

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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HelpLine Receives \$10,000 Grant from The Women's Fund of Central Ohio to Empower Girls in Delaware County

Delaware, OH – HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc. (HelpLine) announced today the receipt of a \$10,000 award from The Women's Fund of Central Ohio for the It's A Girls' World! empowerment groups.

The empowerment groups advance the lives of 4th and 8th grade girls by providing opportunities for them to develop life skills, including assertiveness, boundary establishment, knowledge of girls' rights and entitlements and life planning skills

Since 2002, more than \$700,000 has been distributed through 79 grants from The Women's Fund, for projects that help women and girls achieve economic independence, leadership development and critical life skills. This month seven grants were awarded and will serve the women and girls of four local counties.

Other projects receiving grants from The Women's Fund include:

- **Circles Initiative – Moving Beyond Poverty:** This national model engages communities in helping low-income families move out of poverty and documents best practices of the process.
- **Training in Financial Management/Marketing for Low-Income Family Care Providers:** A program that provides training in financial management to low-income childcare providers in Franklin County.
- **The Path Mentoring Program.** A program that fosters structured and trusting relationships by bringing girls ages 12-17 together with adult, female volunteers who offer guidance, support and encouragement.
- **ROX: Ruling Our Xperiences:** A self-empowerment program for elementary, middle school and high school girls.
- **University Area Women Leading the Way:** Recipient of the JPMorgan Chase Economic Independence Award, this is a program encouraging civic leadership roles for females in Columbus' University Area neighborhoods.
- **Getting Ahead:** A program that aims to end generational poverty in Licking County by building social skills with participants, partnerships with people in the middle class and encouragement for low income women to become involved in the decisions that affect them and their family.

“We are pleased to announce the addition of It's A Girl's World! Empowerment Groups of Delaware County to the ever-growing list of projects that provide women and girls in our community opportunities for success,” said Nichole Dunn, president and CEO of The Women's Fund.

Julianna Nemeth, Prevention Director of HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc. believes the grant validates the need for gender-specific empowerment groups and anticipates cultivating a new generation of assertive, active young women.

“The Women’s Fund Grant is a wonderful way to affirm the work and worth of young women in Delaware County,” said Nemeth. “It’s A Girls’ World! will empower young women to become active leaders in changing the culture of their relationships, schools and families.”

For more information about It’s A Girls’ World! contact HelpLine at 2-1-1 or visit the website at www.helplinedelmor.org.

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About The Women’s Fund of Central Ohio

Founded in 2001, The Women’s Fund of Central Ohio is a public foundation that makes grants to programs that promise social change for women and girls. To achieve positive social change for women and girls, The Women’s Fund expands traditional definitions of philanthropy, encouraging women to make a deliberate and substantial financial investment in a fund in order to make grants and support efforts that promise the full participation of women and girls. The Women’s Fund serves Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway and Union counties, giving voice and visibility to the over 800,000 women and girls in Central Ohio. For more information, visit www.womensfundcentralohio.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. Committed to empowering people through knowledge, support and resources, HelpLine facilitates the stability and self-sufficiency of the emotional and financial needs of the Delaware and Morrow County communities. HelpLine is a contract provider of the Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board and partially funded by the Council for Older Adults. A United Way Agency, HelpLine is accredited by the American Association of Suicidology, National Alliance of Information & Referral Systems and certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health. For more information, please visit: www.HelpLinedelmor.org.

Contact:

Nichole Dunn
ndunn@womensfundcentralohio.org
614.225.9926

Sue Hanson
shanson@helplinedelmor.org
740.363.1835