

FOR IMMEDIATE RELESE Wednesday, October 16, 2019

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

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Fairfield County Land Bank Announces New Grant Programs for Local Governments and Non-profit Organizations

Lancaster, Ohio – The Fairfield County Land Bank has two new grant programs to assist local governments and non-profit organizations who are working to return properties to productive use, reduce blight, and increase property values. Commissioner Dave Levacy, Commission President and Land Bank member, stated, "The overarching goal is to support community goals relative to property values and improve the quality of life for Fairfield County residents."

The Land Bank is offering mini-grants up to \$15,000 when projects are connected to the Land Bank mission. A 20% project match is required for grants over \$5,000, but no match is required for grants under \$5,000. Any required match can include in-kind contributions. Grantees must also be willing to serve as an educational partner for the Land Bank by posting Land Bank signs and joining in on communications to share information about the Land Bank.

"The grant application is a simple, one-page application, and we will help groups complete the application if needed," stated Michael Kaper, Land Bank Executive Director. The grant funding is available on a first come, first served basis. Applicants should expect a response within 30 days of delivering a completed application.

The grant application can be found here: <u>https://www.fairfieldcountyland.com/</u> and here: <u>https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/</u>

For more information please contact Michael Kaper, Land Bank Executive Director, <u>michael.kaper@faifieldcountyohio.gov</u>, or Carri Brown, County Administrator, <u>carri.brown@faifieldcountyohio.gov</u>.

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