

The Honorable Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 2419 Rayburn Office Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup:

As the President of Ohio Southeast Economic Development, a JobsOhio regional partner, I want to offer this letter of support for the HCCAO Jefferson Street Business Center request for funding through the Community Project Fund.

Beyond providing various social services to low and middle income residents, HCCAO also operates the Ohio Means Jobs offices- a key partner in our work to increase employment opportunities through new private investment and job creation. We believe having an office to serve the Greenfield area will enable residents in this part of the county take advantage of services needed for employment and other services to enter/re-enter the workforce. We have area employers that are growing and need a strong workforce to achieve their expansion goals. Highland County Community Action is making a huge investment in the Village of Greenfield to deliver comprehensive services at one location. Residents who lack transportation do not have to travel to the county seat of Hillsboro for services. Additionally, HCCAO has space available for access by other community partners to address the needs of the community.

While renovations are ongoing, please consider funding a portion of the renovations within the facility so we can align our workforce needs with those of the private sector and keep the regional economy strong.

Sincerely,

Mike Jacoby, President

Ohio Southeast Economic Development

91st House District

Clinton, Pike, Highland, and a portion of Ross County

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High Street
13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
(614) 466-3506
Rep9l@ohiohouse.gov
www.ohiohouse.gov

Committees

Chair-Government Oversight
Finance
Public Utilities
State and Local Government

### Shane Wilkin State Representative

Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515 Dear Brad,

I encourage you to submit the Community Program Request submitted by Highland County Community Action. HCCAO has been a leader in assisting those in need of services as well as economic development within our county for 50+ years.

As the renovations continue for the One Stop facility in Greenfield, I look forward to the opportunity for social service agencies to provide under one roof as well trainings and education. I am also pleased to holding District office open meetings in the facility once it is complete. I know you will receive many requests. However, this submission is one that desperately needs funds within the District.

Sincerely,

Shane Wilkin

State Representative

District 91

rep91@ohiohouse.gov



### **Highland County Board of Commissioners**

119 GOVERNOR FORAKER PLACE, SUITE 211 HILLSBORO, OHIO 45133-1161 Phone 937-393-1911 Fax 937-393-5850 www.co.highland.oh.us

> JEFF DUNCAN TERRY BRITTON **DAVID DANIELS** NICOLE OBERRECHT, CLERK MARY REMSING, CLERK



April 7, 2021

Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn House Office Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

The Highland County Commissioners offer our support for the Community Project Funding Request for Highland County Community Action. Two of us currently serve on the non-profit board Governing Board. The county contracts with HCCAO to implement and lead various partnerships between the county and nonprofit including administering the local CHIP grant, Recycling efforts and the Land Bank. Several years ago, the Commissioners turned over operations of the Ohio Means Jobs Program to HCCAO. They have grown that program from a staff of 2 to over 9.

The combined facility allows for HCCAO to deliver services for all of their programs under one roof. It also provides the opportunity for direct services from other entities in the county which currently residents must travel to the county seat to receive. The Commissioners will utilize this location to hold occasional town hall meetings as well as potential Commissioners meeting in this location.

We recognize that you will receive many requests for funding. We encourage you to consider submission and funding for the renovation of this facility.

Sincerely.

**David Daniels** 



Village of Greenfield
300 Jefferson Street
P. O. Box 300
Greenfield, Ohio 45123

April 9, 2021

Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

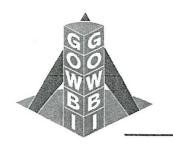
The Village of Greenfield is very pleased that Highland County Community Action was able to purchase a vacant commercial property in Greenfield.

In turn, they are working to complete renovations to consolidate services under one roof. This assists Greenfield as we partner together to improve the community in many ways. We are scheduled to have our next Industrial Round Table Meeting next week in their Community Conference Room.

We offer our support for their request for funding under the Community Projects Funding Request. Please consider their proposal. When public and private nonprofit partners work together, we truly can improve the communities where we live.

Sincerely,

Todd Wilkin, City Manager



## Greater Ohio Workforce Board Inc.

A proud partner of the American Job Center network

Swen A. Hunt, Sr., Chair Bruce Schrader, Vice Chair John Trott, Exec. Director

April 7, 2021

Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As the Executive Director of the Greater Ohio Workforce Board, Inc. (the business-led board overseeing workforce services provided for with US Department of Labor funding), I want to offer our support for the proposal which Highland County Community Action Organization (HCCAO) is submitting for funding. Since the Board engaged HCCAO to manage the OhioMeansJobs Highland County office in 2014, the number of workers and businesses receiving assistance has grown substantially in Highland County.

I am pleased that HCCAO will be opening another OhioMeansJobs office in the Village of Greenfield. It has been a goal of the county for some time now. This new job center will allow many more individuals seeking employment assistance and training to have access to needed opportunities and resources for employment.

I encourage you to include their application in the formal request for Community Project Funding.

Sincerely,

John Trott



Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

This letter is in support of Highland County Community Action's (HCCAO) request for funding from the *Community Project* opportunity. As a nonprofit, HCCAO has made a permanent investment in the Village of Greenfield to renovate a vacant 33,000 square commercial building into a One Stop Social Services Center. This delivery system is known to be most effective in providing a comprehensive, whole-family framework for addressing child and family poverty, such as facilitating physical colocation of services, universal "no wrong door" intake, referral networks, shared measurement systems, and use of technology to deliver services. Co-location of HCCAO services in Greenfield with additional space available for other agencies to provide direct services is now available within this building.

As the member Agency serving Appalachian Ohio's 17 Community Action Partners, COAD recognizes the importance of investing in the capacity and operations of our CAP Agencies. The work they do is efficient, effective, and always grounded in community need. Please do include HCCA's request for funding in your Community Project Request to assist with renovation costs at the prospective One Stop facility. This investment will allow the agency to direct more of its grant dollars to direct services and partnerships within the community.

Many thanks for your attention and service,

Megan Riddlebarger

**Executive Director** 

Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development

mega Riddlebanger

1 Pinchot Lane

Athens, Ohio 45701



Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. P.O. Box 154
160 Dorsey Drive
Rio Grande, OH 45674-0154
(800) 582-7277
TTY: 711
www.aaa7.org

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

On behalf of the Area Agency on Aging, we offer our support for the relocating all of HCCAO services under one roof in the Village of Greenfield. In the long term this will be cost efficient as both Head Start and Senior Nutrition will be sharing the same kitchen and staff. Seniors will also have the opportunity to interact with children in the Head Start program.

After months of closing Congregate Meal sites, we are excited for our seniors to be able to receive a warm meal and socialization in the near future. Providing the opportunity to access programs such as utility assistance and emergency food, without traveling to other locations, is a positive result for seniors as well.

As a nonprofit, I know HCCAO has limited funds to complete renovations, please consider including this application for your request for Community Project Funding.

Sincerely,

Nina R. Keller, MSW, LSW

**Executive Director** 



## **Merchants National Bank**

### A Real Community Bank®

April 9th, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

Merchants National Bank has been working with Highland County Community Action since they purchased the vacant Pamida/Shopko building in 2017. The agency reached out to various large commercial banks for financing as well. All the large institutions said NO, Merchants National Bank said YES! The agency was patient as they pursued additional funding avenues to drive down the costs for a permanent loan. Along the way, they met with many unanticipated challenges including the replacement of the roof which was over \$180,000.

During the first round of competitive bidding the lowest bid came in over \$1,000,000 higher than anticipated. HCCAO staff worked with the architect and contractors to reduce costs for the facility. Overall, they were able to cut over \$750,000 from the original bids.

Right as timelines were established to begin construction, the pandemic hit. Merchants National Bank seriously considered not financing the facility as we know nonprofit funds are generally based on limited grants.

However, we chose to invest in our Community. We were able to provide a Construction Loan to HCCAO. The loan was not as high as they needed to complete the renovations desired. Again changes were made in the plans. HCCAO decided to move forward even



## **Merchants National Bank**

### A Real Community Bank®

though the construction/renovation loan was not as high as they still need. The construction/renovation loan has not been closed out and switched to a permanent loan as renovations continue. As a lending institution, it might seem strange that we are reaching out to ask you to include Highland County Community Action One Stop Renovation Project (Jefferson Street Business Center) in your Community Project Funding Request. However, we recognize the value HCCAO brings to the community. We would much rather have HCCAO target their dollars in direct services to help the elderly and others in need of assistance then paying high monthly loan payments when the Construction/Renovation loan rolls over into a high permanent loan prior to the end of the year.

Sincerely,

Blain Bergstrom



P.O. Box 329 Greenfield, OH 45123

April 7, 2021

(937) 981-5050 (740) 333-5050 (937) 365-WVNU Fax (937) 981-2107

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As a long time business owner in Greenfield, I have witnessed many individuals that need assistance in this Appalachia Community. Highland County Community Action is a nonprofit organization that has been there to assist residents for over 50 years. Through home delivered meals for seniors, transportation for the elderly, health services for pregnant women and numerous other ways, HCCAO helps people and changes lives.

Our community has been in need of a One Stop Services Center for many years. This will allow residents of Greenfield and surrounding townships, to obtain assistance without needing to drive round trip for over 40 miles to receive services in the county seat. This facility will also provide space for other social service providers to delivers services that are not normally offered in Greenfield.

I urge you to include the HCCAO request for renovation dollars in your Community Project allocation request.

Sincerely,

Pat Hays, General Manager



April 8th, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 241 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

Fairfield Homes manages various low to moderate income and senior housing units within the Village of Greenfield. Many of these residents are in need of assistance at various times in their lives. Over the past year, HCCAO has assisted many of our residents with rent and utility payments due to COVID.

Our seniors participate in the Senior Meal programs. HCCAO makes a difference in Helping People and Changing Lives. We are excited to see HCCAO combine facilities under one roof in Greenfield. We are also pleased that it is within a few blocks of the apartments and homes we manage.

I know the cost of renovations is high whether for a residential or commercial facility. However, it will truly make a difference in the cost to the agency if you are able to include them in your requests for funding under the Community Project Fund.

Respectfully,

Monica Burns Area Community Manager









### Rotary Club #3629 of Greenfield, Ohio - District 6670

P.O. Box 102 Greenfield, OH 45123 Chartered 1922

April 7, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

I would like to offer the support of the Greenfield Rotary Club for the Jefferson Street Business Center—HCCAO *Non-Profit* One Stop Social Services building. The Rotary Club provided the Armory for over 50 years for operations of the Head Start Program.

However, the age of the building, lack of adequate size classrooms and limited space were all issues that we could not address efficiently. We are pleased that HCCAO was able to purchase the vacant building and is renovating it into a Business Center where all Greenfield based services will operate. This one stop will allow individuals in our Village to access services in one location as well as provide adequate space for other elected officials and social service providers to utilize space occasionally.

We recognize that you will have many requests within the District. <u>Please support the HCCAO request.</u> The cost of renovating the space was much higher than anticipated along with the other unanticipated expenses that arose over the past 4 years.

Respectfully,

Ron Coffey, President



Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Office Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As the Executive Director of the Highland County Chamber of Commerce and the Visitors Bureau of Highland County, I want to offer our support for the proposal which HCCAO is submitting for funding. Since assuming operations in leading the Ohio Means Jobs Highland County office in 2014, the services have grown in Highland County, and the partnership between our office and HCCAO has led to expansion and supportive services for many area businesses.

While I have not been able to visit the Jefferson Street Business Center yet, I know renovations continue. This site will be beneficial for the Chamber and its members as it is a local site in Greenfield for businesses to hold job fairs, employment services, interviews, and meetings. We hope that through continued expansion and renovations new business and opportunities for tourism will come to Greenfield.

I encourage us to include their application in the formal request for Community Project Funding

Sincerely,

gamie 4M. Wheeler

Jamie M. Wheeler, Executive Director Highland County Chamber of Commerce Visitors Bureau of Highland County

#### HIGHLAND COUNTY

Family and Children First Council 1487 North High Street Suite 500, Hillsboro, OH 45133 937-393-3458 ext. 131 highlandfcfc@gmail.com

### To Whom It May Concern;

Highland County Community Action Organization Inc. (HCCAO) made a permanent investment within the Village of Greenfield to renovate a vacant commercial building into a one-stop social service center. HCCAO provides many supportive services for families including the Housing Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP), Emergency Services (HEAP, food pantry, transportation), Family Health Services (WIC, family planning), Early Childhood Services (Head Start and Early Head Start), and Ohio Means Jobs.

This "one-stop shop" delivery system is known to be most effective in providing comprehensive services. HCCAO is a vital agency for the families in Highland County. Highland County Family and Children First Council is supportive of any funding assistance that can be awarded to Highland County Community Action to support the ongoing service delivery in the best distribution option possible.

Please feel free to contact me if you need anything additional.

Sincerely,

Valerie Williams

Valein Williams

**FCFC Coordinator** 



Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

The Paint Valley ADAMH Board ensures that individuals and families affected by mental illness and/or addiction have access to high-quality recovery-oriented system of care. Highland County Community Action Organization is one of our key partners in the community as they work in providing additional social services on the path to recovery. We look forward to providing individualized services as needed within their new combined Greenfield facility. Partnerships such as this make a true impact on our community.

I recognize that renovations are costly and ongoing at this time, I asked you to please consider including HCCAO in your request for Community Project Funding. We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Penny Dehner, Executive Director



#### **FAMILY RECOVERY SERVICES**

Where recovery starts & healing begins

P.O. Box 823 ■ 313 Chillicothe Avenue ■ Hillsboro, OH 45133 (937) 393-4562 Fax: (937) 393-2056 E-mail: rcheesbro@familyrecoveryservices.org

April 10th, 2021

Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

On behalf of Family Recovery Services, I would like to provide this letter of support for Highland County Community Action as they continue to complete renovation efforts at the Jefferson Street Business Center. Our organization recognizes that mental health and substance use have a crippling effect on families and the community as a whole. Many of our families need additional assistance to gain stable employment, maintain housing or utility assistance while they move through recovery. Highland County Community Action coordinates with our families to provide this assistance.

The One Stop facility in Greenfield enhances the opportunity for the residents and those in surrounding townships to access services under one roof. As a community partner, Family Recovery Services looks forward to the possibility of providing direct services on an individual basis, at the Jefferson Street Business Center, for those that might lack transportation to our main office in Hillsboro. Please consider their proposal in your request.

Sincerely,

Roger Cheesbro M.Ed., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS, OCPS1

Chief Executive Officer

### Highland County Board Of Developmental Disabilities

8919 US 50, Hillsboro, OH 45133 Phone: 937-393-4237 FAX: 937-393-5871

# Debra D. Buccilla, Superintendent dbuccilla@highdd.org

April 8, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup:

The Mission Statement for the Highland County Board of Developmental Disabilities (DD) is "Ensuring effective systems are available to assist people in achieving their life goals". Over the past four years, DD and HCCAO have worked together to assure that residents of Highland County can live independently and be self-sufficient. Both entities have collaborated on numerous housing renovation projects. HCCAO serves as the owner/landlord for many of the individuals which we have the privilege to serve.

HCCAO has worked for many years to have a One Stop Location in Greenfield as they have in the county seat. Renovations are costly, however, HCCAO continues to work toward completing this project. At DD, we are eager for the development of this location, as we will also benefit from having service space in the Greenfield Community. We encourage you to consider including HCCAO's request for your community funding project. It will make a difference for this community.

If further information is needed please contact me.

Sincerely,

Debra D. Buccilla Superintendent

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April 10th, 2021

Congressman Brad Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As the Mobility Manager for HARTS, I am excited by the work HCCAO has put into developing this One Stop Facility in Greenfield. This allows an additional stop on our county-wide transportation route to allow individuals to access services from outlying villages in one location.

Funds are limited for nonprofit organizations. Budgets are tight. FRS encourages your support of their application to assist with renovations for the Jefferson Street Business Center. As HCCAO merges their 3 locations into one facility and allows other social service providers to deliver services in one location, it allows for services to be efficient and individualized for each customer.

I would love to share with you regarding the great partnership we have with the organization. Please give their proposal consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Adray
Mobility Manager, HARTS/Highland County

## Greenfield Exempted Village School District

200 North Fifth Street

Greenfield, Ohio 45123

Quincey Gray Superintendent

April 8, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

On behalf of the Greenfield Exempted Village School District, I am writing this support letter asking that you please include the HCCAO's request for assistance with the renovation costs of the new Greenfield facility.

The new Early Childhood Facility will allow preschoolers to have a "Head Start" in preparing for school. Their parents can access such programs as WIC assistance and job training right down the hall. This facility could prove to be one of the most valuable assets that we have in our community.

Renovating a vacant building is costly. HCCAO has faced many unexpected challenges throughout this process, including the fifteen year struggle of securing a site. Please consider including HCCAO's request for renovation dollars within your package for Community Project Funding.

Respectfully,

Quincey Gray, Superintendent

Phone: (937) 981-2152

Fax: (937)981-4395

quincey.gray@greenfieldmcclain.org



Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As President of Southern State Community College, we offer our support for the efforts of Highland County Community Action in serving all areas within the county. We are excited about the One Stop Services Center that HCCAO is in the process of completing at the Jefferson Street Business Center in Greenfield.

Greenfield is one of the areas of high need within Highland County and has limited services within the area. HCCAO's One Stop Center will offer space for residents of Highland County to receive employment and education services through the OhioMeansJobs Center, as well as continued partnership with us. This project will provide many opportunities for residents within the area and nearby townships.

Southern State Community College offers support of this grant, and looks forward to continued partnerships with Highland County Community Action Organization.

Sincerely,

Kevin S. Boys, Ed.D.

President

Southern State Community College



## Fairfield Local School District

11611 State Route 771 Leesburg, Ohio 45135 www.fairfieldlocal.org

DISTRICT OFFICE Ph 937/780-2221 Fx 937/780-6900

HIGH SCHOOL Ph 937/780-2966 Fx 937/780-2841

MIDDLE SCHOOL Ph 937/780-2977 Fx 937/780-2841

**ELEMENTARY** Ph 937/780-2988 Fx 937/780-2841





It's a GREAT day to be a LION! April 8th, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As the Superintendent of Fairfield Local Schools located in Leesburg, I would like to offer my support for HCCAO's request for renovation dollars to continue work at their new Greenfield location.

Many of the residents of the Leesburg area access services within the Village of Greenfield which HCCAO provides. Allowing them to get WIC and utility assistance as well as job training in one site, maximizes our ability to help those in need.

While I am sure you will receive multiple requests, please consider the HCCAO project for inclusion. The HCCAO staff and Board have worked tirelessly for many years to make this dream a reality and continue to help people and change lives.

Illes

Sincerely,

Tim Dettwiller Superintendent



### Highland County General Health District

1487 North High St. Suite 400, Hillsboro, OH 45133
Telephone: (937) 393-1941 • Fax: (937) 393-4694 • Email: info@highlandcountyhealth.org

April 8, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

On behalf of the Highland County Health Department, I offer this letter of support for the funding HCCAO is asking you to submit for under the Community Project Fund appropriation. HCCAO is a key community partner. We have witnessed this for many years, by being in the same facility. Recently, we have also been fortunate enough that they have allowed employees to assist in staffing our COVID vaccination clinics.

We look forward to the renovations being complete at the HCCAO combined Greenfield location. We plan on providing shot clinics and other services in lieu of having individuals travel to Hillsboro to obtain such services on occasion.

Please consider this within your request for funding.

Sincerely,

Jared Warner, Health Commissioner



#### Child Support Enforcement Agency Public Children Services Agency

1575 N. High St. Ste. 100 Telephone (937) 393-4278 or (937) 393-3111 Hillsboro, Ohio 45133 Fax (937) 393-4461 or (937) 393-3299

Katie Smith, Director

April 9th, 2021

Congressman Brad Wenstrup Rayburn HOB Washington DC, 20515

2419

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As the Director for Highland County Job and Family Services (HCJFS) I am excited by the work Highland County Community Action Organization (HCCAO) has put into developing this One Stop Facility in Greenfield. This allows an additional resource within our rural county for individuals who reside in outlying areas of the county to access much needed services in one location.

Funds are limited for nonprofit organizations such as HCCAO and budgets are tight for all of us. HCJFS encourages your support of their application to assist with renovations for the Jefferson Street Business Center. As HCCAO merges their 3 locations into one facility in Greenfield it allows other social service providers to deliver services at that location as well, which results in services being efficient and individualized for each customer. I am asking you to please give their proposal consideration.

Sincerely,

Katte Smith

Katie Smith

Director, Highland County Job and Family Services

## HIGHLAND COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

117 E. Main St. Hillsboro, OH 45133 Phone (937)-393-0840 Fax (937) 393-8814

Greenfield City Bldg. P.O. Drawer 378 Greenfield, OH 45123 Phone (937) 876-5210

April 7, 2021

Congressman Wenstrup 2419 Rayburn Building Washington DC, 20515

Dear Congressman Wenstrup,

As the Director of Programming and Clinical Services for the Highland County Probation Department, I want to offer my support for the Jefferson Street Business Center and renovations which HCCAO is completing in the facility. Providing a multitude of services under one roof will allow Greenfield residents to access such needs within their own community.

We look forward to the opportunity to utilize space in the facility on occasion and as needed. Please include HCCAO Renovation request in the funding you will pursue through the Community Project Fund appropriations.

Renovations costs have increased dramatically during the COVID crisis. The agency needs additional funding to pay for renovations and offset the construction costs which have already been incurred.

Thank you,

Tonya Sturgill, LPCC

**Highland County Probation** 

Program Director/Drug Court Coordinator