
Prevention Action Alliance

Lifetime Prevention | Lifetime Wellness

Leading Healthy Communities Throughout Ohio

Annual Report FY22



Prevention

Action Alliance

Leading **healthy communities** in the prevention of substance misuse and promotion of mental health wellness - providing resources and technical assistance to individuals, families, and communities to help **educate, empower, and advocate.**

A LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FRAN GERBIG

Hello!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff members of Prevention Action Alliance, I am pleased to share Prevention Action Alliance's FY 22 annual report with you.

As we began to plan and develop this report, I was reminded that prevention is often the balance of purposeful planning and being responsive to emerging needs.

Prevention Action Alliance's mission of leading healthy communities in the prevention of substance misuse and the promotion of mental health wellness guides our work. As we plan for each new fiscal year, we are mindful of our state's substance misuse and behavioral health needs and strategically plan to assist communities with opportunities for learning, introductions to emerging best practices, technical assistance, and financial resources.

However, despite our best forecasting, other priorities emerge, and we must pivot to address real-time needs. Alcohol and e-cigarette sales increased during the pandemic. Recent data indicates the increased use of e-cigarettes to consume marijuana by youth ages 12 – 17.¹ Even post-pandemic, we are experiencing the aftermath of the necessary lockdown. Adults, adolescents, and children are still experiencing high rates of anxiety and depression as they re-engage with friends, coworkers, and the community. Suicide and overdose deaths continue, as well as the consumption of alcohol as a coping mechanism. Certain groups seem to be more vulnerable^{2,3} – young and older adults, children and youth, women, and health care workers, as well as members of Black, Hispanic and American Indian communities – but all of us are at risk because of this experience.

Fortunately, Prevention Action Alliance is agile and provides resources, strategies, and grant opportunities to support local work to address local concerns. This Annual Report highlights just a fraction of the excellent prevention work that PAA supports throughout the state. Just this last year, through generous support from the Anthem Foundation, PAA took a step to help schools provide additional prevention and wellness strategies through the launch of the Ohio Prevention and Wellness Academy. In partnership with Education Development Center (EDC) and Miami University, the Academy works with local school districts to identify needs and develop resources, relationships, and expertise to support students, build resiliency, and pave the way for health and wellness. The first learning community has been selected, and the members are working with PAA and EDC staff. We cannot wait to share the outcomes of this first learning community with you next year!

Each day, we are reminded that “everyone has a role in prevention.” Today, our role – your role – is more important than ever. We look forward to working with you in the coming months, and please reach out to us with your ideas, suggestions, and needs.

In good health,



Frances R. Gerbig, MPH, OCPC, ICPS
Executive Director
Prevention Action Alliance

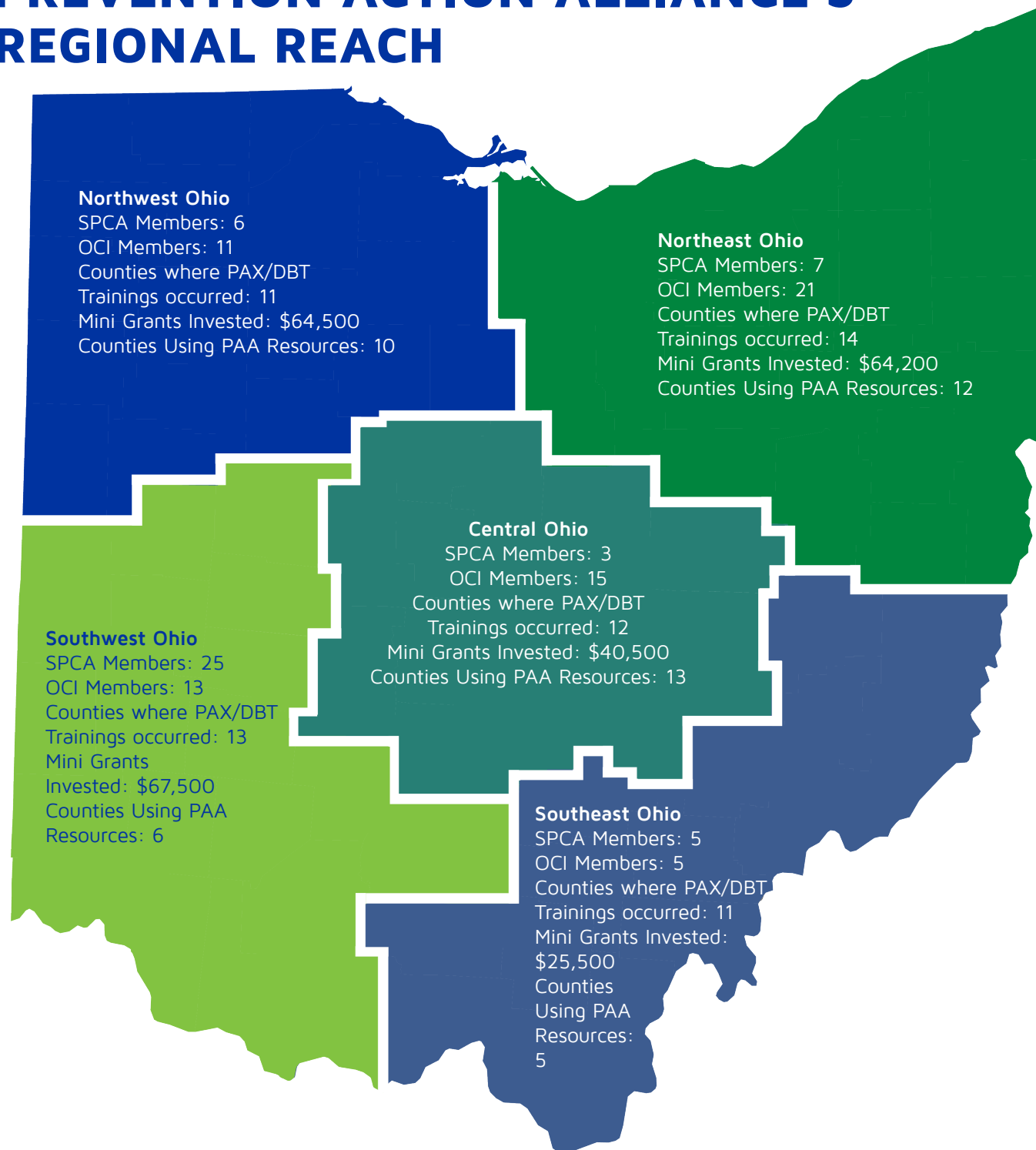


1. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2022). Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (HHS Publication No. PEP22-07-01-005, NSDUH Series H-57). Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, SAMHSA. <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2021-nsduh-annual-national-report>

2. COVID-19 pandemic triggers 25% increase in prevalence of anxiety and depression worldwide (who.int)

3. Supplemental Research Bulletin: A Preliminary Look at the Mental Health and Substance Use-related Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic (samhsa.gov)

PREVENTION ACTION ALLIANCE'S REGIONAL REACH



PAA Partnerships

State Partnerships

- Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Prevention and Promotion
- Coalition for Healthy Communities
- Ohio Chemical Dependency Board
- Ohio Latino Affairs Commission
- Ohio Opioid Education Alliance
- Ohio Prevention Professionals Association
- Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Problem Gambling Network of Ohio
- Rx Abuse Leadership Initiative (RALI) Ohio
- Urban Minority Alcohol Drug Abuse Outreach Program (UMADAOP) Federation of Ohio

Regional Partnerships

- Great Lakes Prevention Technology Transfer Center Advisory Council

National Partnerships

- Addiction Policy Forum
- Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)
- National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)
- SAMHSA Region 5 Prevention Workgroup

Prevention Action Alliance is grateful to Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services for their generous financial support.

PROVIDING LOCAL SOLUTIONS FOR LOCAL PROBLEMS

PAA TRAININGS



257.75 CEU Hours

105 Trainings



2,777 Attendees



ADVOCACY BOOT CAMP



16 ATTENDEES

5 SESSIONS

GRANTS

\$54K

10 Capacity for
Prevention Grants
Distributed

7 Gambling
Education & Skill
Building Grants
Distributed

\$105K

\$127.5K

6 Regional
Learning
Collaborative
Grants
Distributed

WE ARE THE MAJORITY

3,331

students registered

5 regional watch
parties



R A L L Y



11,175

people received monthly

Know! Tips

PAX WORKS!!

PAX has changed the
climate not only within our
classrooms but our entire
elementary.

- Ms. Amy Wills, Third Grade Teacher
Southeastern Elementary
Chillicothe, Oh

299

people trained in
PAX

94

people trained in
DBT

meet Talbert House Prevention Services

Clinton & Warren Counties

Warren County Talbert House Prevention Services tackled adult risky drinking patterns in **Clinton/Warren Counties** through the “Be One of Us” initiative, supported by PAA’s Capacity for Prevention stipends in 2021 and 2022.

Southwest Ohio



The “Be One Of Us” initiative partnered with the City of Lebanon and the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce to promote low-risk drinking guidelines using positive social norms messaging at the local Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). The partnership helped maintain the city’s charm while creating new business opportunities. Support from PAA helped build relationships and increase visibility with the community and local businesses.

“We are grateful for support from PAA. Their willingness to provide “seed money” is critical to starting new community projects and growing them over time!”

— *Barbara Adams Marin*
Supervisor at Talbert House
Prevention Services - Clinton
and Warren Counties

meet The Zepf Center

The Zepf Center is a non-profit agency located in **Lucas County** dedicated to providing crucial behavioral health and vocational services to youth and young adults with severe and persistent mental illness, substance use disorder, and problem gambling addiction.



Northwest Ohio



Graduate students are six times more likely to experience a mental health disorder compared to the general population. So in 2022, The Zepf Center took action. Submitting an application for the Capacity for Prevention Stipend, The Zepf Center proposed to incorporate pets into a mental health wellness strategy. PAA's Community-Based Services team awarded them a stipend, making it possible for the Zepf Center to bring dogs and mental health wellness tools onto the Findlay University campus every Friday in the Spring of 2022.

“Hanging out with the dogs is the only time on Fridays that I actually smile, laugh, and don’t feel stressed.”

— *Findlay University Graduate Student who participated in the mental health program*

meet East Cleveland Neighborhood Center

East Cleveland Neighborhood Center (ECNC), located in **Cuyahoga County**, has been working to empower youth and inspire the community for a safe and healthy future for more than 30 years. With a vision that all children grow to be successful, engaged adults who possess the tools needed to advocate for themselves and those in need, ECNC's programming works to help youth develop those assets.



Northeast Ohio



In 2022, ECNC saw a growing need in their local school district for social-emotional learning and academic enrichment programs. They applied for a Capacity for Prevention stipend to meet that need. Forty-one youth conducted hands-on experiments and activities to reinforce assets like self-awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills. Youth benefitted from interactions with staff, team building with other participants, and tangible reminders of self-care. Each of these activities continues to build the youth's developmental assets increasing the likelihood that they will develop into healthy and responsible young adults.

“Racing my peers was fun and I liked the teambuilding and talks. I appreciated how you guys talked to me.”

— *Shaw High School Student,
regarding a relationship
skillbuilding activity*

meet Appalachian Allies

Appalachian Allies works through the East Central Ohio Educational Service Center (ECOESC) as part of the Ohio Adult Allies (OAA) Regional Learning Collaborative (RLC). OAA is a team consisting of representatives from Prevention Action Alliance (PAA), Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs.

Southeast Ohio



With funding and training from PAA, Appalachian Allies' staff supports the development of adult allies in their region – providing valuable knowledge on empowering youth and fostering community change. They also run their own youth programming – each year providing a youth summit. Appalachian Allies is leading the way in youth-led prevention best practices in the **Appalachian region**, connecting with prevention specialists, and helping other RLCs implement effective initiatives across the state.

“As adults we have tried to educate youth, but nothing impacts youth behavior like a peer leading the charge for awareness and education.”

— *Travis West*
OSU Ext. - Vinton County

meet Mills James

Prevention Action Alliance (PAA) began working with Mills James in 2020 when our in-person youth rally at the state capitol quickly pivoted to a virtual event. Mills James is not a prevention agency, but by elevating prevention messaging and crafting it into attractive, engaging content, they have expanded prevention messaging in Ohio. Mills James' demonstrates how a business can play their role in prevention.



Central Ohio



Mills James' expertise in video and event production helped create a rally that was unforgettable. They continued by producing the 2021 and 2022 virtual youth rallies - supporting the OYLPN Youth Council in crafting a more engaging and interactive rally each year. Mills James' relationship with PAA continues to expand from their work on the rally to creating videos that share the story of prevention in Ohio.

"We are honored to be a creative and production partner with PAA and will continue to support their prevention work in the community wherever we can."

— *Mike Yearling*
Managing Partner &
Marketing VP, Mills James

PREVENTION ACTION ALLIANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 22

Executive Committee

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Percival "Perci" Garner, III

Tuscarawas Society for Children
and Adults

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BASEC Management

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Retired Chief Financial Officer

Gregg Pieples

Thrive Peer Recovery

Ellen Schoonover

Parent Advocate

Derek Siegle

Ohio HIDTA



OUR FINANCIALS

INCOME

Federal Grants	\$	1,910,857
Other Grants	\$	1,945,441
Product Sales	\$	38,216
Training Services	\$	38,968
Other	\$	12,303
Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions	\$	5,000
Total:	\$	3,950,785

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$	3,749,822
General & Administrative	\$	152,906
Fundraising	\$	8,147
Total	\$	3,910,875

INVESTMENT INCOME

Investment Income	\$	(137,010)
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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Net Assets – Beginning of Year	\$	1,475,186
Decrease in Net Assets	\$	102,100
Net Assets – End of Year	\$	1,373,08

Prevention Action Alliance

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