

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Domestic Violence Shelter Appoints Tina L. Turner as Executive Director and Announces Service Adjustments

MANSFIELD, Ohio — September 17, 2026 — The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. today announced the appointment of Tina L. Turner as Executive Director. Turner will lead the organization's continued work to provide safety, education, advocacy, and supportive services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking throughout Richland County.



Tina L. Turner, MPA, has more than 30 years of public service and program management experience. Her background includes executive leadership, public health program development, strategic planning, grant administration, program evaluation, health equity, operational improvement, and stakeholder collaboration—experience that will support the Shelter's mission and long-term sustainability.

"Tina brings a strong commitment to survivors, nonprofit leadership, and community partnership," said Alicia Bailey, Chair of the Board of Directors. "The Board is confident that her leadership will help the Shelter navigate current challenges while protecting its mission and strengthening its long-term sustainability."

Turner succeeds former Executive Director Colleen Rice, whose retirement was announced earlier this year. The Board of Directors greatly appreciates Peggy Butt for serving as the Interim Executive Director during this transition and for her many years of service to The Domestic Violence Shelter and the individuals and families whom we serve. Turner will work closely with the Board, staff, funders, and community partners to maintain essential services and position the organization for the future.

"I am honored to join The Domestic Violence Shelter and serve an organization that has been a vital resource in Richland County for nearly five decades," Turner said. "My immediate priorities are supporting survivors, communicating transparently with our staff and partners, and expanding the partnerships and resources necessary to strengthen our impact." Turner will begin her role on September 25, 2026.

The Shelter also announced that delays in anticipated funding and lower-than-expected fundraising revenue have required reductions in staffing and programming. Eighteen (18) positions were eliminated effective September 17, 2026, and affected employees have been notified.

The Shelter will remain open around the clock, and its 24-hour crisis hotline will continue operating. Sexual assault response services will also continue, while community outreach and education will pause until funding is restored, and case management will prioritize current program participants.

“This was an extremely difficult decision, and it does not reflect the dedication or performance of the employees affected,” Bailey said. “Their work has made a meaningful difference in the lives of survivors and families. We are deeply grateful for their service.”

The organization is adjusting staffing and operations to protect critical survivor services while managing available resources responsibly. The Shelter will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with survivor safety as its highest priority. The Sexual Assault Response Team will continue working with area hospitals to meet this essential need. Community outreach and education will pause until funding is available to restart those programs, and case management will prioritize individuals currently enrolled in the program and assist with legal advocacy on a limited basis. The Shelter’s **24-hour crisis hotline remains available at 419-774-5840.**

The Domestic Violence Shelter’s essential services are sustained by the generosity of community members, businesses, foundations, and other partners. Contributions support emergency shelter, crisis response, advocacy, case management, prevention education, and other critical assistance for survivors and their families.

To learn more or provide support, visit **thedvshelter.com** or call **419-774-5843**.

About The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.

Founded in 1978, The Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. provides emergency shelter, crisis intervention, safety planning, advocacy, case management, and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking in Richland County. Its mission is to build a peaceful community by providing safety, education, and supportive services while empowering survivors and those affected by violence.

Media Contact:

Peggy Anderson
Immediate Past Board Chair
419.526.7880
peggyanderson.lisw@gmail.com
###