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For immediate release

## **SUNSHINE COMMUNITY FUND GIVING BACK Wright-Patt Credit Union to support two area organizations**

Beavercreek, OH – The Sunshine Community Fund, which was established last year by Wright-Patt Credit Union (WPCU), recently wrapped eight months of fundraising during a check presentation held on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. Here, representatives of WPCU's Sunshine Community Fund presented over \$180,000 to two local non-profit community organizations - known as Sunshine Community Champions - Crayons to Classrooms and United Rehabilitation Services.

WPCU Partners worked hard during the eight-month campaign to reach their goal, hosting numerous events and fundraisers, including: *one partner gifted their 5-year anniversary check to ensure kids would have supplies when school starts; our facilities/maintenance staff scrapped metal from old materials and donated the profits to help those with special needs; one partner came up with the idea to sell his farm eggs – 100% of sale proceeds – so lives could be enhanced in our community; and many partners volunteered their free time at fundraiser events.* Their efforts resulted in record-breaking fundraising numbers for the organization and \$90,000 presented to each Sunshine Community Champion. The money will be used to provide children in need the basic school supplies that are essential to academic success at no cost to their teachers, families, or schools and to enhance the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities or other special needs.

Crayons to Classrooms provide children in need the basic school supplies that are essential to academic success at no cost to their teachers, families, or schools. United Rehabilitation Services enhances the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities or other special needs. The beneficiaries were chosen by a partner-employee led selection committee who reviewed over 130 applications.

“WPCU’s Sunshine Community Fund gives our partner-employees hands-on involvement in raising funds, strengthening our community and helping people become more successful,” shared Doug Fecher, Wright-Patt Credit Union’s President and CEO. “From participating in face-to-face candidate interviews, selecting the Champions and working creatively to raise funds, our employees have driven the success of this campaign and we are thankful for their efforts.”

The 2016-2017 Sunshine Community Fund applications will be available early next year. For more information and details about Wright-Patt Credit Union’s community giving and sponsorship initiatives, visit [www.WPCU.coop/SunshineCommunityFund](http://www.WPCU.coop/SunshineCommunityFund)





### **About Wright-Patt Credit Union**

*Established in 1932, Wright-Patt Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial cooperative proudly serving Central and Southwest Ohio with more than 322,000 members and \$3.2 billion in assets. As a cooperative, Wright-Patt Credit Union joins members together, pooling financial resources to meet the needs of all. The pooled resources provide the capital to run a strong and efficient operation. Wright-Patt Credit Union is headquartered in Beavercreek, Ohio, and has 31 Member Centers throughout Central and Southwest Ohio. Wright-Patt Credit Union's mission is to help people through life by allowing members to achieve a greater degree of economic independence. Visit Wright-Patt Credit Union's website at [www.wpcu.coop](http://www.wpcu.coop) for more information.*

### **About the Sunshine Community Fund**

WPCU's Sunshine Community Fund Charter was established to positively impact those who live in the communities WPCU serve, with a specific focus in the following areas: financial education; literacy; the well-being of children/families; and support and recognition of military members, veterans and their families.

The Sunshine Community Fund's name was derived from the Wright-Patt Credit Union's "people helping people" philosophy that has been around since the beginning in the 1930s. Back then, times were hard for everyone and those who didn't work didn't get paid. Government workers on today's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base joined together to contribute 25 cents a pay period to help a fellow coworker who was ill and in need of financial support, until he could return to work. Recognizing a good idea, they decided to continue the "Sunshine Fund," a shoebox located in the nurse's office, to help one another during tough times. In 1932, the fund evolved and is now known as Wright-Patt Credit Union.

### **About the Sunshine Community Champions**

**Crayons to Classrooms** was established in 2007 by a group of Dayton businesses and nonprofit organizations. Goodwill Easter Seals of the Miami Valley offered Crayons to Classrooms over 12,000 square feet of warehouse, retail, and office space at 1511 Kuntz Road in Dayton for operation. Crayons to Classrooms' doors opened to teachers from selected schools in January 2009. Crayons to Classrooms' mission is to collect and distribute school supplies at no cost to teachers of students in need. Crayons to Classrooms' ultimate goal is to serve teachers and students in 88 Dayton area schools where more than 70% of the students live at or below poverty. Visit Crayons to Classrooms website at [www.dc2c.org](http://www.dc2c.org) for more information.

**United Rehabilitation Services (URS)** has served the needs of children and adults with disabilities in the Miami Valley for 60 years. Founded in 1956 as the Dayton Chapter of United Cerebral Palsy, URS has grown from humble beginnings with a handful of families to serving nearly 3,000 children, adults and senior annually. Today, the thriving nonprofit agency provides comprehensive programs and specialized therapies to individuals with Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Down Syndrome, Muscular Dystrophy, Sensory Processing Disorders, Alzheimer's and many other disabilities or special needs. URS is the leading provider of specialized therapy services with onsite physical, occupational and speech therapies and the region's only pediatric aquatic therapy program and universal exercise unit "spider cage." Visit United Rehabilitation Services website at [www.ursdayton.org](http://www.ursdayton.org) for more information.

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