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Deepwood Foundation Makes a Difference through Community Assistance
Fulfills 59 Grant Requests in Lake County

MENTOR, OH (June 4, 2008) – In the first six months of 2008, the Deepwood Foundation, the nonprofit charitable arm for the Lake County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, successfully supported numerous families in Lake County by awarding 59 grant requests, totaling over \$23,000.00.

Of these grants, given through the Deepwood Foundation Community Assistance Program, eight supported adaptive equipment requests and another eight grants were dedicated to specific requests for medication, pediatric assessments, diapers, teaching tools for adults in community employment, specialized formulas, and speakers for adults in community employment.

The remaining 43 grants were given as scholarships to assist children and adults in attending specialized camps including New Avenues, Adaptive Advantage, Fun and Fitness, Camp Cheerful, Camp Sue Osborne, Willoughby Fine Arts, and Re-Education.

“We have been able to assist so many deserving families so far this year and hope to serve many more,” commented Rikke Coach, Executive Director of the Deepwood Foundation.

“The Foundation could not exist without the support and participation of our community and the partnership of supporting programs such as Lake County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, (LCBMRDD).”

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The Deepwood Foundation has several programs scheduled throughout the end of 2008 to secure support to continue benefiting Lake County residents.

In September the Deepwood Foundation will kick-off its Annual Fundraising Campaign. The annual campaign is established to obtain funds for supporting the organization's different programs and services offered throughout the year.

In addition the Deepwood Foundation will hold its 12th Annual Benefit Dinner and Auction on Friday, November 21st with the theme—*New York, New York, an Evening with Deepwood*—at the Pine Ridge Country Club in Willoughby. The benefit will include a silent auction and participants can bid on a variety of exciting items including the beautifully decorated trees from the Deepwood Foundation's 1st Annual *Gallery of Trees Extravaganza*, which will be held on Wednesday, November 19th. The Foundation will be honoring Elfie Roman, Superintendent, LCBMRDD, for her dedication, commitment and outstanding service to **children and adults with developmental disabilities**.

Individuals interested in participating in one of the Deepwood Foundation's upcoming events or wishing to donate to the Mission of the Deepwood Foundation can contact Rikke Coach at 440/350-5208.

Created by parents, families and professionals in 1996, the Deepwood Foundation, a §501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is the charitable arm for the Lake County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (LCBMRDD), as well as help for any resident in Lake County with a developmental disability. Its mission is to make grants and gifts to programs and activities supporting persons with mental retardation and developmental disabilities; to aid such persons directly, where appropriate; and to promote community awareness of the needs and abilities of disabled persons. Deepwood Foundation provides funding and assistance to children and adults with developmental disabilities with camp and after school scholarships, therapeutic and specialized equipment, health and safety items, advocacy, community education, and other unique support not available through LCBMRDD and traditional sources.

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