

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Wean Foundation awards more than \$400,000 to area agencies**

*Warren, July 8, 2009* — The Raymond John Wean Foundation, in its mission to improve the quality of life in the Mahoning Valley, awarded \$415,000 in grants to community organizations as part of its Second Quarter grantmaking in 2009.

In giving to the community, the Foundation is able to support a variety of non profits, community building organizations, early child care programs and neighborhood organizations all working toward the goal of affecting change in the communities they serve.

One of the organizations receiving a grant, the Warren City School Foundation, is bringing the latest technology into the classroom. The grant provides for \$15,000 to both Youngstown City Schools and Warren Schools to enhance the educational experience with student response systems from Youngstown company, Turning Technologies. With this new technology teachers will be able to better engage students in the classroom and improve educational attainment.

Other organizations receiving funding are:

- Community Legal Aid Service, Inc. received \$15,000 to provide consumer and bankruptcy service to residents of Mahoning County.
- D&E Counseling Center received \$235,000 throughout three years for their early childhood consultation project that provides support and training to childcare centers to deal with social, emotional and behavioral needs in the classroom.
- HAPPY HOMES received \$10,000 to support a comprehensive organizational process.
- Lien Forward Ohio Community Foundation received \$30,000 to support the group's efforts to return vacant, tax delinquent land in Youngstown to productive use.
- Main Street Warren received \$40,000 to supports its efforts in improving central Warren.
- Neighborhood Ministries received \$30,000 to build its organizational capacity to increase the social services for Campbell and Youngstown residents.
- SMARTS received \$25,000 to engage urban children in lessons and workshops covering music, visual arts, dance and theater.

For more information on these grants or the work of the Foundation please contact Joel Ratner, President of The Raymond John Wean Foundation, at 330-394-3213.

**About the Raymond John Wean Foundation**

The Raymond John Wean Foundation was created by Warren industrialist Raymond John “Jack” Wean in 1949 with assets and annually gives approximately \$4 million to nonprofit organizations with a majority of those funds earmarked for nonprofits in Mahoning and Trumbull Counties.

The mission of the Raymond John Wean Foundation is to enhance the community’s well-being and vitality through grant making, convening, advocating leadership with a focus on economically disadvantaged people and please visit [www.rjweanfdn.org](http://www.rjweanfdn.org) to learn more about the Foundation.

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