



# Board of Commissioners

## *PRESS RELEASE*

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**County Contact:** Summer Torok  
440.350.2220  
[summer.torok@lakecountyohio.gov](mailto:summer.torok@lakecountyohio.gov)

### **Board of Commissioners Receives Federal Grant to Support Older Adults Age in Place**

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, May 8, 2025 – The Lake County Volunteer Network (LCVN), a division of the Board of Lake County Commissioners, is proud to announce a grant of \$126,879 every year for the next three years — totaling over \$380,000 — from AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. This significant investment will expand LCVN's reach in Lake County and aid older adults with remaining independent and connected within their homes and communities.

"This highly competitive grant is a testament to the strength of our community and the dedication of our volunteers," said Commission President Richard J. Regovich. "It is a major accomplishment that highlights the strength of our local programs and the growing need to support our aging residents."

With this additional funding, LCVN is expanding efforts to recruit adults 55 and older into meaningful volunteer roles to strengthen three priority programs:

- **Meals on Wheels**, through the Lake County Council on Aging, delivers nutritious meals to older adults who are unable to shop or cook for themselves.
- **Helping Hands for Seniors**, operated by Lifeline, Inc., provides help with small but important home repairs, maintenance tasks, and errands.
- **Phone Pal**, managed by LCVN, matches volunteers with older adults for regular, friendly phone calls to reduce isolation and loneliness.

Commissioner John T. Plecnik added, "We are grateful for this opportunity to grow our volunteer base and make a lasting impact. This program not only enriches the lives of those being served, but also brings purpose and connection to those who serve."

"This funding aligns perfectly with our vision of creating a stronger, more compassionate community," said Commissioner Morris W. Beverage III. "We are proud to support initiatives that improve the quality of life for all Lake County residents."

The Lake County Volunteer Network is committed to building a resilient volunteer infrastructure that not only meets the needs of aging residents but also provides meaningful opportunities for adults, 55+, to stay active and involved.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with the Lake County Volunteer Network, contact Cristen Kane at (440) 350-5360 or [cristen.kane@lakecountyohio.gov](mailto:cristen.kane@lakecountyohio.gov). To learn more about AmeriCorps Seniors, visit [AmeriCorps.gov/Seniors](http://AmeriCorps.gov/Seniors).

AmeriCorps Seniors programs operate in all 50 states and the U.S. territories of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. By mobilizing volunteers of all ages, AmeriCorps meets critical local needs, strengthens civic engagement, and helps communities across the nation flourish.

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