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Contact:

Kimberly St. John-Stevenson
Communications Officer, Saint Luke's Foundation
(216) 431-8010 x 202
kstjohn@saintlukesfoundation.org

**Saint Luke's Foundation Grants More Than \$1.4 Million to the
Community's Best Safety-Net Organizations**
Grants provide much-needed operating support during economic downturn

CLEVELAND, April 23, 2010 -- The Board of Trustees of the Saint Luke's Foundation (www.saintlukesfoundation.org) has approved first quarter grants for 2010, with nineteen organizations receiving more than \$1.4 million for safety-net and basic needs organizations.

"On the heels of the enactment of healthcare reform in America, many of the grants awarded in the first quarter respond to the needs of the under-insured and medically underserved in our community," said Denise San Antonio Zeman, President and CEO of Saint Luke's Foundation. "While providing healthcare to those in need is front-page news across the country, it has always been a major focus of our mission as we strive to transform the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities," Zeman added.

The Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland received \$150,000 for its work serving a population comprised of 93 percent of patients with no health insurance. A \$75,000 grant went to **North Coast Health Ministry**, the only free clinic in Ohio with electronic medical records and the only drug repository in Cuyahoga County. Also, a \$50,000 grant for strategic planning went to the new **ADAMHS Board**, a merger between Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board and the Mental Health Board. The **Legal Aid Society of Cleveland** received \$75,000 for its Community Advocacy Program, its collaboration with MetroHealth aimed at eliminating legal barriers to maintaining health and accessing healthcare.

Several of the grants will be used to establish electronic medical record systems, which will improve productivity and cut costs. For instance, **Stella Maris**, a chemical dependency and mental health services provider serving more than 850 medically indigent adults annually, received \$92,000 to

expand its electronic medical records system. Additionally, \$75,000 went to a federally qualified healthcare center, **Neighborhood Family Practice**, to support implementing electronic medical records, as well as shifting to a patient-centered medical home model, integration of behavioral health care and expansion of their client base to meet federal funding requirements.

Operating support is another commonality across this grant cycle. “We strongly believe building organizational infrastructure is critical to long-term success,” Zeman explained. “One way to do that is to provide operating support.”

In that regard, **The Cleveland Foodbank, Inc.** received \$150,000 for strategic planning to reduce costs and increase efficiency to distribute food throughout the region. Zeman said, “We think it is critical to help organizations like the Cleveland Foodbank plan for future sustainability.” **New Life Community**, a four-month transitional housing program for families, received \$65,000 for operating support, and **The Aspire Program**, committed to helping middle school girls in high-risk areas develop decision-making skills, received \$50,000.

This year’s first quarter grant awards are slightly higher than average because the second quarter 2010 grants is dedicated exclusively to the Foundation’s “Make It Stick!” initiative, designed to assist nonprofit organizations with communications support to help them succeed. “Make it Stick!” grant awards will be announced in June.

For the first grant-making cycle of 2010, Saint Luke’s Foundation awarded the following grants:

ADAMHS Board	\$50,000	Strategic Planning
Adoption Network	\$75,000	Operating Support
The Aspire Program	\$50,000	Operating Support
Big Brothers Big Sisters	\$75,000	Framework for Match Retention
Care Alliance	\$75,000	Restoring Smiles Program
Cleveland Housing Network	\$75,000	Stabilization Efforts
Cleveland Foodbank	\$150,000	Operating Support/Strategic Planning
Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland	\$150,000	Operating Support/Expansion
Legal Aid Society of Cleveland	\$75,000	Community Advocacy Program

Mental Health Advocacy Coalition	\$85,000	Operating Support
Neighborhood Family Practice	\$75,000	Operating Support
New Directions	\$50,000	Male Residential Program Support
New Life Community	\$65,000	Multiple Family Support
North Coast Health Ministry	\$75,000	Operating Support
Senior Transportation Connection	\$75,000	Coordination Project
Shoes and Clothes for Kids, Inc.	\$31,000	Purchasing and Distribution Program
Stella Maris	\$92,000	Electronic Medical Record System
Voices for Ohio's Children	\$60,000	Child Advocacy in 2010-2011
West Side Catholic Center	\$90,000	Basic Needs

About Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio

With more than 13 years of grant making in the community, Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland is a community-based private foundation that collaborates with nonprofit organizations and community leaders to address relevant issues and offer sustainable solutions in Greater Cleveland. The organization's mission is focused on improving the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Since 1997, when it was established with the assets from the sale of the Saint Luke's Medical Center, the Foundation has awarded more than \$70 million in grants in Mt. Pleasant, Buckeye-Larchmere, Woodland Hills, and other neighborhoods in Greater Cleveland and throughout Northeast Ohio. Additional information on the work of Saint Luke's Foundation is available on the Foundation's Web site: www.saintlukesfoundation.org.

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