



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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**Our mission**

**PreventionFIRST!**

**implements best  
practice strategies  
to reduce the risk  
of behavioral  
health disorders.**



On behalf of the PreventionFIRST! Board of Directors and staff,  
**THANK YOU** for supporting our work during fiscal year 2023.

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT/CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

During FY23, we strengthened existing partnerships and forged new ones that helped build capacity for and expand the reach of prevention efforts locally, regionally, and state-wide.

Through these partnerships — combining resources, expertise, and shared commitment — we continued to promote mental wellbeing and make significant strides to reduce the risk and impact of behavioral health disorders.

Substance use/misuse prevention has been a cornerstone of our work. We recognize the impact substance use disorders have on individuals, families, and communities and continued to engage community-based coalitions and organizations to increase outreach, programs, and awareness initiatives in the faith-based, Hispanic/Latino, and black communities.

New partnerships in the education system created opportunities to engage urban youth, college students, and teachers across the state. PFI implemented programs, promoted resources, provided technical assistance, and served in leadership roles to support prevention efforts in these sectors.

Strategic partnerships helped PFI advance prevention strategies aimed at reducing prescription drug misuse in Ohio. This effort included providing medication disposal bags/packets, medication lock boxes and automatic medication dispensers for distribution in communities.

The success and accomplishment of FY23 could not have been reached without our partners, the hard work and commitment of the PFI team, and the support of the PFI Board of Directors, funders, and donors.

Warm regards,

*Nicole Schiesler*  
Nicole Schiesler  
President & CEO

*Patrick J. Roberson*  
Patrick J. Roberson  
Board Chair

# Center for **PREVENTION SCIENCE**

**ENSURE** data-driven decision-making across  
all prevention initiatives

# FY 2023

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## **STRATEGIC PREVENTION FRAMEWORK FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (SPFRx)**

This initiative provides resources to help prevent and address prescription drug misuse throughout Ohio. PFI managed the Ohio Rx Disposal initiative — implementing strategies to educate and connect Ohioans to safe medication disposal options. Ohioans with limited or no access to prescription drug disposal sites can request a medication disposal bag be mailed to them at no cost. Requests can be made at [OhioRxDisposal.com](http://OhioRxDisposal.com)

Partnering with the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department, Ohio Department of Aging, community-outreach agencies, treatment providers, faith-based organizations, and pharmacies, PFI coordinated efforts to provide medication disposal bags in bulk along with education materials for distribution and promotion of this resource throughout Ohio.

PFI helped advance prevention strategies aimed at reducing prescription drug misuse in Ohio working with UMADAOPs located in Akron, Dayton, Cincinnati, Mansfield, and Youngstown. This effort included providing medication disposal bags/packets, medication lock boxes and automatic medication dispensers to partnering UMADAOPs for distribution in the communities they serve.

Increasing access to secure medication drop boxes continued at pharmacies located in Cincinnati Health Department clinics. In FY23, over 50 pounds were collected and destroyed.

Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) serves as the lead evaluator for the SPFRx project. They collect and analyze data to report on the effectiveness of the initiative.

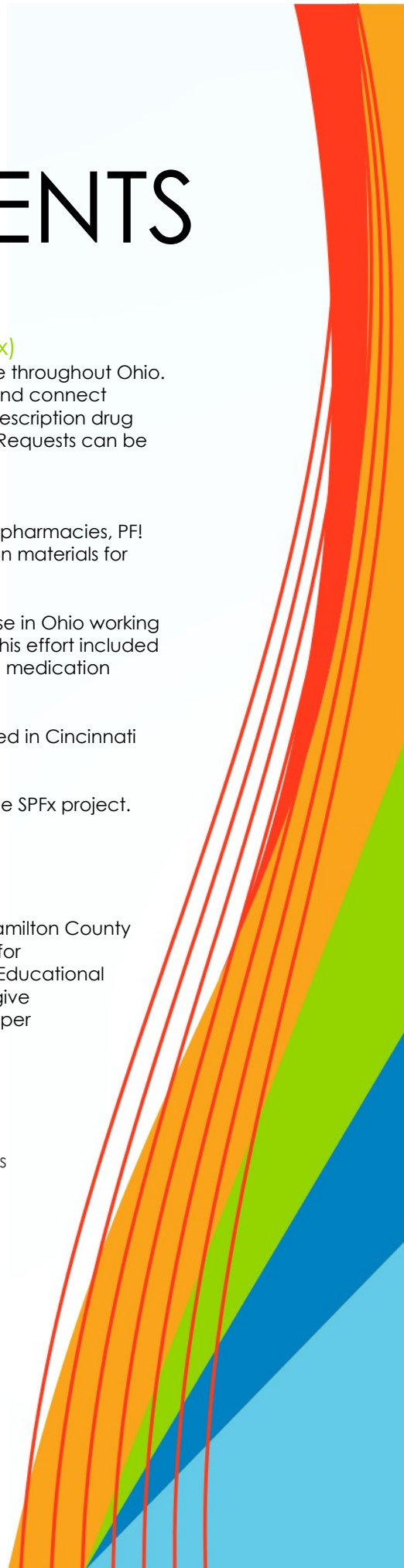
## **OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION: OPIOID AFFECTED YOUTH INITIATIVE**

Funding from this initiative allowed PFI to offer the PFI Student Survey at no cost to Hamilton County schools, closing a critical funding gap. The grant enabled PFI to build staff capacity for Student Survey recruitment and expand prescription drug misuse prevention efforts. Educational materials were created to promote the importance of proper medication disposal, give instruction of how to use a medication disposal bag, and provide information on proper disposal options.

## **COALITION EVALUATION SYSTEM**

The Coalition Evaluation Center provides evaluation services to regional community coalitions. This on-line platform collects information about accomplishments and provides PFI and participating coalitions with data to track community level changes related to youth substance use/misuse. During FY23, the system was utilized by PFI, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Warren County, and Stayin' Alive (Franklin County, Indiana).

In FY23, PFI provided services to 59,640 youth and adults in Greater Cincinnati and throughout Ohio. Media impressions from outlets including radio, television, social media, newsletters, and advertising, totaled 26.9 million.



# Center for **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**



**IMPLEMENT** evidence-based prevention by building and strengthening capacity across community sectors

**SUPPORT** community engagement



# FY 2023

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## COALITION ACADEMY

More than 140 individuals attended this year's conference: Equity in Prevention. The conference was funded by the Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and OhioMHAS.

## HAMILTON COUNTY ADDICTION RESPONSE COALITION (HC ARC)

The HC ARC is an action team that connects people to the right resources and treatments. The coalition addresses addiction through comprehensive solutions. Again in FY23, PFI and Cincinnati UMADAOP co-chaired the Prevention Committee. The work of the Prevention Committee focused on providing information, raising public awareness, building prevention skills and reducing access and availability, and policy change.

## HAMILTON COUNTY FAMILY SERVICES & TREATMENT LEVY

### PFI MINI GRANTS

Funding was awarded to Step Up Anderson Township, Christ Baptist Church, and Evanston Youth Association to plan and implement prevention strategies and build coalition capacity.

## BUILDING PREVENTION WITH FAITH

PFI with funding from the OhioMHAS, Faith-Based and Community-Based Stigma Reduction Expansion Initiative, continued to promote and distribute the *PFI Building Prevention with Faith* toolkit and provide prevention trainings to faith-based organizations. During FY23, the toolkit was translated into Spanish to better support prevention efforts in Greater Cincinnati Hispanic/Latino communities.

In partnership with the AAEW (African American Engagement Workgroup — HC ARC subcommittee), the toolkit supported the faith-based community in launching coalitions serving African American neighborhoods. Two churches took the lead and ten churches participated in the process, connecting congregations to effective prevention, intervention, treatment and support services.

## OHIO COALITION INSTITUTE

PFI in collaboration with OhioMHAS, the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Prevention and Promotion, Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation, Prevention Action Alliance, and YouThrive Training and Consulting launched this initiative to provide equitable learning opportunities for all coalitions working to address complex social problems in Ohio's communities. PFI provided mentorship to participating coalitions and served on the leadership team.

## STATE OPIOID RESPONSE GRANT

### PFI FELLOWSHIPS

Santa Maria Community Services (Price Hill), Greater New Hope Baptist Church (Avondale), the Hamilton County African American Engagement Workgroup were designated PFI Fellows. These community partners connected with the adults and youth in the Hispanic/Latino population and the black communities and provided medication disposal bags, medication lock boxes, opioid abuse awareness trainings, and host neighborhood events to support opioid abuse prevention. Additionally, this funding supported the launch of a new community coalition, a media buy reaching the Hispanic/Latino audience, and the prevention credentialing of a bilingual community service partner.

## OHIO COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE FOR COALITIONS & YOUTH LED PREVENTION

Hamilton County Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) Workgroup was launched with leadership from PFI and Hamilton County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board. This workgroup aims to improve the physical/behavioral health outcomes of Hamilton County, Ohio, communities by recognizing the impact of SDOH on minority and underserved populations. During FY23, the group focused on the multigenerational effects of SDOH on Black and Latino persons who identify as male across the lifespan.

## HISPANIC/LATINO OUTREACH

PFI continued to build partnerships and connect at the community level with Hispanic/Latino youth and families in the Greater Cincinnati region. A Spanish language mental health resource guide was created and distributed. PFI and Casa de Alabanza hosted our first Latino Youth Summit. Sessions were provided in Spanish on social media awareness, mental health, and substance misuse prevention. The summit included a parent workshop providing caregiver specific information and strategies on these same topics.



## MEMBER COALITIONS

In FY23, there were twenty-eight PF! member coalitions representing suburban, urban and rural communities. PF! and member coalitions belong to the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). Ohio-based coalitions are also members of the Ohio Statewide Prevention Coalition Association (SPCA).

1. Activating Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) - Norwood
2. Boone County Alliance for Healthy Youth
3. Butler County Coalition for Healthy, Safe & Drug-Free Communities
4. Butler County Suicide Prevention Coalition
5. Campbell County Drug-Free Alliance
6. Champions for a Drug-Free Gallatin County
7. Champions for a Drug-Free Grant County
8. Champions for a Drug-Free Pendleton County
9. Cincinnati for H.O.P.E. Coalition
10. Clark County Partners in Prevention
11. Coalition for a Drug-Free Adams County
12. Coalition for a Drug-Free Batesville
13. Coalition for a Drug-Free Clermont County
14. Coalition for a Healthy Community - Oxford Area
15. Coalition for a Healthy Middletown
16. Dearborn County Citizens Against Substance Abuse (CASA)
17. E3C Drug Free Coalition
18. Fairfield Prevention Coalition
19. Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church Prevention Service Ministry
20. Healthy Hamilton Coalition
21. Montgomery County Prevention Coalition
22. Mt. Washington Cares! Coalition
23. Northern Kentucky Institute for Strategic Prevention (NKISP)
24. Owen County Drug Prevention Coalition - Hope's Hands
25. Stayin' Alive, Franklin County LCC
26. Step Up Anderson Township - A Coalition for a Healthy, Safe, Drug-Free Community
27. Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Warren County
28. University of Cincinnati Campus - Community AOD Coalition



# Center for **PREVENTION ACTION**

**IMPLEMENT** evidence-based prevention by building and strengthening capacity across community sectors

**INCREASE** prevention system infrastructure by providing training, technical assistance, and mentoring through the PF! TrainingHUB!

# FY 2023

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## TRAINING & SUPPORT

### **OCAM (Ohio Coaching and Mentoring) Network**

This initiative provides capacity building and workforce development for prevention professionals and is funded by Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS). In FY23, OCAM expanded to twenty-one coaches/mentors and provided 98 trainings

- 1,940 individuals attended trainings and 397 received coaching services.
- In partnership with Woodward High School, Xavier University, UMADAOP Cincinnati, OCAM launched a high school internship program. At completion, students received 50 hours of practical experience and 100 hours of prevention education.
- For the first time OCAM hosted a two-day conference — Cultivating a Thriving Prevention Career. Conference sessions focused on advancing the skills and knowledge of prevention professionals from across Ohio.

### **Rise & Thrive Campus Community Partnership**

PF! was a member of the Rise & Thrive Leadership Team. This team provided training, technical assistance, professional development, and networking opportunities to twelve campus-community partnerships. The goal of each partnership was to plan and implement a mental wellness initiative that support Ohio college students. In addition, PF! was a community partner with the University of Cincinnati. *Bearcats Got Your Back*, an event to promote mental health to University of Cincinnati staff and students was held.

### **School & Family Outreach**

A continued partnership between PF! and the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation supported statewide expansion of *Sources of Strength Ohio* — an evidence-based prevention program for elementary and secondary students. In FY23, PF! continued to guide schools through implementation of the program.

### **Ohio Wellness Campus Collaborative**

This initiative supported campus community partnerships in raising awareness of mental health resources, evidence-based prevention strategies, and measures to increase access to treatment and screening for mental health disorders. Collaborating partners included the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health and The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery. In FY23, Bowling Green State University-Firelands Campus, Rhodes State College, Edison State Community College, Kent State-Columbiana Campus, Ohio University at Zanesville were funded to participate in the learning collaborative.

### **Youth Summit**

This year's youth summit engaged 123, sixth through eighth grade students in substance abuse prevention. The summit was held at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens. Participating youth learned prevention skills to take back to your schools, enhanced their understanding of mental health, improved resiliency and networked with their peers.

### **Behavioral Health Wellness**

In FY23, Miami University Ohio School-Based Center of Excellence for Prevention and Early Intervention launched an initiative to address limited school resources for mental wellbeing. PF! supported a full-time behavioral health wellness coordinator at Delhi Middle School. The role provides support for administration and staff by developing and implementing strategies to help reduce stress, build resiliency, promote mental wellness, increase access to resources for students and families. In the inaugural year the effort held a community centered health and wellness fair, established a food pantry, and partnered with Beech Acres to implement social, emotional, learning.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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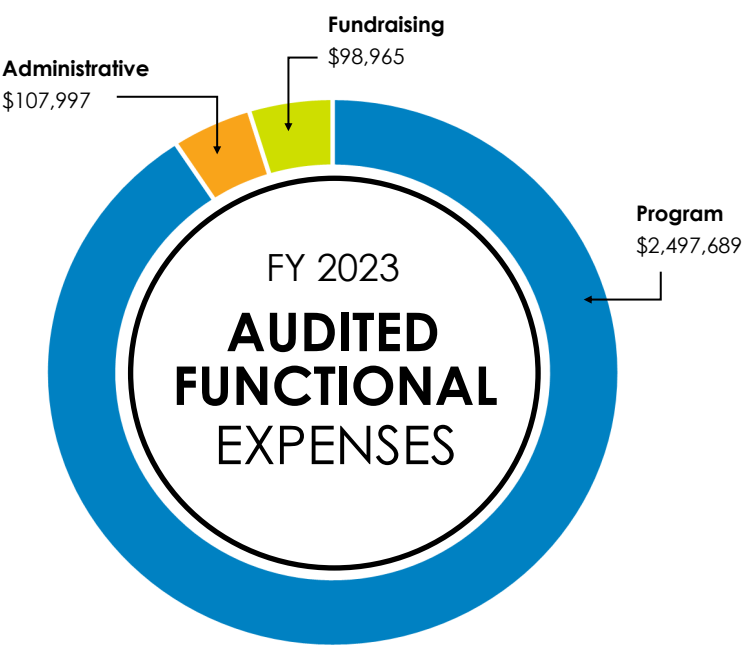
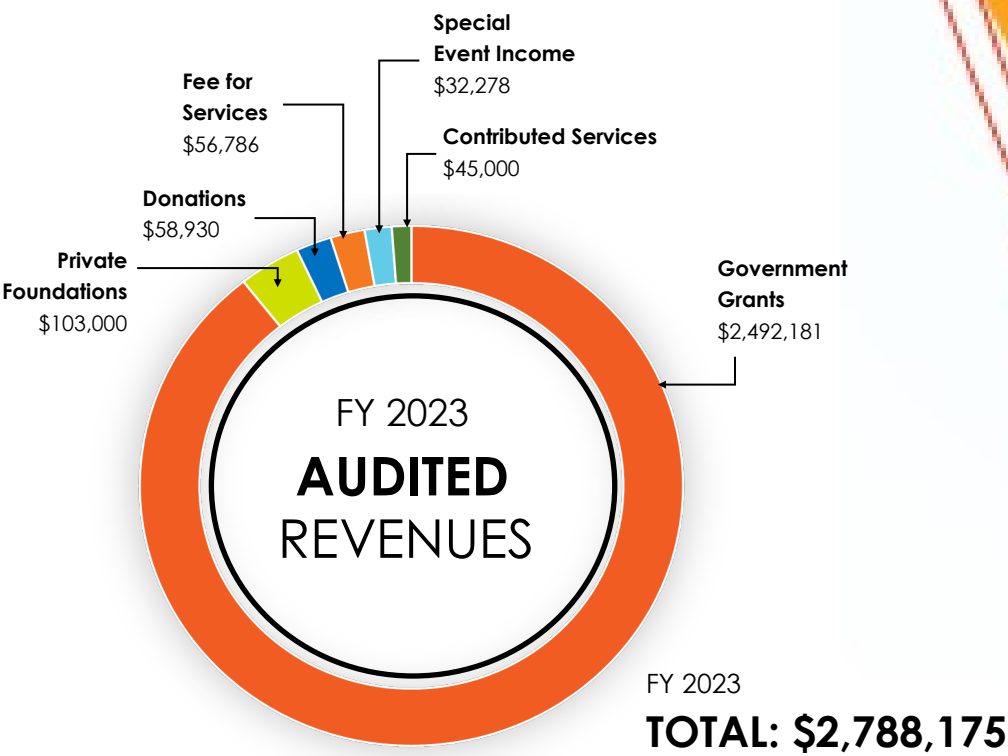
Rev. Dr. Damon Lynch, Jr.  
John Pepper  
Hope Taft, Ohio First Lady Emeritus

**Our vision is that all  
communities apply prevention  
strategies in every stage of life.**



# FY 2023

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT



Source:  
Barnes Dennig & Co. Ltd.  
End of Year Net Assets \$827,313

# FY 2023 FUNDING & GIVING

## GOVERNMENT GRANTS (\$2,492,181)

Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board  
Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

## PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS (\$103,000)

Charles H. Dater Foundation  
Robert & Adele Schiff Foundation

## DONATIONS (\$58,930)

### Corporate

Amazon Smiles  
Huntington Bank  
The Kroger Co. (Kroger Community Rewards)  
Paypal Giving Fund

### Individual

Eileen Cox  
Alysia Longmire  
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Linda Verst

### Organizational

Prevention Action Alliance  
PTTC  
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Ryan Whitaker

### PFI Past Board

David Wallace

## ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON & FUNDRAISER (\$32,278)

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Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation

### Award Sponsor

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### Individual Donations, continued

Montgomery County ADAMHS  
Montgomery County Prevention Coalition  
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Mary Wolff  
Youth to Youth  
Jessica Zavala

# THANK YOU

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY & SUPPORT

*\*This list represents financial contributions made between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. Every attempt has been made to list names correctly. PFI apologizes for any omissions or errors. Please call us at 513-751-8000 for corrections.*