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Saint Luke's Foundation Awards \$1.3 Million for Continuation of Critical Services
19 health and human service organizations benefit from 1st quarter grants

CLEVELAND, April 8, 2011 -- The Board of Trustees of the Saint Luke's Foundation (www.saintlukesfoundation.org) has approved its first quarter grants for 2011, with 19 organizations receiving more than \$1.3 million to provide critical services to an expanding clientele as the economic downturn continues to burden Northeast Ohio residents.

"While our partner organizations and the clients they serve have been challenged by the economic downturn for multiple years now, its impacts continue to shift and compound," said Denise San Antonio Zeman, President and CEO of Saint Luke's Foundation. "Our partners are challenged to serve a growing number of clients in new and expanded ways."

In this cycle of grants, the Foundation continued its focus on operating support as a means of building nonprofit capacity. "The operating support we provide is critical to ensuring these core social service organizations have the resources and flexibility to shift and expand as need dictates," added LaTida Smith, Senior Program Officer for Community Grants at the Foundation.

Several of this quarter's grantees have reported an increased demand for services, including **Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland, Domestic Violence Center** and **New Life Community**, who each received \$50,000. **Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland** reported they are playing a growing role as a basic needs provider, providing critical evening meals and clothing distribution for their members; **Domestic Violence Center** has seen a 37 percent increase in hotline calls; and **New Life Community** has reported an increase in families with multiple, complex barriers to sustaining permanent employment and housing.

Other grants include \$70,000 to support the basic needs programs of Zacchaeus House and the drop-in center at **West Side Catholic Center** and \$60,000 to **Senior Transportation Connection** for continued coordination of their services. As a result of the economy, the number of rides seniors are requesting to food pantries and meal sites has increased. In addition, **Cleveland Housing Network** received \$75,000 to continue strategic initiatives in community development. They reported a 63 percent increase in utility assistance support and 68 percent increase in foreclosure prevention assistance from suburban clients.

“Development of the healthcare workforce also remains a top priority—both to meet a growing demand for healthcare providers and to support regional economic development,” said Smith, noting two \$100,000 grants awarded to the **Tri-C Foundation** and **Cleveland State University Foundation**.

The following list represents the complete 2011 first grant-making cycle of 2011:

Tri-C Foundation	\$100,000	Nursing scholarships
Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity	\$45,000	Habitat for Humanity: Sustainable, Affordable, and Sensible program
Neighborhood Family Practice	\$75,000	Operating support
West Side Catholic Center	\$70,000	Basic needs programs of the drop-in center and Zacchaeus House
Free Clinic	\$150,000	Operating support
Center for Families and Children	\$85,000	Mental Health Advocacy Coalition operating support
New Life Community	\$50,000	Operating support
Domestic Violence Center	\$50,000	Operating support
Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland	\$50,000	Operating support
North Coast Health Ministry	\$75,000	Operating support
Senior Transportation Connection	\$60,000	Coordination of senior transportation services
Bellflower Center	\$60,000	Operating support
Legal Aid Society	\$75,000	Community advocacy program

Rape Crisis Center	\$50,000	Operating support
Shoes and Clothes for Kids	\$35,000	Buying and distribution program
EDEN	\$125,000	The Norma Herr Women's Center project
CSU Foundation	\$100,000	CSU-NEOUCOM Partnership for Enhancing Urban Health
Cleveland Housing Network	\$75,000	2011 Strategic Initiatives in Community Development
Hathaway Brown/Aspire	\$35,000	The Aspire program operating support

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 \$81 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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