



## **Press Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### ***Thrive Peer Recovery Services and Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) Collaborate to integrate and launch of "Survive to Thrive" Program***

**Columbus, Ohio – August 15, 2024** – Thrive Peer Recovery Services and the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) are proud to announce a new partnership through ODVN's Health Access Project. This collaboration will pilot Thrive's innovative "Survive to Thrive" program model, which aims to embed a Certified Peer Recovery Supporter (PRS) in survivor programs across the state.

The first integration of this program will take place at the Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP) in Nelsonville, Ohio. This initiative will provide comprehensive support to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking, offering them the assistance they need to rebuild their lives.

**"Survive to Thrive" Program Details:** In the latter half of 2023, Thrive Peer Recovery Services launched "Survive to Thrive," an innovative pilot program developed for adults overcoming human trafficking, domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault. This initiative embodies a holistic support framework designed to guide survivors toward wellness, resilience, and recovery through a wrap-around approach, offering personalized care that meets their specific needs. Thrive's pilot began in Lorain County Safe Harbor and has demonstrated positive success over the past 6 months. By embedding Certified Peer Supporters who draw from personal recovery experiences, the program aims to engage, empower, and guide clients on their journey to lasting well-being. This includes personalized recovery plans, holistic support, and efforts to reduce stigma, enhancing clients' quality of life and engagement with services for long-term recovery. Within the first 6 months of the pilot, 12 peers referred engaged in over 208 hours of support averaging about 30 hours per peer.

Central to this model are Adult Peer Supporters (APS), individuals aged 18-65 who have personally navigated trauma and are trained to provide empathetic, informed support to fellow survivors, leveraging their own experiences to foster understanding and healing.

**Benefits and Impact:** The collaboration between Thrive Peer Recovery Services and ODVN aims to expand this program across the state to create a supportive environment where survivors can access the support they need in a safe and understanding setting. By embedding PRS professionals within survivor programs, the program intends to:

- Enhance emotional and psychological support for survivors.
- Provide survivors with practical resources and guidance.



- Foster a community of understanding and resilience.

**Quotes:** "We are thrilled to partner with ODNV on the Health Access Project and bring the 'Survive to Thrive' program to life. Our goal is to provide survivors with the support they need to move forward and thrive," -**Brian Bailys, CEO of Thrive Peer Recovery Services.**

"ODVN is happy to work in partnership with Thrive to help survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, and stalking. Survivors of gender-based violence often lack access to mental health and substance use resources, and this partnership will strengthen that access and provide necessary support to our member agencies." -**Emily Kulow, Director of Mobile Advocacy and Meaningful Access**



**About Thrive Peer Recovery Services:** Thrive Peer Recovery Services is dedicated to providing peer-based support to individuals recovering from substance use and mental health disorders. With a team of trained Certified Peer Recovery Supporters, Thrive aims to empower individuals to achieve long-term recovery and well-being. Learn more at [Thrive Peer Recovery Services](#).



**About Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN):** The Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) is committed to advancing the principle that all people have the right to an oppression-free and violence-free life. ODNV provides education, resources, and support to domestic violence programs and advocates statewide to help them deliver comprehensive services to survivors. Learn more at [Ohio Domestic Violence Network](#).



**About Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP):** The Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP) in Athens provides comprehensive support to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking. SAOP is dedicated to creating a safe and supportive environment for all survivors. Learn more at [Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program](#).

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