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LOCAL LEADERS JOIN IN WEEK OF APPRECIATION FOR THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES OF OHIO’S OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Lorain County, OH – The Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Lorain County, in partnership with Lorain County’s First Response – Community Engagement Workgroup, is acknowledging the work of our first responders – including Emergency Medical System, Firefighters and Police personnel who are working to eradicated the scourge of opioids, and help individuals coping with addiction every day.

Appreciation Week runs April 29-May 3, 2019 and we will deliver 65 baskets to local first responders inclusive of on the go items donated by local community members. In addition, each department will receive “thank you” posters. Cards and notes from Lorain county’s local day care and elementary school students and persons in recovery including people whose lives were saved by the First Responders and are in long term recovery. Items for the baskets were donated by Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services, The LCADA Way, Lorain County Public Health, Mercy Health Parish Nurses, Lorain County Health and Dentistry, Cleveland Clinic, local faith leaders, ADAS Board, local residents.

On April 29, 2019, local community members will meet at Carlisle Reservation Visitors Center at 2:00 pm to hear from local leaders, individuals in recovery and family members about why continuing to fight Ohio’s and Lorain County’s opioid epidemic is the right thing to do for our communities, our county, and our state. With the message of “Bringing Help. Bringing Hope. Thank You” this event allowed local leaders to demonstrate their appreciation to all of the individuals on the front lines who are working to eradicate the scourge of opiates, and help individuals coping with addiction recovery every day. The crowd will have an opportunity to hear from local community leaders and individuals who have been saved and are in recovery, along with family members, who shared stories of how their lives were changed thanks to the individual who helped them, and how recovery was possible once given the opportunity for treatment and supports.

“We sponsored the Week of Appreciation because we see every day the difficulty and pain so many of our front-line fighters face as they work to help individuals in need. The positive impact that recovery from addiction can have on individuals, families, job growth, community safety, and overall economic development cannot be overstated,” stated Board Executive Director Elaine Georgas “Treatment Works and People Recover. Saving individuals and helping to open
the door to recovery for those living in Lorain County who need treatment services and supports is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do. Our community will be stronger for it,” concluded Jinx Mastney.

THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION SERVICES BOARD OF LORAIN COUNTY IS COMMITED TO WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE DEATHS DUE TO OVERDOSE AND PROVIDE ACCESS TO TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUPPORTS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY THE OPIOIOD EPIDEMIC.