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Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter

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**For Immediate Release**

**Sandusky County Communities Foundation**

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**SCCF Honors the Life and Legacy of Lee N. Koenig with Establishment of Legacy Fund and Grant Luncheon**

**Fremont- Sandusky County** – The Sandusky County Communities Foundation (SCCF) is proud to announce the establishment of the Lee N. Koenig Legacy Fund, a transformational philanthropic commitment honoring a life defined by generosity, service, and deep love for the Fremont community.

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the Foundation welcomed family, friends, community members, and nonprofit leaders to a special luncheon celebrating Mr. Koenig's enduring legacy. During the program, 22 nonprofit organizations and governmental entities were recognized as grant recipients, each one selected by Mr. Koenig himself before his passing. These organizations reflect the values he held most dear: supporting education, honoring history, and strengthening community. Lee's desire for the funding to directly benefit Sandusky County residents stemmed from his deep love for Fremont and the community he called home.

Over the next five years, the Lee N. Koenig Legacy Fund will invest between \$5.6 million and \$7.6 million into causes that directly benefit Sandusky County residents. The funding will support a wide range of critical missions in education, historical preservation, healthcare, and community development.

"This is more than a monetary gift, it's an investment in hope, opportunity, and lasting change," said Andrea Gibson, Executive Director of the SCCF. "Lee envisioned a future where thoughtful generosity uplifts those in need and preserves what matters most. Today, we begin to see that vision in action."

As part of the celebration, representatives from each grant recipient organization were invited to accept a certificate from the Koenig family in recognition of their important work. At the close of the program, grantees gathered for a group photo to commemorate this special occasion. The Sandusky County Communities Foundation is honored to collaborate with the Greater Toledo Community Foundation in stewarding the Lee N. Koenig Legacy Fund. Together, this partnership ensures the long-term impact and thoughtful distribution of these funds in accordance with Mr. Koenig's wishes.

**Grant Recipients & Projects**

The following organizations were selected by Mr. Koenig and will receive funding through the Lee N. Koenig Legacy Fund to support the following projects:

Art + Lisa Bucci Swimming and Diving Scholarship of the SCCF - Scholarship



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Bishop Hoffman Catholic School - Lintel and roof repairs  
Campfire Sandusky County - Summer camp expenses  
Chamber Foundation - Lemonade day, membership access, business hub, and superstar teacher  
City of Fremont - Birchard Park renovations, and playground equipment  
Fremont Rotary Foundation - Don Miller Lodge renovations  
Grace Lutheran Church - Preschool expansion  
Liberty Center - Replace carpet, mattresses, and Care Navigator  
ProMedica Foundation - Radiology equipment, Care Navigator, and Education/awareness  
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio - Safety system upgrades, salon space renovations, and wellness area improvements  
Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums - Portable stage  
Sandusky County - Big Lots renovations, and Shorewood water plant  
Sandusky County Agricultural Society - Rabbit/Poultry pavilion, grandstand bleachers, and security upgrades  
Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation - New program/ program expansions, and housing study  
Sandusky County Habitat for Humanity - Vehicle/tools and warehouse storage  
Sandusky County Park District - Wilson Nature Center canopy and White Star pavilion  
Sandusky County Positive People - Scholarship  
Sandusky County Share and Care - Current building renovations and Christy Building upgrades  
Terra State Community College Foundation - Resources needed for labs  
United Way of Sandusky County - First Call For Help, newborn home visits, after school tutoring, and administrative expenses  
YMCA of Sandusky County - Short-term renovations  
Sandusky County Communities Foundation - Foundant, Clearstead, and part-time staff

This Legacy Fund represents the largest amount of charitable distributions from a single fund in the Foundation's history, an unprecedented investment in the future of Sandusky County. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to carry forward Mr. Koenig's legacy and to work alongside our community partners in making a lasting difference for generations to come. For more information about how to start a fund, or to contribute to the Lee N. Koenig Legacy Fund, please contact SCCF at [director@sanduskyccf.org](mailto:director@sanduskyccf.org) or visit [www.sanduskyccf.org](http://www.sanduskyccf.org).

**About the Sandusky County Communities Foundation:** The Sandusky County Communities Foundation was established in 1998 to enhance the well-being of the people and communities of Sandusky County by managing permanent investments for philanthropic goals. The Foundation provides an efficient, effective structure for linking charitable interests with important programs and services and offers several options through which gifts can be made to benefit Sandusky County communities and organizations. Over \$5M has been invested back into the community since inception, and since 2009, more than \$1.15M has been awarded to non-profit organizations through the Community Grant Program alone. To learn more, or to donate, visit our website at [www.sanduskyccf.org](http://www.sanduskyccf.org) or contact Andrea Gibson at 419-334-6299 or [director@sanduskyccf.org](mailto:director@sanduskyccf.org)

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