioans.



Charleta Tavares  
Chair, Board of Directors

As one of the founding members and board chair of the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, I am proud of our work with the Ohio Department of Mental Health Suicide Prevention Planning Team and the many survivors and families in establishing our organization and the important work we are doing to expand resources, tools, and information to prevent suicides throughout our state. Ohio is leading the nation in the development of promising practices in the areas of research and prevention. Our goal is to “save lives and provide support for our partners” (Ohio’s County Suicide Prevention Coalitions).





Carolyn Givens  
Executive Director

It is one of the most beautiful  
compensations in life....We can never help  
another without helping ourselves.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

## 2008/2009 Areas of Focus

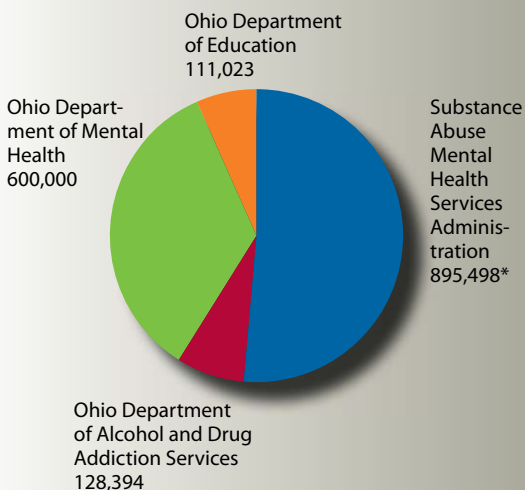
A heartfelt thanks to the OSPF team, the OSPF board of directors, the advisory committee, and other community volunteers for your unconditional support as well as your passion to help restore hope and connect for life. Thank you for your dedication and service.

State Fiscal Years 2008/2009 were exciting and energizing times for OSPF with continued efforts to expand and develop collaborative partnerships with county suicide prevention coalitions; the Ohio Departments of Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and Education; The Ohio State University; Columbia University; the Ohio Supreme Court; and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as well as other national and community organizations.

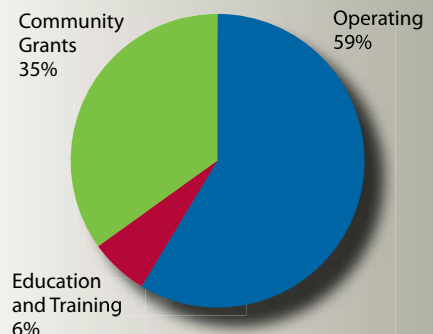
A statewide education and awareness campaign concentrated on reaching as many Ohioans as possible through public service announcements; dissemination of the OSPF brochure, which explains the mission of the foundation and Ohio's suicide prevention efforts; and reinvigorating the OSPF web site: **ohiospf.org**. Several features of the site include county data, a calendar of events, resources/articles, national and state organizational web links, and the OSPF *Strategic Plan* and priorities for the next three years.

OSPF is especially grateful for the new collaborative partnership with The Ohio State University's College of Social Work. The foundation is now headquartered in the college, located in the heart of central campus in Stillman Hall.

**Revenues by Source**  
(Two-Year Average)



**Expenditures**  
(Two-Year Average)



\*SAMHSA—total includes carryover funds

SAMHSA grant 2008/09 figures reflect budgeted figures—grant period ends September 30, 2009





Cheryl Holton  
Program Administrator

Never doubt that a group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world; indeed,  
it's the only thing that ever has.

—Margaret Mead

## OSPF Programming County Coalitions 2008/2009 Highlights

- In State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2008/2009, the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation funded 14 new suicide prevention coalitions and provided matching funds to 13 coalitions established in SFY 2007 and 2008, bringing the total to 69 coalitions serving 73 counties across Ohio.
- As of the end of SFY 2009, there has been an investment of \$344,603 in county coalition development.
- Additionally, the foundation provided \$1,000 mini-grants to 41 county coalitions to sustain and enhance their suicide prevention work.
- Through funding from the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and the Ohio Department of Mental Health, OSPF and the Drug Free Action Alliance provided five regional summits on suicide/substance abuse prevention. OSPF awarded 46 \$1,000 mini-grants for collaborative projects between suicide prevention and alcohol and drug prevention coalitions.
- Ellen Anderson, PhD, provided OSPF's annual Gatekeeper Training for trainers and technical assistance to the 14 new coalitions.
- OSPF offered dynamic statewide conferences in SFY 2008/2009.
  - In November 2007, the foundation held the Fourth Annual Suicide Prevention Conference for Coalitions, with 140 people in attendance. James Rogers, PhD and president-elect of the American Association of Suicidology, provided the plenary remarks.
  - In June 2008, the foundation held the first statewide conference for survivors of suicide loss. John Jordan, PhD, a nationally recognized expert in suicide grief resolution, presented the plenary address and afternoon support session. The conference was well received with over 100 participants in attendance.
  - On December 3, 2008, OSPF held the Fifth Annual Suicide Prevention Conference for Coalitions featuring keynote presentations by Rheeda Walker, PhD, author of *Suicide Risk and Protective Factors Among African Americans*, and Joseph Hovey, PhD, author of *Stress, Coping and Suicide Risk in Immigrant and Ethnic Communities*.
  - On April 25, 2009, OSPF had the opportunity to co-sponsor the Survivors of Suicide Loss Conference with

Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation  
Statewide Survivors Conference 2008



SFY 03

SFY 04

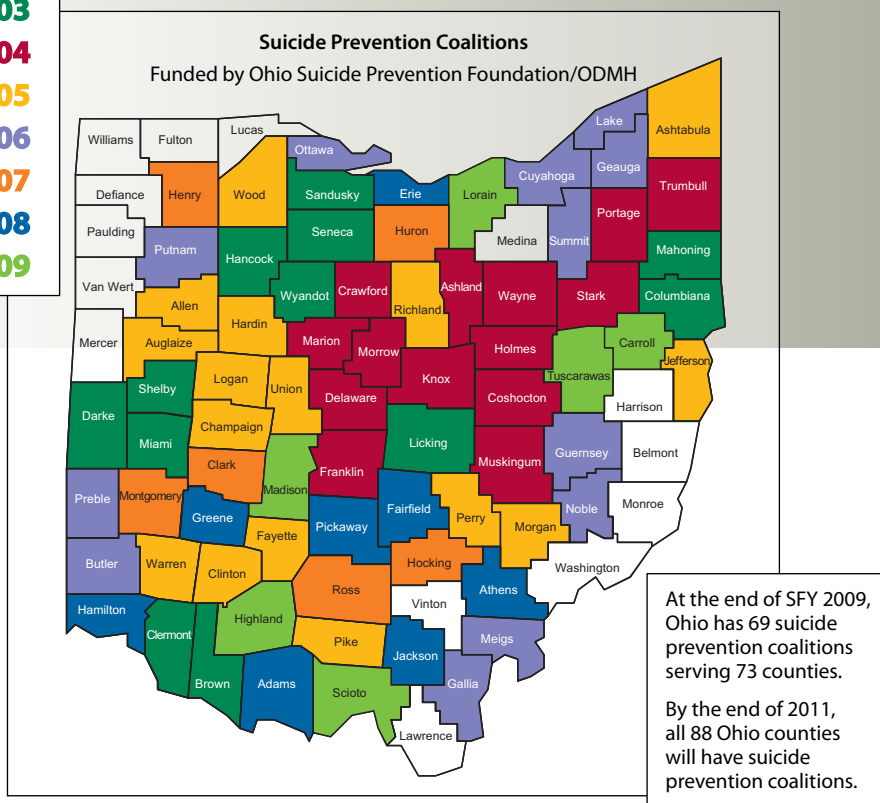
SFY 05

SFY 06

SFY 07

SFY 08

SFY 09



the Suicide Prevention Education Alliance of Cleveland, Ohio. John Jordan, PhD, was invited back for a second year to present the keynote address to over 100 participants regarding *Grieving After Suicide: The Journey of Survivors*.



Dean Turner, survivor, OSPF board member, and volunteer

- The OSPF web site was renovated, now featuring several benefits for Ohioans, including:
  - an interactive map of county coalition efforts
  - information on the Youth Risk Assessment Project, including SOS and TeenScreen programming
  - county hotline numbers
  - a calendar of upcoming events across Ohio
  - public service announcements
  - web-based resources
- The foundation completed three 30-second public service announcements that will be used to continue to educate Ohioans regarding suicide prevention.
- In collaboration with the Ohio Department of Education, the foundation developed a Safety and Violence Prevention Curriculum to be used as a training tool for Ohio school professionals (teachers, nurses, school counselors, etc.). The curriculum covers depression, suicide prevention, alcohol and drug use/abuse, bullying and violence, and child abuse.
- OSPF presented workshops on suicide prevention at the Annual American Association of Suicidology Conference in Boston, the PRIDE Conference in Cincinnati, Pathways Clubhouse in Columbus, and the Portsmouth Health Fair.