

# News Release

**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **County of Summit Celebrates National Community Development Week**

On Monday, April 15, 2019, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro and Summit County Council passed a resolution declaring the week of April 22-26, 2019, as National Community Development Week (CD Week). Celebrated annually in the United States, CD Week seeks to educate the community and federal lawmakers on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships programs, their impact on the community, and the need for increased program funding. The resolution was sponsored by Executive Shapiro and passed unanimously by County Council.

CD Week was created in 1986 to bring national attention to the CDBG Program, which was facing scrutiny by Congress at the time, and later expanded to include the HOME Program. The CDBG Program was created in 1975 and has provided annual funding and flexibility to local communities to provide affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities. The HOME program was established in 1992 to create and preserve affordable housing for low-income families. Community funding formulas for each program are dependent on decennial U.S. Census data.

“National Community Development Week is an opportunity to shine a light on the many important local projects funded by CDBG and HOME funds each year,” said Executive Shapiro. “Funding cuts to these programs would have an immediate effect on Summit County residents and non-profit agencies. A complete census count will help safeguard our community from funding cuts to the CDBG and HOME programs.”

Over the past five years, Summit County, through Executive Shapiro’s Department of Community and Economic Development, has received more than \$4,600,000 in CDBG funds and \$1,380,000 in HOME funds. Since 2008, CDBGs have supported programs at non-profits such as Battered Women’s Shelter, Shelter Care, Info Line, HM Life, Vantage Aging, and the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

In the same time period, HOME funds have been used to rehabilitate over 65 homes in Summit County in partnership with agencies such as Habitat for Humanity, Nazareth Housing, Neighborhood Development Services and Hattie Larlham. Additionally, Summit County has partnered with non-profit agencies to construct over 40 new homes for low to moderate income individuals using HOME funds.

To learn more about National Community Development Week, visit <https://ncdaonline.org/>.

For questions about CDBG and HOME programs in Summit County, contact Holly Miller at [hmiller@summitoh.net](mailto:hmiller@summitoh.net) or 330-643-8013.

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