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**Preliminary Results:
2015 Challenge Match Approaches \$1 Million in Total Community Benefit**

The Wayne County Foundation announced today that the 27 organizations participating in its 2015 Challenge Match raised more than \$776,000 in community contributions in a 12-day period last month. This amount, plus the \$200,000 Foundation match, represents over \$976,000 in total benefit to the community.

In 2014, the program generated \$1,023,950 for 40 local non-profits, including \$231,370 of matching money from the Foundation and 12 Match Partners.

“This is a wonderful result,” said Steve Borchers, executive director of the Foundation. “We had fewer participating organizations than last year and changes to the program that made it a little more ‘challenging.’ Nevertheless, the organizations involved rose to the occasion, and the community responded with a tremendous outpouring of generosity that more than rivaled last year.”

This was the first year that every participating organization was required to raise a certain amount of money before the Foundation match could be claimed.

“There were only seven organizations that did not capture their full share of the match,” said Borchers. “On the other hand, there were some that exceeded their targets many times over. Once again, we saw a number of “match the match” donors.”

The Foundation will release all of the details of the 2015 Challenge Match later this month.

“Any adjustments notwithstanding, these results speak volumes about the tremendous generosity here in Wayne County and the remarkable work being done by our not-for-profit organizations.”

The Wayne County Foundation seeks to encourage philanthropy, enhance the spirit of community, and improve the quality of life throughout the area, now and for future generations.

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