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For Immediate Release:

EAST END COMMUNITY SERVICES

DAYTON – May 6, 2014 –Mini-Grants awarded in Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

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As part of the East End Community Services' Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation BCJI grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, seven applications for neighborhood beautification, improvements, and community building projects were funded. The targeted neighborhoods surrounding Ruskin School were invited to submit proposals and identify for themselves projects that were important to them.

Funded projects to begin this summer include:

- Sprucing up neglected and overgrown traffic circle at St. Paul Avenue and Clover Streets in Twin Towers followed with a block party;
- Planting fruit trees by the Mission of Mary Farm along the Xenia Avenue and Nassau Street gardens plus a mural at 619 Silver Lane.
- A mural along the McClure Street bridge connecting St. Anne's Hill neighborhood and Twin Towers neighborhood
- Beautification efforts in the 4<sup>th</sup> and Ringgold Street garden
- Beautification efforts in the Huffman Children's garden
- New plantings and beautification in Park Drive in South Park neighborhood
- A community picnic in Huffman Neighborhood

Beautification efforts and mural projects are proven strategies in reducing and preventing crime. When neighbors come together to work on a project, it strengthens the fabric of the community. The Dayton Police Department East Patrol Division has been an active partner in this effort. Major Brian Johns is an active member of the Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Service Team and helped a sub-committee review the applications. This summer the BCJI funding will also be used for police overtime to increase police presence on foot or bike patrol in neighborhood hotspots.

The remainder of the funds is used to intervene with youth providing engaging programs to increase their internal and external developmental assets for success and overall resiliency.



East End Community Services, a 2005 Better Business Bureau Eclipse Integrity Award winner and United Way partner agency, provides a variety of community service programs to our neighbors in East Dayton and beyond. The programs that East End provides are part of a holistic neighborhood transformation meant to help each child succeed to the best of his or her abilities in order to become successful adults who can give back to the community. In order for children to be successful, they need excellent schools, access to quality health services, stable, employed families and a thriving community with safe, high-quality housing. The East End offices are located at 624 Xenia Ave. in Dayton, Ohio. If you would like more information about East End Community Services visit their website [www.east-end.org](http://www.east-end.org) or call (937) 259-1898.



**“Building a healthy, caring and prosperous community that nurtures children toward success.”**