

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Annual Fundraiser Hopes to Raise \$115,000 to Help Victims of Crime and Trauma in Summit County

On Saturday, March 3, 2018 Victim Assistance Program will once again turn The Tangier in Akron into a night out on Bourbon Street. Over 400 Mardi Gras Gala guests will enjoy a gourmet meal, open bar, live music, and bid on live and silent auction items to reach an event fundraising goal of \$115,000. For the last 25+ years, Mardi Gras Gala proceeds have directly impacted victims of crime and trauma in Summit County. Strong community support for this annual event allows Victim Assistance Program's highly trained advocates to provide 24-hour crime scene response, crisis intervention, and court advocacy to over 7,000 victims every year in Summit County.

Victim Assistance Program needs donations and sponsors for the Gala. If interested in **sponsoring** this incredible event, there are many options available beginning at \$500 which include event tickets, priority seating, advertising space, and a charitable tax deduction. Other opportunities to help include **donating an item or experience** for the live and silent auctions, or purchasing a program advertisement.

Early Bird tickets to the 26th Annual Mardi Gras Gala are available now through February 1, 2018 for \$95.00 per person after which the price increases to \$110.00. Make your reservations today at VAPMG2018.gesture.com or by calling Victim Assistance Program at 330.376.0040.

For more information about the Mardi Gras Gala, how to sponsor, advertise, or donate, please contact Kelly Kaufman, Director of Advancement, at 330.376.0040 extension 200.

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