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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION PROVIDES HEAT RELIEF

Butler County, Ohio – For the fifth year in a row, Duke Energy has made funds available to their service territory of Southwestern Ohio and Northern Kentucky. This \$25,000 in funds is specifically designated for the purchase of fans for local elderly, low-income and disabled people to combat the heat of summer. Duke Energy has selected several local United Ways as the vehicle for this distribution.

Butler County United Way will distribute over \$2,900 in funds through their partner agencies S.E.L.F., Mercy Franciscan at St. Raphael's, and Salvation Army-Hamilton to cover needs in the Butler County area. To take advantage of this offering, residents may call **2-1-1** to be connected to Butler County's Information and Referral Hotline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (Cell phone plans may vary; dial 513.721.7900 as an alternative number). 2-1-1 operators will connect residents to these agencies who will be distributing fans thanks to the generosity of the Duke Energy.

"Duke Energy has always been committed to the communities we have the privilege to serve. One of the ways we demonstrate this commitment is through community engagement, and working with Butler County United Way makes that access to those in need an easy process", said Tim Abbott, Duke Energy Title Director of Government & Community Relations. "We are pleased to partner with such a strong local agency to help in providing relief during this hot summer weather."

The Butler County United Way has a focus on education, income stability and health and is dedicated to connecting and mobilizing resources to improve the lives of those within our communities. By partnering with Duke Energy for local cooling efforts, we are able to help eliminate the health complications that might occur in adults and youth during these high temperature months.

"Duke Energy should be commended for their efforts in keeping our residents safe," stated Margaret Baker, President and CEO of Butler County United Way. "We are pleased to assist them in the distribution of these fans. It is collaborative efforts such as these that show what it means to LIVE UNITED."

Butler County United Way invites you to be part of the change by giving, advocating or volunteering. For additional information, contact Butler County United Way at (513) 863-0800 or visit www.bc-unitedway.org.

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