



## Promoting wellness and recovery

John R. Kasich, Governor • Tracy J. Plouck, Director • 30 E. Broad St. • Columbus, OH 43215 • (614) 466-2596 • mha.ohio.gov

September 9, 2013

Dear Stakeholders:

As a member of Governor John R. Kasich's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, I am pleased to announce two new tools for providers and advocates serving survivors of trauma:

- *Is Your Work Trauma Informed and Core Competencies in domestic and sexual violence and;*
- *Human trafficking for helping professionals: A Clinician's Self-Assessment Tool.*

These tools were created in response to the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force's Recommendation #3, which calls for **revising basic competencies for professionals working with human trafficking victims**. Acknowledging the extraordinary opportunity counselors and social workers have to assist human trafficking and other trauma survivors in their healing, these tools seek to assist individuals and agencies examine their current understanding and practices around trauma response. These self-assessment tools support these aims by allowing clinicians to examine their own competencies. Included in these documents is a work plan to assist both the assessment participants and their supervisors develop a customized training and technical assistance plan based on areas identified as needing additional skills and knowledge.

Enclosed please find copies of both tools. I encourage you and your staff to utilize these assessments, and share any additional training needs with me and my staff. This will enable our agency and the Task Force to better serve you through technical assistance and/or statewide trainings.

Additionally, we want to ensure that these tools are used in a meaningful and effective way in the future. Please feel free to provide feedback regarding the assessment tools, and contact Debbie Nixon-Hughes, Deputy Director for Community Support, at 614-466-9943 or [deborah.nixon-hughes@mha.ohio.gov](mailto:deborah.nixon-hughes@mha.ohio.gov) should you have any questions or suggestions.

Thank your partnership in providing excellent service to the most vulnerable in Ohio.

Sincerely

Tracy Plouck  
Director

