



2019–2020
COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



It's About Life

EDUCATE • ENGAGE • EMPOWER

Looking towards a bright future

A Note from Jack Binder, CEO



As always, thank you for your continued support of the LifeAct mission – our community’s young people are better equipped due to your kindness. While this year certainly has had its challenges, we are proud of the work that we were able to perform and look forward to a bright future with our newly added resources, such as virtual programming.

COVID-19 has interrupted daily life for every organization, and LifeAct was not immune. More than 4,000 students at 38 schools had their LifeAct program canceled when schools were shut down, and our two signature events, the *Into the Light* walk and *Links for Life* golf outing, were postponed to the Fall of 2020. However, this pandemic has shown the resiliency of LifeAct’s instructors and our program team, who quickly jumped into action creating new resources and program formats, as you will read more about in this annual report.

LifeAct continues to set the groundwork for increasing our program reach, and recently we received funding for the first time from the State of Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. This funding demonstrates our ability and capacity to provide prevention services to young people across the state, and will allow us to continue to grow our program territory and ultimately, save more young lives.

Lastly, we were proud to be the recipient of the 2019 Enlightenment Award from the Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Foundation. The Enlightenment Award recognizes outstanding activities during 2019 that enhance the public's access to treatment and the public's understanding of mental disorders and decreases stigmas.

Thank you again for all of the ways you help LifeAct provide valuable education and resources to our community – we hope you enjoy this year’s Community Impact Report.

A Beacon in the Storm – LifeAct’s COVID Response

During COVID school shutdowns, we quickly pivoted and offered a series of virtual, informational sessions called ‘LifeChats,’ in conjunction with a licensed therapist from Highland Springs Changes, a behavioral health facility specializing in adolescent care. Students were able to anonymously ask questions, receive support and learn about mental health topics such as depression, self-harm and coping skills. During this time, our instructors ramped up their efforts in re-envisioning the program and updating the content for the coming year, while also undergoing professional development and training in such areas as trauma informed care, domestic violence and child abuse prevention.

Most importantly, we piloted our program – virtually – with classrooms that had gone on-line to complete the school year. This program focused on loneliness, coping skills and resiliency, areas that are of importance to our young people as they navigate the pandemic.

LifeAct’s Impact (2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR)



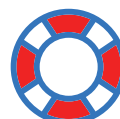
174
SCHOOLS



985
CLASSES



23,027
STUDENTS



2,892
STUDENTS ASKED
FOR HELP



38
SCHOOLS WE
COULDN'T REACH
DUE TO COVID



\$0
CHARGED TO
SCHOOLS

Mental Health By the Numbers

15.6%
of all Ohio Middle Schoolers have seriously thought about attempting suicide

10%
of youth ages 12-17 have diagnosed anxiety

After accidents, suicide is the
#1 CAUSE OF DEATH
for people 24 and under

13.3%
of Ohio youth report being electronically bullied in last year

18.1% of Cleveland school district students report that they have attempted suicide – **MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 8.9%**

Evie Callahan

A Guiding Light for LifeAct



As a rising junior at Twinsburg High School, Evie Callahan served as the Youth Advisory Board President for the 2019-2020 school year. Evie was inspired to serve on the YAB after going through the LifeAct

program as a freshman. Having her own mental health experiences, Evie wants to be an ambassador for mental health, especially emphasizing the importance of breaking down harmful stigmas.

Part of those stigmas center around how parents interact with their own kids. “I

would tell parents that having an open and honest conversation is key, and to be really willing to listen to their stories and their experiences, because the worst thing is to feel like your parents don’t care. It’s also important for parents to seek out their own research and support groups to help make sure they are comfortable. I am grateful for my parents who are so supportive of me.”

LifeAct’s YAB is made up of high school students from across Northeast Ohio who support the organization by serving as consultants on programming and outreach materials and as ambassadors at our events. To find out more about the YAB, or to join, please contact Amanda Horner at ahorner@lifeact.org.

Marcos Ortiz

A Decade of Saving Young Lives



This year marks Marcos Ortiz’s 10th year saving young lives as an instructor with LifeAct. As a certified prevention specialist and chemical dependency counselor, Marcos came to the LifeAct program by chance, when while leading a team of prevention specialists, one of Marcos’ clients died by suicide. Committed to getting his team additional training and support to better assist their clients, Marcos made a fateful call to LifeAct to see if we could help. That phone call changed the trajectory of his career.

Last school year alone, Marcos taught 3,000 students at 25 schools how to recognize depression, prevent suicide and access help for themselves or others – lifesaving skills that those students will keep with them for a lifetime. Many of the schools taught by Marcos are in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, which reports the second highest suicide attempt rate for a metropolitan school district nationwide. The deep connections that Marcos forges with schools, administrators and students who see him at different points in their school careers allow for students to open up and truly explore the topic of mental health.

As a teacher at NE Ohio College Preparatory High School stated, “The information included in this presentation is great and the content included is engaging for students. Mr. Ortiz himself has an incredible, comforting aura that the students pick up on and really respond to. His willingness to engage with students, answer their questions, and address their personal concerns is what makes this program so powerful... This is lifesaving information that should be available for everyone.”

Marcos’ work isn’t confined to the classroom – he works and trains school officials, safety officers and support staff to ensure that they are ready and able to help a child in need. As LifeAct’s QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer, an emergency mental health intervention technique) trainer, Marcos is bringing his skills and knowledge to train community members in the three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. If you are interested in bringing QPR training to your workplace or community, please reach Colleen Jost at cjost@lifeact.org – our community will be stronger for it!

LifeAct’s Care Partners



Save the date for LifeAct’s Events:

INTO THE LIGHT WALK

April 18, 2021

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

www.lifeact.org/walk

LINKS FOR LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Spring 2021

Kirtland Country Club

www.lifeact.org/golf



LifeAct’s Mission is to prevent teen suicide by educating youth to recognize depression and the warning signs of suicide and access help for themselves and/or their peers.



[@lifeact_neohio](https://twitter.com/lifeact_neohio)



facebook.com/lifeact.neohio



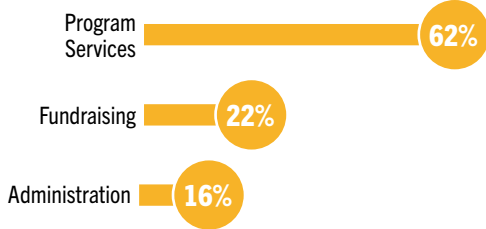
LifeAct of Northeast Ohio



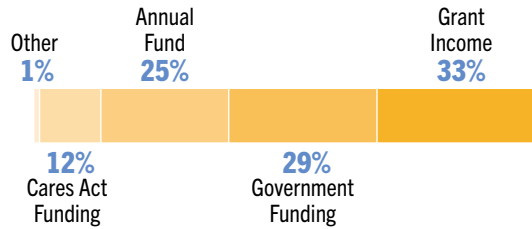
[lifeact_neohio](https://www.instagram.com/lifeact_neohio)

Financial Profile 2019-2020

LifeAct Expenses



LifeAct Income



Pockets of Excellence

Ohio Mental Health Network for School Success



2019 – 2020 Lifesaving Society

\$10,000+

Anne and John Beringer, Jr.
Kristi and Ken Horner
Diane and Jack Malarik
Edda and Terry Owen
William A. Wortzman, CPA, Esq.

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Mary and Daniel Berick
Jennifer and Timothy Burke
Thomas Cirincione
Bridget and Walter* Edwards, Sr.
Wendy and David Lingafelter
Maureen and Steven MacIntyre
Jill and William Oatey
Marilena DiSilvio and David Young

\$2,500 – \$4,999

Mary Kay and Jack Binder
Judith and William Caster
Katrina Comber
Pamela and Stephen Keefe
Judith and James Kewley
Norma and Harvey Kotler
John Morley
Patty and Edward Pentecost
Kristin and Bob Perkins
Jane and Biagio Russo

\$1,000 – \$2,499

Sarah and Kevin Ball
Denise and Ed Bell
Christine and James Berick
Monica and Dan Castele
Tom Castele and John Wasiniak
Marianne Crosley and Tim Clements III
Sondra and Thomas* Crista
S. Stuart Eilers
Paulette and Frank Fantozzi
Joe Farkas
Michelle and Paul Harris
Katherine and Steven Hughes
Gina and Brian Jeckering
Cami Kaye
Bethany and James Lundquist
Stephanie and Stuart Mabee
Molly and Randy Markey
Nicole Visconsi Mawby
Linda Mellen
Susan and Michael O'Connor

Christine Renner
Elaine and Peter Roth
Julie and Dominic Visconsi, Jr.
Lori and John Wheeler
David Wildermuth
Deborah and Colin Wilkinson

\$500 - \$999

Annette and Thomas Bader
Lu and Doug Bannerman
Sheila and Jeff Berlin
Gary Bigham
Kathleen and Andrew Binder
Barbie and Jim Breitenbach
Julie and Jeff Crista
Mary and Steven Feldman
Kathryn and Michael Garvey
Helen and Geoffrey Greenleaf
Jayne and Bill Hasler
Pat and William Hatch
Thomas Heinen
Deborah and Robert Hermann
Drs. Julie and John Hertzler
Anne and William Hyde
Jessica and Joseph Leonard
Susan and Todd Locke
Joyce MacDowell
Heidi and David Magnuson
Seth Marks
Susan and Charles Marston
Kathleen and Timothy McNeilly
Christina and Peter Moran
Cindy and Brian Murphy
The Nemeth Family
Lori and Scott Niederst
Karen and Mickey O'Hearn III
Charles Poole
Christopher Rodeno
Michael H. Rose
Holly and Bruce Tomasch
Joseph Walton
William Weber

GenerationNEXT Endowment Supporters

Mary and Daniel Berick
Mary Kay and Jack Binder
Jennifer and Timothy Burke
Judie and William Caster
Thomas Cirincione
Marilena DiSilvio and David Young

Bridget and Walter* Edwards, Sr.
Stephen Eilers Estate
Paulette and Frank Fantozzi
Drs. Julie and John Hertzler
E. Timothy Holzheimer
Margaret and James Hopkins
Kristi and Ken Horner
Katherine and Steven Hughes
Pamela and Stephen Keefe
Norma and Harvey Kotler
Jessica and Joseph Leonard
Susan and Todd Locke
Maureen and Steve MacIntyre
Diane and Jack Malarik
Christina Moran, PhD
Musca Family Charitable Fund
Edda and Terry Owen
Kristin and Bob Perkins
Elaine and Peter Roth
Kristin and Robert Tull
Loree Vick
Deborah and Colin Wilkinson
William A. Wortzman, CPA, Esq.

CORPORATIONS

Barrett Benefits Group, Inc.
Berea Kiwanis Club
Boyd & Son
Carnegie Investment Counsel
Chagrin Falls Eagle's Auxiliary #2436
CSC Corptax
Defensive Solutions Corp.
Enterprise Holdings
Great Lakes Cheese
Highland Springs LLC
HMT Associates
Huntington Private Financial Group
Impullitti Landscaping
Infinity Construction Co.
KeyBank Foundation
Law Offices Of Timothy M. Sullivan
The Lincoln Electric Foundation
The Lubrizol Foundation
Network For Good
Nicola Gudbranson & Cooper LLC
Nordson Corporation
Foundation

North Olmsted Kiwanis
Parker Hannifin Corporation
PLIDCO Pipeline Development Company
PRADCO
PSI Associates, Inc.
Robinson Lawn and Garden Center
RSM US LLP
The Sherwin-Williams Company
Smythe Property Advisors LLC
Syncshow Interactive
Tap Packaging Solutions
Target Corporation
Todd Associates, Inc.
U. S. Compliance Systems
UBS Financial Services, Inc.
University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's

FOUNDATIONS

Abington Foundation
The Banks Baldwin Foundation
Francine and Jules Belkin Philanthropic Fund
Eva L. & Joseph M. Bruening Foundation
The Callahan Foundation
CareSource Foundation
Castele Family Foundation
The Children's Guild
The Cleveland Foundation
Community West Foundation
Connor Foundation
Fedeli Family Charitable Foundation
Harry K. Fox and Emma R. Fox Charitable Foundation
Peggy and John Garson Family Foundation
Higley Fund
Ann and Glen Hiner Fund
George M. and Pamela S. Humphrey Fund
Huron Foundation
The Jewish Federation of Cleveland
Stephen & Judith Kovach Philanthropic Fund
Fred A. Lennon Charitable Trust

Edward A. and Catherine L. Lozick Foundation
Elizabeth Ring and William Gwinn Mather Fund
Matthews Children's Foundation
Eddie Miller Memorial Foundation
Burton D. Morgan Foundation
Sally and John Morley Family Foundation
Musca Family Charitable Fund
Edwin D. Northrup II Fund
O'Neill Brothers Foundation
Peg's Foundation
Reinberger Foundation
Reuter Foundation
Richard & Erica Hartman Horvitz Foundation
Ridgecliff Foundation
RIG III Family Foundation
Skulina Family Foundation
Sogg Foundation
Helen and Louis Stoller Family Foundation
Michael Talty and Helen Talty Charitable Trust
United Way of Greater Cleveland
United Way Services Of Geauga County Youth Fund Distribution
United Way of Greater Lorain County
The Wedge Block Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation
Thomas H. White Foundation
Will To Live Foundation, Inc.
Woodruff Foundation
Wulliger Family Philanthropic Fund
Young Family Charitable Fund

PUBLIC

ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County
Medina City School District
State of Ohio, Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services

**of blessed memory*

LifeAct Board of Directors

Frank Fantozzi, CPA, PFS, Chairman
John L. Hertzler, MD, President
Marilena DiSilvio, Esq., Vice Chair
Loree Vick, Vice Chair
William A. Wortzman, CPA, Esq., Vice Chair
W. Robert Perkins, Treasurer
Thomas Cirincione, CFA, Assistant Treasurer
Judith Caster, LISW-S, Secretary

Daniel G. Berick, Esq.
Jennifer Treadway Burke, JD, MSW
Eugenia Cash-Kirkland, LSW, MSSA, CDCA
Sandhya Gupta, Esq.
Michelle Harris, Ph.D.
Jim Hopkins
Pamela B. Keefe
Harvey Kotler, CLU
Judith Kovach
Jessica Leonard, CPA
James Lundquist
Steven J. MacIntyre

Diane O. Malarik, CPA
Amanda Mates
Christina M. Moran, Ph.D.
Richard W. Owens
Peter D. Roth, JD
John D. Wheeler, Esq.
Colin Wilkinson

Founder
Lyman H. (Tim) Treadway, of blessed memory

Chief Executive Officer
Jack Binder