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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WAYNE COUNTY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES IMPACT GRANT RESULTS

The results are in and six local nonprofit organizations are celebrating the generosity of the community.

Earlier this month, the Wayne County Foundation extended a matching-grant opportunity in support of five initiatives selected to participate in its 2011 Impact Grant. The Foundation promised a one-to-two match, up to \$10,000 per project, based on contributions made between November 11 and November 15. Two-hundred fifty gifts were received, totaling \$124,800 and triggering \$42,100 in match money from the Foundation.

“We are very pleased with the community’s response to what was a real experiment,” said Steve Borchers, executive director of the Foundation. “Three of the five supported projects raised more than the \$20,000 threshold to trigger the maximum match, and a fourth came very, very close.”

The collaborative program put forth by the Boys and Girls Club and Girls Inc. garnered the most community support. Their effort was followed by Communities In Schools,

the Wayne County Historical Museum, and Habitat for Humanity. The new building program advanced by Circle U Help Center generated the least community interest, but still raised more than \$7,400 for the project, including the Foundation match.

	Gifts Received	Foundation Match	Totals
To initiate a collaborative program through the Boys and Girls Clubs and Girls Inc. called, <i>Help Teens Achieve</i>	\$49,038.00	\$10,000.00	\$59,038.00
In support of a new food pantry / storage facility for Circle U Help Center	4,975.00	2,487.50	7,462.50
To support the continued work of Communities In Schools	30,773.00	10,000.00	40,773.00
To initiate the <i>ReStore</i> program at Habitat for Humanity	19,240.00	9,620.00	28,860.00
The new building program at the Wayne County Historical Museum	20,777.00	10,000.00	30,777.00
Totals	\$124,803.00	\$42,107.50	\$166,910.50

“Match days are becoming a popular means of leveraging community support for important projects,” said Borchers. “We already have some ideas for how to do it differently next time, and we’re looking forward to hearing about what worked and what didn’t from our partner organizations. It’s definitely something we’ll consider doing again.”

The Wayne County Foundation’s Impact Grant was initiated in 2001 as a larger award intended to foster collaboration among the County’s not-for-profit organizations and relate to the most pressing community concerns and interests. The first Impact Grant focused on literacy and youth development. Since then, the Foundation has supported a range of distinctive initiatives in support of basic human needs, the arts, and education.

More information may be obtained by contacting Steve Borchers at steve@waynecountyfoundation.org, or by calling the Foundation office at 765/962-1638.

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