

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HelpLine forms Advocacy Alliance for Social Action,
Invites Community Participation**

Delaware, OH - HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc. (HelpLine) announced today the formation of the Advocacy Alliance, a community-based volunteer committee to further social action change for issues related to sexual violence prevention and mental health in Morrow and Delaware counties. Residents from both counties are invited to attend the initial meeting on Monday, November 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the community services room at 950 Meadow Drive in Mt. Gilead, Ohio.

The goals of the Advocacy Alliance are empower local citizens with the tools to ensure the accessibility of underserved and rural populations to information pertinent to sexual violence, the spectrum of prevention initiatives and anti-oppression work.

“People, working together, have the ability to not only support each other but impact the community in significant ways,” said Julianna Nemeth, Prevention Director of HelpLine.

“Over the past several years HelpLine has interacted with individuals concerned about issues that touch many of our lives—rape, suicide, child sexual abuse---and many of those people have wanted to take action to prevent these atrocities and help survivors gain access to justice and healing.”

The Advocacy Alliance will proactively advocate for social justice and change which promote mental health, consumer and victims’ rights, and healing.

“We need the community to take a stand and get involved,” said Nemeth. “Our work towards solutions and social justice will only be as good as the community response.”

If you are interested in this grassroots advocacy work, please contact Corina Klies, HelpLine Prevention Educator, at 419.946.1350 or visit us online at www.helplinedelmor.org

About HelpLine

HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization that provides a 24-hour crisis support hotline, information and referral to direct services and advocacy, prevention education, and serves as the area’s only volunteer center. HelpLine facilitates the stability and self-sufficiency of the emotional and financial needs of the Delaware and Morrow County communities. HelpLine is a provider agency of the Delaware Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board and a member of the United Ways of Delaware & Morrow Counties. Certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health, HelpLine is partially funded by the Council of Older Adults, the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, Ohio Department of Development, Office of Criminal Justice Services and Ohio Department of Health. HelpLine is accredited by Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) and National Association of Suicidology. For more information, please visit: www.HelpLinedelmor.org.

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