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FIRST LADY KAREN KASICH ANNOUNCES \$182,000 IN DONATIONS TO OHIO CHILDREN CHARITIES FROM REMAINING INAUGURAL FUNDS

COLUMBUS – Ohio First Lady Karen Waldbillig Kasich today announced that charities across the state committed to the health and wellness of Ohio’s children will receive more than \$182,000 in funds remaining from the Kasich-Taylor New Day inauguration committee.

“Ohio wouldn’t be the wonderful place it is without the passion of those who work hard every day to support the health and welfare of some of Ohio’s most at-risk children,” said First Lady Karen W. Kasich. “I am thankful for all they do and honored to be able to support their important work.”

The New Day committee is making donations to:

- [After-School All-Stars \(ASAS\) Ohio](#): \$55,000. Mrs. Kasich is a statewide ambassador for ASAS Ohio, part of a nationwide organization providing students with after-school academic support, mentoring, and fitness activities in a safe environment.
- [Live Healthy Appalachia](#): \$55,000. The Athens-based organization will use its donation to expand its Live Healthy Kids program, a nutrition- and cooking-curriculum used in several southeast Ohio classrooms to teach students about healthy eating and get hands-on experience preparing and cooking healthy foods.
- [Local Matters](#): \$22,728. Local Matters teaches Columbus-area children and adults about healthy food, how to grow it, how to cook it, and how to access it affordably. The organization will use its donation to increase programming at eight Columbus Recreation and Parks Department locations that currently provide summer meals and conduct pilot programs at new sites where no food education is currently offered.
- [School-Year Weekend Backpack Programs](#): \$50,000 to five organizations. At the end of every school week, thousands of Ohio students routinely experience chronic weekend hunger. To combat this issue, backpacks filled with non-perishable meals are sent home on Fridays with at-risk students, helping ensure they return to class on Mondays nourished and ready to learn. In recognition of the many backpack programs across the state, five organizations have been selected to each receive \$10,000 to maintain or grow their school-year backpack program.
 - Ashtabula County Educational Services/Building Bridges (Ashtabula County)
 - Edgewood Ministerial Association (Butler County)
 - Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development/RSVP of the Ohio Valley (Jackson County)
 - Marion City Schools/Mid-Ohio Foodbank (Marion County)
 - West Ohio Foodbank (Allen County)

