



CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

AN INVITATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR YOUR STAFF

Who we are: OCAPS was formed in 1984 after passing the Adult Protective Services (APS) law in Ohio (ORC 5101.60-5101.72). We are committed to supporting and enhancing a strong APS response to allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of adults age 60+ living in the community. Our mission: Maximizing the protection and dignity of older adults through collaboration, education, and advocacy. Our vision is an Ohio free of older adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Education at the OCAPS Annual Conference: Every year, APS professionals across Ohio and allied professionals learn from national experts and local leaders about innovations in practice and successful collaborations through a day of plenary sessions and workshops. Mandated reporters can learn, collaborate with colleagues, and build networks. Our goal is to encourage more mandated reporters who are First Responders, especially law enforcement and health care, to attend.

The OCAPS Scholarship Fund: OCAPS decided in 2023 that a scholarship fund directed to mandated reporters will make a significant difference in combatting the troubling underreporting of older adult maltreatment, increase the likelihood of appropriate reports to the correct county resource, and improve collaboration for positive results. We will offer scholarships from the fund for the first time for the 2024 Annual Conference. You are receiving this communication because your staff are mandated reporters.

What we are asking: We are requesting donations to the OCAPS Scholarship Fund that we will offer to First Responders and medical staff, who are often the first to encounter an older adult who may be abused, neglected, or exploited. The scholarship will cover the cost of the conference fee, an OCAPS membership when the employer is not already a member, and \$100 to cover travel expenses to the conference in Columbus if needed. Our goal is to raise \$10,000. We are asking for your help.

Thank you for considering this request. It will benefit your staff, and most importantly, it will equip them to recognize they suspect that an older adult is being abused, neglected, or exploited.

To donate, visit: <https://www.ocapsohio.org/support-our-work>.

Sue Daugherty and Carol Dayton, Co-Chairs of the OCAPS Development Committee

OCAPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization that offers free services to seniors thanks to generous donations, partnerships, and grants. Donations may be tax-deductible to the full extent of applicable law. For more information, visit <https://www.ocapsohio.org/>.