

For Immediate Release

March 11, 2011

Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio Receives \$20,000 for Shelter Improvements in Cuyahoga County

Columbus – Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio operates a 26-bed emergency shelter for homeless men in Cuyahoga County. In order to assist the organization with its efforts, the state has approved a \$20,000 grant through the Ohio Housing Trust Fund Supportive Housing Discretionary Program, administered by the Department's Office of Housing and Community Partnerships.

"This grant will assist the organization in making necessary improvements to the shelter, making it a more secure environment," said William J. Graves, Director of the Department's Community Development Division. "We want to ensure the organization has the necessary tools to continue its important work in the community."

The funds will be used to replace cracked roof rafters and relocate the shelter entrance to a more secure area. Electronic security doors will be installed, as well as a four-foot wall with a glassed-in top, so that only authorized people can gain access to the reception area. The project will serve 350 people.

*The **Office of Housing and Community Partnerships** provides financial and technical assistance to units of local government and nonprofit organizations in Ohio for project activities which benefit low- and moderate-income citizens.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

#

Media contacts: Katie Sabatino at (614) 466-6212
or the Communications and Marketing Office at (614) 466-2609