



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gahanna Parks and Recreation Foundation Broadens Support

GAHANNA, Ohio – The Gahanna Parks and Recreation Foundation has announced they will be offering scholarships for Summer Youth Programming this year, as they have done every year since they were founded in 2008. The Foundation was established as a 501C-3 non-profit organization, dedicated to protect, nurture, and grow parks and recreation opportunities for the benefit of Gahanna Residents.

Parks and Recreation Director, Stephania Bernard-Ferrell, stated the Parks and Recreation Foundation has graciously promoted and supported the Gahanna Parks and Recreation Department for over 10 years. “The Foundation has made summer camp and pool memberships possible through scholarships for hundreds of families throughout the community. This summer looks very different than what we had hoped for or anticipated. The Foundation is supporting our new programming and activities, which gives additional opportunities to families during a critical time. Our team is thankful for the Foundation and the positive ways they support our residents every year.”

In 2019, The Gahanna Parks and Recreation Foundation was able to provide 30 weeks of camp programming for Gahanna families in need. Lee Tucker, Chairman of the Gahanna Parks and Recreation Foundation, stated they gave over \$25,000 this year to support parks and recreational programming, including the newly expanded paddle boat and kayak rental program. Tucker added that due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Foundation felt it was important to support other community needs as well. “This year we wanted to extend our support beyond recreational programming. We redirected funds typically used for pool memberships to the City’s Community Engagement Program, which provides additional services for residents.”

The Community Engagement Program was initiated to assist Gahanna seniors while the Senior Center is closed, and engage the entire community in special activities. The program offers “At Home” volunteer assistance to seniors requesting help with yard work, as well as pharmacy delivery and grocery shopping. The City program also unites community organizations for expanded efforts like the Senior Buddy program, Free Meal Friday and upcoming special events such as a Drive-In Bingo program and Treat Trail. For additional information on the Community Engagement Program, email Zac Guthrie: Zac.Guthrie@gahanna.gov

For additional details on youth programming or scholarships, please visit: ExploreGahannaParks.com.

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