

Devan Althen, LMC Emerging Leaders Class of 2019, is the Community Prevention Specialist with Alternative Paths and the Chairperson for Medina County's Coalition for Suicide Prevention. She graduated from Slippery Rock University with her bachelor's degree in psychology and Criminology and holds her Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant in Prevention. She has also previously served as a police officer and the Lead of Anti-Human Trafficking for the Cleveland Hope Exchange.

In prevention work, they don't believe in standing at the bottom of a cliff and bandaging those who fall off. Rather, they believe in building a fence around the top of the cliff, so that no one can fall off in the first place. Some of her accomplishments in attempt to build that fence include, developing the Suicide Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team in Medina County, establishing trainings and initiating outreaches in the realm of human trafficking in Cuyahoga County, and acquiring grants to promote the Medina County's Crisis Line and local mental health resources to those in need.

Devan wholeheartedly believes in seeking what sets your soul on fire and doing that work every day. She looks forward to the day she can create her own nonprofit to help victims of trauma. When she's not kept busy with work, you can probably find her outside, in the gym, painting or coaching volleyball to the most talented and kindhearted 8th graders she knows."