

# 2019 Annual Report

Dear DVCAC Friend,

This has been another year of providing critical services to children and adults in Cuyahoga County who are experiencing domestic violence and/or child abuse. Nearly 20,000 people were touched by DVCAC's services in 2019. I am honored to share just a few highlights of the impact you made possible.

DVCAC implemented Helpline text and chat to make sure we better serve those in their most vulnerable moments and you will see in our "By the Numbers" section how many lives were touched. What is most important are the voices and stories of lives that were impacted. I hear them every day...amazing stories of perseverance, strength, and resilience.

Canopy Child Advocacy Center has now been open for a year. DVCAC is honored to serve as fiscal agent and be part of the collaborative effort to bring this critical best practice model to Cuyahoga County. In its first year, Canopy served 734 abused children.

In 2019, DVCAC's board and staff completed a new strategic plan that included a revised mission and vision statement. Our mission is to provide services that foster safety and healing for those affected by child abuse and domestic violence, and prevent abuse through education, advocacy, and systemic change. We envision a community where safety and well-being are achieved by empowering people to find a path toward healthy, thriving relationships.

We could not do this without you! DVCAC is fortunate to receive significant support from government grants such as the Office on Violence Against Women and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). These grants do not fund the full cost of delivering quality comprehensive services and, this year, we received a 7% cut in our largest government grant. This is why we are so grateful for your continued and generous support.

On behalf of the clients we serve, thank you for your partnership and for letting local people experiencing domestic violence and child abuse know they are not alone on their journey to health and safety. We look forward to 2020 and the decades to come!

In Peace and Service,

Melisse Kelane

Melissa Graves Chief Executive Officer

PS – While our mission to end child abuse and domestic violence will never change, DVCAC's name and logo will. Join us for the 26th Annual Break the Cycle Luncheon on March 13, 2020 for this exciting announcement!



DVCAC's mission is to provide services that foster safety and healing for those affected by child abuse and domestic violence; and to prevent abuse through education, advocacy, and systemic change.

#### **DID YOU KNOW THAT?**

**41,967** incidents of domestic violence were reported to police departments in Ohio in 2018.

On just one day in September 2018, **1,392** adult and child victims of domestic violence sought shelter in Ohio's emergency domestic violence shelters or transitional housing programs.

Cleveland police received **16,392** calls reporting domestic violence in 2018.

### **FISCAL YEAR 2019 BY THE NUMBERS**

18,434 individuals impacted by DVCAC's mission

**7,085** Crisis interventions through our 24 Hour Helpline & Emergency Shelter

**7,656** People educated about family violence and healthy relationships

**2,445** Victims of intimate partner violence supported through the judicial process

**1,220** Supervised visits and safe exchanges for children of separated parents

**725** Children received services at Canopy Child Advocacy Center in the first year of operation

**206** Victims healing through individual therapy, art therapy and support group sessions

**2,925** Shelter clients received meals provided by generous Meals that Heal volunteers

**\$269,146** In-kind donations to support clients' basic needs

# Transforming Lives Together

#### **Testimonials from DVCAC's Clients**

"Coming to shelter made me feel safe and happy and loved again."

~ Jesse, age 5

"I wanted to express my gratitude for you being so kind to me. You made me feel at ease and more comfortable than I could be given the situation. You were a listening ear and never tried to force any opinion on me. I am thankful that our paths have crossed. You made me feel like my story matters. What you do is amazing. I hope and pray that your calm spirit and kindness continue to be a blessing and impact others. Thank you."

~Amy

"DVCAC was the only place that understood what I was going through. DVCAC helped give me my life back."

~Cameron

# 26th Annual Break the

Cycle Luncheon

Friday, March 13, 2020

dvcac.org or 216-229-2420

# **DVCAC Services**

#### **Domestic Violence Shelter**

As the only emergency shelter in Cuyahoga County dedicated solely to victims of domestic violence, it is designed to increase safety considerations, facilitate the process of healing from the impact of trauma, and help build self-sufficiency necessary to live independent lives free of violence and abuse.

## **Domestic Violence & Family Helpline**

Operating for over 43 years, DVCAC's Domestic Violence & Family Helpline responds to crisis, referral, and information calls, texts and chats 24/7.

### **Justice System Advocacy**

DVCAC provides court advocacy for domestic violence victims involved in criminal and civil proceedings throughout Cuyahoga County. Advocates offer crisis intervention, safety planning and education, connections to community supports, and facilitate support groups that help with the healing process.

#### Safe & Sound Visitation Center

DVCAC's Safe and Sound Visitation Center is the only one of its kind in Cuyahoga County helping high-risk families in need of safe, supervised visits. The program meets a critical need in the community by increasing the safety of the child(ren) and the residential parent or guardian when domestic violence, mental health, or substance abuse is an issue, or when other significant life challenges may put the child(ren) at risk.

### Prevention, Education, & Inclusion Services

Personal Safety Skills: A child abuse prevention program delivered in schools, this program educates school-aged children on how to recognize and respond to unsafe situations and to find a trusted adult to help. The program also includes a component for parents and educators.

Parenting Program: ACT Raising Safe Kids is a nine-week evidence-based program, which includes topics such as understanding children's behavior, discipline and parenting styles, children's exposure to violence, and understanding and controlling parents' anger.

Professional Trainings: DVCAC has diverse speakers with years of experience providing information and education, seminars, and professional trainings to schools, human service agencies, medical professionals, law enforcement, and interested community groups.

Ujima Program: Supports healthy relationships, primarily focused on the African-American community.

Latina Domestic Violence Project: Offers culturally relevant advocacy and support services for Latinx victims of domestic violence. All Advocates are bilingual in Spanish.

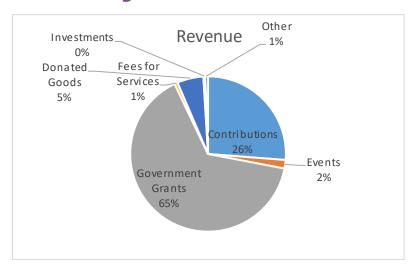
#### **Trauma Services**

Therapy and case management services for children, adolescents and adults who have experienced trauma, grief, and loss related to child abuse, teen dating violence, domestic violence and/or stalking.

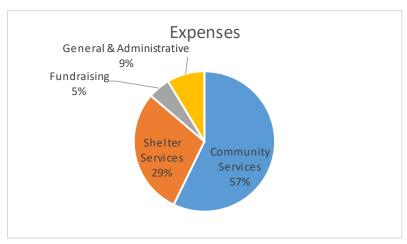
## **Canopy Child Advocacy Center**

CACs are a national best practice model utilized to reduce trauma for children and their families impacted by child abuse and improve service delivery through interagency collaboration. DVCAC serves as fiscal agent and legal entity for this important resource and works collaboratively with community partners, including Cleveland Division of Police, Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, Frontline Service, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, The MetroHealth System, University Hospitals, and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

# July 2018 – June 2019 Financials



Contributions	\$ 1,294,434
Events	\$ 86,983
Government Grants	\$ 3,203,058
Fees for Service	\$ 32,796
Donated Goods	\$ 269,146
Investments	\$ 20,631
Other	\$ 27,097
Total	\$ 4,934,145



Community Services	\$ 2,649,103
Shelter Services	\$ 1,349,892
Fundraising	\$ 235,939
General & Administrative	\$ 398,955
Total	\$ 4,633,889

# **Board of Directors**

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