

P R E S S R E L E A S E

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELESE Tuesday, August 23, 2016 Commissioners: Steven A. Davis David L. Levacy Mike Kiger

County Administrator

Fairfield County Receives Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program Grant Award

Lancaster, Ohio - Fairfield County will be receiving a \$400,000 grant for the Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program (CHIP) to assist low- to moderate-income homeowners residing in the county outside of the city limits of Lancaster. The funds are competitively awarded to eligible communities by the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Development. The new two-year grant period begins September 1.

The CHIP Program is designed to assist income-qualifying homeowners with home repairs and rehabilitation that help ensure the health and safety of occupants and preserve the area's affordable, owner-occupied housing stock. A homeownership activity offers assistance with down payments combined with rehabilitation. Household income eligibility is based on 50 percent of the area median for home repairs and 80 percent of the area median for home rehabilitation and homeownership assistance.

Funding awards are based on community needs, quality and completeness of the application, past program performance and capacity to provide CHIP services. Since 2000 Fairfield County has been awarded seven CHIP grants and has served 216 owner-occupied households with these resources. In addition, CHIP provides educational activities regarding federal and state fair housing laws.

Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency (LFCAA), a non-profit organization that assists low- to moderate income households through a broad range of programs, administers the CHIP Program on behalf of Fairfield County. For further information about CHIP assistance, contact LFCAA at 740-653-4146.

###

SERVE • CONNECT • PROTECT

Carri L. Brown

Rachel A. Elsea