



For Immediate Release

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WARREN ECC AND ED FOUNDATIONS DISTRIBUTE MORE THAN \$110,000 IN 2016

The Warren Area Chamber of Commerce Education, Civic & Cultural and Economic Development foundations distributed funds to organizations in 2016 for various projects. The foundations, established in 1991 and managed by the Regional Chamber, exclusively fund projects in Trumbull County.

The Education, Civic & Cultural (ECC) Foundation distributed a total of \$11,000 to the Warren Philharmonic Orchestra and Kent State University Foundation. The ECC Foundation was unable to distribute additional funds due to investments of all types underperforming for the past three to four years. With 2017 looking to hold much of the same, the Foundation Board decided to not make any funding commitments for this year.

The Warren ECC Foundation's Board of Directors include Kathy Cook, St. Joseph Health Center; Charles Jarvis, The Tribune Chronicle; Patricia Kearney, Title Professionals, Inc.; Diane Sauer, Diane Sauer Chevrolet; Gary Soukenik, Seven Seventeen Credit Union; William Ritter, Dominion; and John Walsh.

Since 1991, the ECC Foundation has given more than \$1.7 million to organizations. On Dec. 31, 2016, the Foundation's assets totaled \$771,678.

The Warren Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Development (ED) Foundation has provided funds to support the Regional Chamber's economic development activities in Trumbull County. The foundation distributed \$100,000 to the Chamber in 2016 and has awarded more than \$2.5 million to the organization since 1991.

However, these funds are only part of the Chamber's overall budget for economic development, as the organization has spent an additional \$30.25 million on development efforts in Trumbull County over the past 25 years, including \$1.45 million in 2016 alone.

Since 1991, the Chamber's ED team has completed 280 projects in Trumbull County, which resulted in investments totaling nearly \$3.6 billion and the creation of 10,273 jobs; made 7,466 retention visits; and helped to retain 22,737 jobs.

Last year, a notable project that the team worked to accomplish was the \$900 million Lordstown Energy Center (LEC). The facility, slated for completion in 2018, has created more than 600 jobs during the construction phase and will result in 20 full-time positions when operational. LEC will produce enough clean energy for 800,000 homes and provide more than \$1.3 billion in economic impact over the next 40 years.

The ED Foundation Board is comprised of Atty. Matthew Blair, Blair & Latell Co.; Anthony Cafaro, Jr., Cafaro Co.; Sam Covelli, Covelli Enterprises; Steve Sava, Perigee Business Technologies; Stephanie Shaw, Eastern Ohio P-16 Partnership for Education; and Robert Shroder, Mercy Health (retired).

As of the close of 2016, the Foundation's assets stood at \$937,944.

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