



Karen S. Days

The president of **The Center for Family Safety and Healing (TCFSH)**, a merged entity combining the **Center for Child and Advocacy at Nationwide Children's Hospital (CCFA)** and the **Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence (CCAFV)**. TCFSH combines the strengths of both former organizations into an integrated team approach to breaking the cycle of family violence and child abuse by:

- strengthening the missions of CCFA and CCAFV
- integrating comprehensive services to break the cycle of domestic violence and child abuse while addressing the full age continuum
- breaking down barriers to anyone wanting access to treatment
- providing a new level of leadership to support interdisciplinary collaboration and the sharing of resources, ideas and funding among community providers
- a one-stop, coordinated approach for families, enhanced through the resources of partner organizations including CHOICES, the Columbus Police Special Victims Unit, Franklin County Children Services and the Office of the Franklin County Prosecutor

Karen served as the **president** of the **Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence** since 1999 with a commitment to creating a community culture that does not tolerate family violence. A strong Board of Trustees, along with the Coalition's founder, Abigail Wexner, enabled CCAFV to mobilize community resources by raising community awareness; supporting new initiatives for prevention and intervention; and increasing and enhancing community education. In 2012, Karen was appointed **president** of **TCFSH** and she led a rigorous strategic planning process that has shaped very important work.

Professional Background:

Karen has served as the first and only president of the Coalition since 1999. Prior to that she spent 10 years working in the criminal justice field.

This included positions as a fellow at the Office of Criminal Justice Services of Ohio; Night and Weekend director, Columbus City Prosecutor's Office; Crime Prevention Specialist for the Alliance for Cooperative Justice; Assistant Chief of the Grants Section of the Office of Criminal Justice Services of Ohio; and Director of Safety at United Way of Central Ohio.

A graduate of The Ohio State University in 1993 with a Bachelor's degree in Criminology/Criminal Justice. Karen also earned an MBA from Ohio Dominican University in April 2009.

Serving the Community

Currently, Karen serves as Board Chair of the Columbus Board of Health and is serving as a board member of the Ohio Domestic Violence Network and the Advisory Board of the State Victims Assistance Act (SVAA). She also served on the Columbus Police Foundation Board, Mount Carmel Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, YWCA Columbus, YMCA Metropolitan General Board, the Board of Trustees for the United Way of Central Ohio, and the Ohio Dominican Board of Trustees..

In 2009, she received the "Women of Achievement Award" from the YWCA.

In 2001, she received the "Karama Community Leadership Award" from the Columbus Urban League.

In addition, she volunteered three years at the Short Stop Teen Drop-in Center of Directions for Youth and Families and as a mentor at Salesian Boys and Girls Club.

A native of Columbus, she grew up in South and North Linden and currently resides in Johnstown, Ohio.