

News Release



Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Executive’s SOS Program Donates Funds to Local Veteran Nonprofit

SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO—Since 2008, the Summit County Executive’s Office has provided Serving Our Soldiers (SOS) care packages to local members of the armed forces who are deployed overseas during the holidays. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, County Executive Ilene Shapiro will instead donate \$500 to Truth & Honor, Inc., a local nonprofit that provides support to veterans transitioning to civilian life.

Truth & Honor, Inc. is dedicated to restoring the lives of veterans who are often homeless and struggling with the dual diagnosis of PTS and chemical dependency, conditions that can inhibit a successful re-integration back into civilian life. The nonprofit operates two housing facilities, Julia House and Ella House, in Akron. These facilities provide a safe, stable environment, promoting wellness and reliability.

“Though we could not send our usual holiday care packages due to COVID-19 restrictions, it was important to find another way to support the men and women who have served in the armed forces,” said Executive Shapiro. “This donation to Truth & Honor will help veterans most in need of support as they make the transition from active duty to civilian life.”

Since taking office, Executive Shapiro has remained committed to supporting local veterans. Each spring, the Executive’s Office sells Mother’s Day flowers to County employees to raise money for the SOS program. In addition to the SOS program, the Executive’s Office has provided \$40,000 to the Laura Williams Dunlop Memorial Stand Down, led development of Summit Liberty House, the County’s first housing facility for homeless female veterans, and facilitated the installation of a new World War II memorial at the Summit County Courthouse.

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