

# Home Pages

Summer 2000

Licking County Coalition for Housing

## Accolades pouring in for Project Homeline

The accolades keep coming for LCCH's Project Homeline, our homelessness prevention program that provides information about a range of housing and educational opportunities.

Having earlier been named a HUD Local Best Practices awardee and under consideration for HUD's "Simply the Best" national award, Project Homeline was selected in July to receive a HUD Recognition Award for 2000.

The award was presented July 27 at the Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD) annual banquet in Hamilton, Ohio.

Project Homeline was selected due to its innovative use of technology to aid the low-income community and homeless of Licking County.

Lana J. Vacha, director of the Columbus HUD Office of Community Planning and Development noted, "The Coalition for Housing was selected to receive an award, along with the City of Newark and Licking County, for the development and support of Project Homeline, a technology-based program that is helping to prevent homelessness and provide affordable housing throughout the county."

In selecting its awards for this year, HUD identified programs that demonstrate the positive use of various automated and information technologies to further its community development and housing objectives.

Vacha added, "Project Homeline is becoming a vital resource to other local social service agencies, helping them to better serve their clients, prevent potential homelessness, and support their [the clients] move to self-sufficiency."



*HUD official Lana Vacha, left, congratulates City of Newark Community Development Director Bill Slocum and LCCH Project Homeline Coordinator Cindy MacLellan on Project Homeline winning a HUD Recognition Award for 2000.*

As a local "best practices" winner with HUD, Project Homeline is now competing with hundreds of other local winners in a competition that will result in 12 regional winners who will receive "Simply the Best" honoree status.

Homeline offers a database of more than 3,500 rental units varying in cost. This homelessness prevention program matches an individual's needs

with the availability of affordable housing throughout Licking County.

Cindy MacLellan, Homeline coordinator, has worked with hundreds of clients since she was hired to initiate the program in January 1999. Sue Chen, Homeline assistant, has been working with the program since February 2000.

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## 'Showcase of Homes' slated for Oct. 20-22

Due to the generosity of Ghiloni Custom Builders, LCCH will again be the beneficiary of the third annual "Showcase of Homes."

This year's Showcase will be held Friday, Oct. 20, Saturday, Oct. 21, and Sunday, Oct. 22 at four area luxury homes constructed by Ghiloni Custom Builders.

A preview party will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 20. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$60 per couple, which includes admission to the

party and homes on the tour.

The general public is invited to the home tour, which will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 21 and 1 to 6 p.m. on Oct. 22. Tickets are \$5.

The addresses of the homes will be announced at a date closer to the Showcase.

All proceeds from the Showcase will benefit LCCH programs.

To reserve tickets or volunteer to help with the event, please call the Coalition at (740) 345-1970.

## HELPING HANDS

### LCCH welcomes club's support

The Welcome Wagon Club of the Newark Area has a goal of making life's transitional periods easier for local residents. So it seems fitting that club members have come to the aid of an LCCH program that helps the homeless transition to permanent housing.

Welcome Wagon has made two large cash contributions to the Coalition over the past two years. It has also donated cleaning supplies and personal-care items on several occasions and gave Christmas presents to children living in LCCH transitional housing units.

The club's generous support began when it donated two van loads of items from one of the garage sales the group conducts to raise money for worthy causes.

Club members learned about LCCH through former Coalition Advisory Committee member Todd Dilley. His wife, Debbie, is a Welcome Wagon officer.

"We discovered there is a real need for [LCCH] in Licking County," Debbie said. "We see our support of the Coalition as a way we can really help the community."

Welcome Wagon President Lori Weaver agrees wholeheartedly.

"The Coalition for Housing serves people who often have nothing but the clothing on their backs when they arrive in need of housing," she said.

"We felt as a club we could make a difference by donating to their organization.

"We believe in their mission and are very happy we can support a positive community resource such as the Coalition," she added.

Earlier this year, Welcome Wagon members learned more about LCCH when Community Services Supervisor Kristin McCloud made a presentation at one of their meetings.

The club, which has about 50 members, serves the Newark, Granville and Heath areas. While known for welcoming new residents to town, it also extends the hand of friendship to others in transition. That includes new brides, mothers, widows and "empty nesters."

Welcome Wagon has several interest groups that meet regularly. They include a card club, arts and crafts, a "Moms and Tots" play group and social events for members and spouses.

Philanthropy is also an important component of Welcome Wagon. The club supports the Licking Memorial Hospital Pediatric Unit along with LCCH.

"Welcome Wagon is definitely a great way to meet people if you are new to the area or going through changes in your life," Weaver said. "But it's also a wonderful way to give back to the community."

## Perry hired for coordinator's position

Tony Perry brings a breadth of social services experience to his new position as a community services coordinator with LCCH.

Hired in July, he works with residents in the Coalition's transitional housing program for the homeless, helping them develop the skills to find and maintain permanent housing.



Tony Perry

Perry earned a bachelor's of social work degree from the University of Rio Grande (Ohio) earlier this year.

While in college, he served three field practicums. They included a full-time position with the Woodlands Center, a mental-health services provider in Gallipolis, Ohio. He served that agency as a residential assistant at a supported living facility for persons with mental illness.

During his senior year, Perry worked with at-risk children through a Prevention, Retention and Contingency program at Access to Human Resource Development in Gallipolis.

Perry is a native of Athens, Ohio.

## Mail appeal raises record amount

LCCH benefactors always seem the most generous when their help is greatly needed. Such was the case in June when the Coalition made an urgent funding appeal to its supporters.

The response was 83 contributions totaling \$12,439! That was a record amount for an LCCH mail appeal, noted Coalition Executive Director Deborah Tegtmeier.

The donations were critical in continuing our transitional housing program and Project Homeline, plus adding four new initiatives—the Creative Housing Assistance Team (CHAT), Successful Educational Endeavors (SEE), Home Share and Individual Development Accounts.

A heart-felt "thank you" is extended to everyone who so kindly contributed to this important funding appeal.

## Home Pages

Vol. 3, No. 3

Licking County Coalition for Housing

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## Danter urges development of diverse housing mix

Market researcher Ken Danter is concerned that the lower-priced part of the central Ohio housing continuum is being hurt by anti-growth sentiments in many communities.

Such a trend will hamper communities trying to expand their economic base, Danter said during his keynote speech at the Licking County Housing Forum 2000 in May.

As principal of The Danter, Co., a national real estate research firm based in Columbus, he sees anti-growth attitudes by residents and public officials making it difficult for developers to build apartments and starter homes.

"If you take out a slice of the market by not doing apartments and \$125,000 homes," Danter said, "you begin to impact the entire housing continuum and that affects the job market and



LCCH Community Services Supervisor Kristin McCloud makes a point during her presentation at the Housing Forum.

economic development strategies."

Such housing gives young people a place to start in the housing continuum. Danter said they eventually step up to buy houses at the next price level, purchasing the homes of owners who want to move upward to even higher-priced housing.

Restrictive zoning and high impact fees assessed by anti-growth communities are pushing up the cost of housing across central Ohio, according to Danter. In some places, impact fees can add \$10,000 to the price of a home.

He noted the number of new homes built in central Ohio for less than \$100,000 dropped from 1,200 in 1993 to just 34 last year. There was also a 32 percent decline in sales from 1998 to 1999 for new builds priced between \$100,000 and \$140,000.

Organizers of the Housing Forum said Licking Countians are seeing that same sort of housing inflation. The Licking County Board of Realtors estimated the average sale price of residential properties rose from \$107,795 in 1997 to \$121,958 last year, a 13.1 percent increase.

At the same time, there is a dearth of much-needed housing—new or existing—in the \$60,000 to \$90,000 price range, noted LCCH Executive Director Deborah Tegtmeier.

She and others at the Forum are looking at ways to boost affordable



Ken Danter

housing in Licking County. They estimate there will be a need for almost 8,000 more housing units countywide over the next 10 to 15 years just to satisfy the need for the county's own children.

The Forum featured a day-long program of presentations and discussions of housing-related issues.

The morning session featured presentations that touched on special needs housing, housing rehabilitation, single-family housing priced under \$100,000, homelessness prevention, subsidized home ownership and rental housing, and emergency and transitional housing.

Much of the afternoon program centered on panel discussions on four topics: Welfare Reform and the Impact on Housing; Managing Growth; Downtown Revitalization and Housing; and Housing Development.

Joining LCCH in sponsoring the Forum were the City of Newark's Community Development Department, Community Mental Health and Recovery Board, LEADS, Licking County Community Development Office and Licking Metropolitan Housing Authority.

Helping fund the Forum were Fifth Third Bank, Licking County Board of Realtors, Newark Alliance, State Farm Insurance, Park National Bank, First Federal Savings & Loan and Southgate Corp.

## Project Homeline...

*continued from page 1*

HUD referred to the LCCH program as being "something to celebrate" and "an innovative and new way to address an old problem."

"Project Homeline has dramatically shortened the turn-around time for those seeking assisted, affordable, and market rate rental housing," HUD stated, "and has enhanced the ability of many county-wide social service providers to better serve their clients

by conducting housing-related searches on their behalf."

Project Homeline is funded by The Boeing Company, City of Newark, Licking Metropolitan Housing Authority, Ohio Housing Trust Fund, Licking County commissioners, Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS, Ohio Department of Development, local churches and United Way of Licking County.

**LCCH is a  
United Way  
agency**



## Allen, Black ready to CHAT

LCCH staff members Cheri Allen and Lisa Black are serving as housing intervention specialists for the new Creative Housing Assistance Team (CHAT).

A joint effort by LCCH, the Crisis and Information Center and Licking County Department of Job and Family Services, CHAT provides emergency case management services to families in need of housing-related assistance.

The program is made possible through a grant totaling \$166,390 from the Department of Job and Family Services. A gift of \$1,000 from First United Methodist Church of Newark also helped launch the program in May.

Allen and Black help connect persons with housing needs to resources in the community. They include budgeting assistance, "Good Tenant" classes, referrals to parenting classes, support groups and other organizations, job searches and referrals to job training, and emergency motel stays when no other shelter is available.



Cheri Allen



Lisa Black

The housing intervention specialists also develop an individualized plan to help the family understand what led to its housing problems and how to prevent housing crises in the future.

Allen and Black previously served as community services coordinators for LCCH, working with residents in the Coalition's transitional housing program for the homeless. Allen has been with the Coalition since July 1998, while Black came on board in May 1999.

Local churches and other service organizations are encouraged to refer families in need of housing assistance to CHAT by calling either 349-1916, 349-1917 or 1-877-421-5224 (toll-free) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays or the Crisis and Information Center, 345-4357, for after-hours emergencies.

## Home Share offers options

With a goal of providing an economical, safe and caring living option for local residents, LCCH launched its new "Home Share" program in May.

In Home Share, persons in need of housing are matched with those with an interest in sharing part of their home, explained Deborah Tegtmeyer, LCCH executive director.

She noted that while home "providers" are often elderly residents, such programs can provide the perfect housing alternative for many groups. They include recently unemployed home owners, widowed or divorced individuals, single adults, college students, and pre-retirement or recently retired individuals.

LCCH administers Home Share and provides case management services as needed to non-elderly persons enrolled in the program. Catholic Social Services offers case management to elderly participants.

The program is being funded with a \$16,100 grant from the Ohio Department of Development and a \$1,000 allocation from the Licking County senior citizens levy.

Home Share applications are made through LCCH, which conducts interviews with those interested in becoming part of the program.

A home seeker and provider sign an agreement that spells out the terms of their match. It includes when the arrangement will begin and end; the amount and due date for rent payments; private versus shared areas of the home; personal versus shared property; and issues such as pets, alcohol consumption, guests, services, noise, telephone use and food.

Home sharers can pay rent only or negotiate a service exchange (e.g., housing cleaning, shopping, lawn care) for all or part of the rent.

There is a \$25 application fee for Home Share and a \$25 placement fee. However, no one will be denied access to the program because of an inability to pay those fees.

## 'Adopt An Apartment' needs you

LCCH's "Adopt An Apartment" initiative received a big boost when Jacksontown United Methodist Church donated 35 bags of kitchen items, household supplies and linens to the program.

The goal is to provide enough supplies for an entire household served by our transitional housing program for the homeless. The needed supplies are:

- Bedroom: Sheet set, pillow and pillow cases, blanket, comforter and lamp.

- Living room: Curtains, lamps and throw pillows.

- Bathroom: Shower curtain, rod and rings, toilet paper, towels, washcloths, cleaning supplies, shampoo/conditioner, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste.

- Kitchen: Silverware set (including sharp knives) and tray, dish drainer, plates, bowls, cups, glasses, pots, pans, serving dishes (Tupperware), serving utensils, can openers, paper towels, dish towels, table cloth, dish detergent, scrubbing pads and aluminum foil.

LCCH would also like to recognize and say "thank you" for two large donations to the transitional housing program.

Rona Homes of Pataskala donated 26 pieces of furniture, including chairs, coffee tables, sofas and dressers. The Kiwanis Club of Newark gave \$359 toward the purchase of infant furniture.

To get involved in Adopt An Apartment, please contact LCCH at (740) 345-1970.

## Coalition hits targets in transitional housing program

On target.

That is the best way to describe LCCH's performance from April 1, 1999, to March 31, 2000, in meeting performance targets set for its transitional housing program for the homeless.

Statistics show 31 adults in the program moved into permanent housing during that period. That is seven more than the targeted goal of 24.

The numbers also show the far-reaching demand for LCCH services. Some 556 contacts for service were made during the one-year period, well above the goal of 358.

The statistics show the Coalition also exceeded its targets for residents in areas such as:

- Compiling an initial and formal Individual Service Plan (ISP) that addresses issues such as food, clothing, medical and mental health needs and a formal ISP on matters such as child care, employment, education, transportation and credit.
- Opening an escrow savings account if they have income.
- Registering for subsidized housing with the Licking Metropolitan Housing Authority.
- Completing LCCH's "Great Tenant" program.
- Applying for apartments or mortgages.

## Letter carriers deliver for LCCH

LCCH was a major beneficiary of the seventh annual food drive conducted by Letter Carriers Local 281 in May.

The drive resulted in some 15,000 pounds of food and personal-care items (toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.) being collected in a door-to-door campaign in Newark and Heath.

Residents in LCCH's transitional housing program for the homeless received the personal-care items. All of the food went to the Licking County Food Pantry.

LCCH has been using performance targets to measure the effectiveness of the transitional housing program since January 1999. It is part of an effort initiated at that time by the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Housing and Community Partnerships (OHCP).

OHCP uses an outcome management model to measure the successes of the supportive housing programs it funds. It tracks the performance targets set and milestones reached by organizations such as LCCH.

OHCP had high praise for the Coalition program earlier this year. In a letter to LCCH Executive Director Deborah Tegtmeier, the state agency said the Coalition "is to be commended for the services it is providing homeless individuals and families in Licking County.

The letter continues, "The agency is providing the range of services stated in its applications and grant agreements. The case files were well-documented, demonstrating the efficient and thorough manner in which the needs of each client are addressed. By providing these services, LCCH is helping low-income and homeless households achieve self-sufficiency and permanent housing."

Sandy Quick coordinated the local drive for the Letter Carriers. Also pitching in with key support were United Way of Licking County, the U.S. Postal Service, Newark Area AFL-CIO Labor Council, GMP Local 244 at Owens-Corning, United Steelworkers Local 341 at Kaiser Aluminum and Communications Workers of America Local 4487 at Alltel.

LCCH staff members, residents and board member Marion Massa and her family helped sort the donated items.



Libby Bagley



Kathy Eisert

## Eisert, Bagley pitch in during summer months

LCCH is benefitting from the help of Kathy Eisert and Libby Bagley during the summer months.

Eisert is fulfilling a practicum requirement at Central Ohio Technical College by working 16 hours a week at the Coalition. She is on track to earn an associate's degree in COTC's human services program next June.

In working with LCCH's transitional housing program for the homeless, Eisert is learning how to connect residents with the appropriate resources in the community and help them develop the skills needed to find and maintain permanent housing.

Eisert also works as a school bus driver in the Northridge district. A Utica resident, she has five children and two grandchildren.

Bagley, a Granville resident who will attend Miami University in the fall, is serving an internship at LCCH.

She is involved in researching and writing grants, writing news releases, performing data processing and clerical duties, and helping with fundraising efforts.

Bagley graduated from Granville High School this past spring. An honors graduate, she was a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council and served as captain of the girls basketball and soccer teams.

**Like to volunteer?  
Call (740) 345-1970**

## Success LCCH Style

A single mother of three who moved from an LCCH apartment into permanent housing in January was named "Outstanding Student of the Year" at the Licking County Joint Vocational School. She received the award during the spring commencement because of her accomplishments in the JVS's GED and medical office technology programs. She will complete the medical office tech program later this summer and is preparing to enter the work force.

\*\*\*\*\*

A man who had been in the transitional housing program for nearly two years moved into permanent housing in May. He has overcome a number of personal problems, including substance abuse, is working full-time, has regained his driver's license, purchased a car and paid off his debts and court fines.

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A woman who has lived in LCCH housing for the past year has saved \$1,700 from her full-time employment. She has also been awarded temporary custody of her children, finished an after-care treatment program at the

Licking County Alcoholism Prevention Program and qualified for a driver's license again.

\*\*\*\*\*

A woman with one child has completed an 840-hour diversified medical technology program at LCJVS, finished her internship and clinicals, and is looking for a job as a phlebotomist. Her schooling was paid for with funds through the Licking County Department of Job and Family Services. An LCCH resident for one year, she is seeking permanent housing.

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A single woman who has been with LCCH for three months finished her first quarter at Central Ohio Technical College with a grade point average of 3.8. She also works full-time at a hotel.

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A mother of two who was a victim of domestic violence is working full-time at a local manufacturing plant. She also is enrolled in an innovative art therapy program that is helping her work through her personal issues.

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## Mother's Day drawing a big hit

A number of LCCH benefactors won some great prizes and helped the Coalition's fund-raising efforts in the process during our Mother's Day Drawing in May.

Judy Wagner won the grand prize of an all-day relaxation package at the New Day Spa on Cherry Valley Road.

Other prize winners were:

- Kim Badgett—Mother's Day 2000 basket from The Longaberger Co.
- Cindy Feaster—Basket of Beanie Babies.
- Ginny McAnally—Gift certificate from Village Flower Basket.
- Chris Marriott—Basket of flowers

from Albyn's Nursery.

•Susan Miller—Gift certificate from New Day Spa.

•Lisa Minklei—Gift certificate from Bunky's.

•J.F. Newschwander—One-hour session with Pam Raynor, Certified Professional Fitness Trainer.

•Rosalie Symbucco—Gift certificate from New Day Spa.

•Bill Seegers—Gift box of Crabtree & Evelyn products from Park Place Coffee Roasters.

LCCH extends a heart-felt thanks to the businesses that donated services and products for the drawing.

## 100<sup>th</sup> household moves into permanent housing

LCCH reached an important milestone on April 17 when a woman in our transitional housing program for the homeless moved into permanent housing.

It marked the 100<sup>th</sup> time that an LCCH resident was able to successfully complete the program and secure a permanent place to live since the transitional housing program was launched in July 1996.

The resident came to LCCH from the New Beginnings Center for Domestic Violence. A victim of a traumatic brain injury, she is also receiving help from the Licking County Board of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities, ARC of Licking County and the ABLE remedial education program.

A voucher for subsidized housing from the Licking County Metropolitan Housing Authority is helping the woman maintain permanent housing.

## LCCH benefits from 'Big Day'

The strong backs and kind hearts of 14 Denison University students gave LCCH a boost during the college's "Big Red's Big Day" in April.

Fourteen DU students pitched in to help the Coalition that day. Eight moved furniture from an LCCH storage facility to a transitional housing apartment. Another six painted the hallway at the Coalition's transitional housing facility off 40<sup>th</sup> Street.

The day of service was coordinated by the Denison Community Association to help nonprofit groups in Granville, Newark and Heath. Some 18 student organizations provided a helping hand at 22 service sites.



*This group of outstanding young people from the Utica Church of Christ Youth Group donated more than 75 hours of their time in May to spruce up the grounds at LCCH's housing complex for the homeless off 40<sup>th</sup> Street in Newark. Their work included landscaping, mulching and planting flowers. The effort was coordinated by LCCH staff member Cheri Allen and her husband, Mike, leaders of the Youth Group. In addition, donations to the effort were received from Jack Schmidt of Timbuk Farms, five flats of flowers, and Kenneth Black, use of his truck and his time to haul materials.*

## Web site secure for donations

Want to make a donation to LCCH the high-tech way?

The Coalition's web site—[www.lcchousing.org](http://www.lcchousing.org)—is now secure for benefactors wishing to make donations with a credit card.

The site also features a form that persons wanting to donate items or in-kind services may fill out. An LCCH representative will then make arrangements for pick-up of the items or further follow-up.

**Visit our  
Website**  
[www.lcchousing.org](http://www.lcchousing.org)

The web site is filled with information about LCCH and local housing issues. Check it out today!

## We always needs volunteers

LCCH offers a wide range of volunteer opportunities to community members who want to pitch in to help the homeless.

Volunteers are needed for:

- After-school child-care programs.
- Tutoring, teaching and training residents.
- Planning special events, including the "Showcase of Homes" on Oct. 20-

22.

- Acquiring materials such as linens, blankets, kitchen supplies, personal-care items and children's toys and books.

- Professional services such as printing and counseling.

For more information, please call LCCH at 345-1970 or visit our web site ([www.lcchousing.org](http://www.lcchousing.org)).

## Advisory committee assists 'Homeline'

The Project Homeline Advisory Committee continues to contribute vital assistance to the development of LCCH's award-winning homelessness prevention program and one-stop housing resource.

Established in early 1998, the committee meets quarterly to be updated on Homeline's progress and to discuss further program development, ideas for generating revenue and upcoming events.

Committee members are:

Sylvia Ray-Taylor, Licking Metropolitan Housing Authority; Julie Livingston, City of Newark's Office of Fair Housing; Dorothy Elliott, property owner; Charlene Wray, LEADS; Sherry Russell, Center for Alternative Resources' Crisis and Information Center; Chris Savage, Licking County Planning Commission; Richard Powell, property owner; Jennifer Turnes-Brown, Licking County AIDS Task Force; and Scott Kennedy, real estate appraiser.

## LCCH has an immediate need for...

- Pots and pans.
- Kitchen and bath towels.
- Toothpaste and tooth brushes.
- Laundry detergent and fabric softener.
- Cleaning supplies.
- Shower curtains.
- Kitchen tables and chairs.
- Large dressers (6 to 8 drawers)
- Twin bed mattresses and box springs.

To make a donation, please call the Coalition at (740) 345-1970 or check out our web site ([www.lcchousing.org](http://www.lcchousing.org)) and our new donation forms.

# Goodwill housing ready for vets

A new facility designed to provide transitional housing for homeless veterans was opened in June by Licking/Knox Goodwill Industries, with LCCH serving as a key partner in the venture.

An open house was held June 15 at the program's four newly-remodeled housing units in downtown Newark. There are three efficiency units on the second floor of the building at 47 S. Fifth St. and a four-bedroom house next door at 20 Wilson St.

Goodwill owns the buildings. The agency will lease them to LCCH, which will incorporate the units into its transitional housing program for the homeless.

First priority on vacancies will be given to homeless veterans, according to LCCH Executive Director Deborah Tegtmeyer.

Goodwill also plans to remodel the first floor of the building at 47 S. Fifth

St, and restore the brick building's exterior to its original condition. The first floor will be used for Goodwill programming.

Joining Goodwill and LCCH as lead partners in the venture were LEADS and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Also helping make the project a reality were American Electric Power, Church Women United of Licking County, CORC Job Training's Summer Youth Program, Columbia Gas' Warm Choice Program, Licking County Board of Realtors, Licking County Veterans Commission, Ohio Department of Development's Office of Energy Efficiency, Ohio Weatherization Training Institute, Park National Bank, State Farm Insurance, Kroger Co., Licking County Foundation, United Way of Licking County, VFW Buckeye Lake Post 1388 and Auxiliary, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

## LCCH mission statement

"Our mission is to provide a community forum, to assess housing resources, to identify problems, and to create solutions through collaboration."

## LCCH Board of Directors

- |   |   |
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