

# SUPPORTING LOCAL HEROES

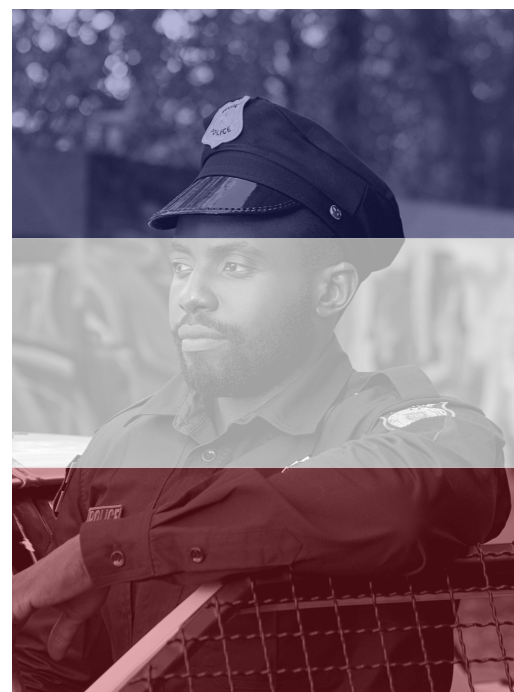
## ZEPF CENTER OHIO HEROES PROGRAM

### ZEPF CENTER LAUNCHES FREE COUNSELING AND SUPPORT GROUPS

Toledo, OH – Zepf Center is set to launch free counseling and support groups for Ohio area front-line medical personnel and first responders. Beginning April 6, 2020 – area professionals who are working to combat the COVID-19 pandemic will be able to access the free, confidential program, Ohio Heroes, by calling **419-841-6781**. The unique phone number is dedicated to the Ohio Heroes Program.

### COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE:

- Free, individual counseling for first responders and medical personnel during the month of April.
- Free, weekly support groups specifically designed to address the unique needs of front-line medical professionals and first responders. Individuals who choose to participate in the weekly support groups will be given an option to remain anonymous.



According to Deb Flores, CEO of Zepf Center, ***“Now, more than ever, it is important to stand behind these front-line heroes with the resources and support they need. They are risking their lives to save ours.”*** The programs will provide these local heroes with a safe place to address the stress, fear and anxiety they are facing as they battle this pandemic.

Zepf Center has been a behavioral health leader in the community for nearly 40 years and is uniquely positioned to provide this type of support due to the number of licensed staff who are specially trained in trauma informed care. Zepf Center is certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) International.

For more information on Zepf Center’s response to the COVID 19 pandemic and its Ohio Heroes Program, please visit [www.zepfcenter.org](http://www.zepfcenter.org).

### Media inquiries should be directed to:

Kitty Slight/Director of Communications and Marketing  
419-320-0955

**Hope Begins Here**  
(419) 841-7701

