

Memorandum of Understanding  
Between  
Ohio University  
And  
Tomcat Bridgebuilders  
And  
Trimble Local School District  
And  
Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Program

- I. PURPOSE:** The purpose of this MOU is to document the cooperation between the parties to provide the Promise Neighborhoods program supported by funding to Ohio University from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Innovation and Improvement in accordance with the Request for Proposal provisions. Through a partnership between the Ohio University, Tomcat Bridgebuilders, Trimble Local School District and Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Program (HAPCAP), a needs assessment will be conducted and a plan of action will be developed to support a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy that addresses essential neighborhood assets which include accessible developmental, commercial, recreational , physical and social assets as listed in the Promise Neighborhoods Program Request for Proposal.
- II.** Each of the organizations involved in the Promise Neighborhood planning process will provide oversight for programmatic commitments and contribute a number of in-kind resources valued at \$117,272.00. Each of these is described below.
- IIA. The Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs (VS) at Ohio University will provide programmatic commitment to:**
1. Employ a project director to oversee operational aspects of the planning project as well as any subsequent implementation activities. The position will work closely with all other project staff, overseeing their efforts. The individual will also serve as the primary liaison

to the Governing Board and various local organizations and entities that will participate in the planning project.

2. Employ a project coordinator to facilitate partnerships, coordinate data collection through needs assessment and coordinate communication with the funding agency
3. Employ a GIS specialist for map creation and review
4. Work to secure IRB approval for this project through Ohio University's IRB and ensure sufficient informed consent and data security procedures
5. Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of children and includes the collection of data for the academic and family and community support indicators
6. Conduct a segmentation analysis of the needs in the neighborhood
7. Work with the national evaluator for Promise Neighborhoods
8. Review maps and reports on a monthly basis

**The Voinovich School at Ohio University will contribute the following financial services and support:**

1. Tuition waiver for one graduate assistant
2. Hourly payment for undergraduate to do research support
3. Total cost share of \$12,808.00

**The Ohio University College of Health Sciences and Professions will provide programmatic commitment to:**

1. Employ a Community Health and Wellness Coordinator
2. Provide office space and equipment, clerical support, and other necessary support services resources.

3. Aid in facilitating regularly-scheduled community meetings to present performance information on key indicators.
4. Review maps and reports on a monthly basis

**Ohio University College of Health Sciences and Professions will contribute the following financial services and support:**

1. Tuition waiver for two graduate assistants
2. 5% effort from college Dean to be on Leadership Team
3. Total cost share of \$32,762

**Ohio University Gladys W. and David H. Patton College of Education and Human Services, The Edward Stevens Center for the Study and Development of Literacy and Language will provide programmatic commitment to:**

1. Serve as the liaison between the College of Education and the Literacy Center and Trimble Local Schools using the existing extensive relationship between the two entities.
2. The continuum of educational service solutions to be focused on school-aged children, kindergarten through grade 12.

**Ohio University Patton College of Education and Human Services, Literacy Center will contribute the following financial services and support:**

1. Tuition waiver for one graduate assistants
2. 5% effort from director of the Literacy Center to be on Leadership Team
3. Total cost share of \$16,621.00

**Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, Community Health Programs will provide programmatic commitment to:**

1. Serve as a primary local presence regarding community health programs through the planning and implementation phases
2. Develop cross-organization partnerships pertaining to community health and wellness that represent the heart of the Promise Neighborhood concept
3. Develop interrelationships among local and State stakeholders
4. Work with officials at Trimble Local Schools, Tomcat Bridgebuilders and Ohio University to begin formal explorations of community health leadership development models
5. Review maps and reports on a monthly basis

**Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, Community Health Programs will contribute the following financial services and support:**

1. 5% effort from director of the Community Health Program to be on Leadership Team
2. Mileage to meetings in Trimble
3. Total cost share of \$5,600.00

**IIB. Tomcat Bridgebuilders will provide programmatic commitment to:**

1. Develop cross-organization partnerships that represent the heart of the Promise Neighborhood concept.
2. Develop interrelationships among local and State stakeholders.
3. Serve as a primary local presence through the planning and implementation phases
4. Work with officials at Trimble Local Schools and Ohio University to begin formal explorations of community leadership development models.

5. Review maps and reports on a monthly basis

**The Tomcat Bridgebuilders will provide the following financial services and support:**

1. Match amount including salary, fringe and travel for a total amount of \$2,709.84.

**IIC. Trimble Local Schools will provide programmatic commitment to:**

1. Provide data and data collection opportunities.
2. Provide avenues to promote contact with and involvement of families of children.
3. Be a primary promoter of inter-agency relationships in the local community and the County.
4. Facilitate a network of relationships among various support structures in the community.

**Trimble Local Schools will provide the following financial services and support:**

1. Match amount including salary, fringe and space for a total of \$24,399.12.

**IID. Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Program will provide programmatic commitment to:**

1. Facilitate a network of relationships among various support structure in the community
2. Employ the Early Learning Network Coordinator and coordinate the planning process to create said network.
3. Provide services and solutions for children birth through grade three relating to early child development and pre-school
4. Aid in the creation and delivering of solutions through which children will become prepared for college and career

5. Provide aid and solutions for community members and families of children located in the Trimble community through a Community Service Director

**Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Program will provide the following financial services and support:**

1. Match amount including salary and fringe for a total of \$7,446.56.

**III. Each partner's existing vision, theory of change, theory of action, and existing activities align with those of the proposed Promise Neighborhood.**

As described above, **Ohio University** has several colleges, schools and centers dedicated to the Trimble Promise Neighborhood planning project. Each of the dedicated entities has commitments to Trimble Township through existing projects or a greater vision statement for the community in which Trimble is located. For example, The Stevens Literacy Center, housed in the College of Education and Human Services, has a long history of partnership with the Trimble school district. It is currently strengthening that relationship by sustaining a sponsorship program through which both entities will benefit by maximizing resource capacity, increasing professional development and providing leadership opportunities. Additionally, the Community Health Program, housed in the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, is currently making available numerous health programs in Trimble Township, serving both the children within the district as well as their families and community members. Each entity from Ohio University is dedicated to seeing through the planning phase of Promise Neighborhood in Trimble Township through the empowerment of the people.

The **Tomcat Bridgebuilders** is a team of community members who 1) want to ensure a brighter future for youth in Trimble Township; 2) work with community resources; 3) be a

positive role model within the community; and 3) encourage volunteerism. Bridgebuilders mission is to build upon and increase youth and community assets which will help the Trimble Township community reduce the risk of underage access and use of alcohol and other drugs within the community. Bridgebuilders works to strengthen families through drug and alcohol education. Bridgebuilders focuses on prevention by offering healthy choices and activities to the youth of Trimble Township. This is a community project that links state and local organizations and programs, and encourages young people to make healthy choices regarding alcohol and drugs. The vision of Bridgebuilders is to work with the community to utilize existing resources while working to acquire the resources needed. The outcome is a community that makes healthy choices.

The **Trimble Local School District** mission is to work together for excellence in student achievement, to strengthen families and to promote positive school relationships to enhance student school success. This is accomplished by supporting students, families, and teachers, by increasing access to community resources, by skill building, by providing crisis intervention, by improving communication between school and community, and by providing opportunities for children to have pride for their community. Trimble Local School District has partnered with Children Services to provide a social worker for the elementary school, Tri-County Mental Health to provide a mental health specialist for children with mental health needs in grades K-8<sup>th</sup>. They have also formed partnerships with medical facilities to provide dental assistance and preventative health screening. Family involvement is a focus of the district, with assistance from a partnership with a program called Kids on Campus for afterschool programming and hiring of a Youth Activities Coordinator at the Middle School. The High School and Middle School focused on the Marzano High Yield Strategies which are based in a meta-analysis of the best

practices of schools that produced high yield results. The strategy that they focused on this past year was students setting objectives and teachers providing feedback.

**HAPCAP**'s mission is to mobilize resources to empower individuals and communities through advocacy and quality services that promote self-sufficiency and improved quality of life. This organization is ideally situated to be a key partner in the Trimble Promise Neighborhood program for numerous reasons including 1) the organization is based out of Glouster, Ohio, a village within the Trimble Township, 2) numerous well-developed service areas are already established within the organization including child development, community services, food and nutrition, and housing and community development, and 3) a successful history of involvement in the Trimble Township area and greater region through serving individuals and families who lack sufficient resources to meet basic needs. The creation of a comprehensive local early learning network will be well supported by the staff and existing programs at HAPCAP. Additionally, HAPCAP provides an existing array of programs that help prepare students for college and a career.

**IV. The governance structure of the proposed Promise Neighborhood, including how the eligible entity's governing board or advisory board is representative of the geographic area proposed to be served , and how residents of the geographic area would have an active role in the organization's decision-making;**

The governing board of the proposed Promise Neighborhood will be comprised of leadership from six entities, four of which make up the core partnership and have been described in detail above. In addition to the four key partners, Athens County Children Services and Trimble Township community members will also have representation on the governing board. Of the twelve individual members of the governing board, six reside in Trimble Township and

four of the six entities are physically located in the Township. This governing board is well-suited for the leadership responsibilities because of it being largely comprised of Trimble Township residents, providing a wealth of local knowledge. Additionally, this board has been crafted to specifically represent every segment of the continuum of solutions, focusing on the educational needs of the Township's children through the support of healthy family and community structures.

In addition to the governing board, an advisory board has been assembled consisting of representatives from the Township, Athens County and the surrounding region. The purpose of this advisory board is to gather information in support of the project and to advise the governing board about the general direction of the project. This advisory board is well positioned for such leadership responsibility because of the members' depth of involvement in the Township and knowledge of issues relating to the community.

Residents of Trimble Township will have an active role in the Promise Neighborhood through opportunity to participate as members of both the governing and advisory boards. For example, Tomcat Bridgebuilders, one of the key partners, are a team of community members comprised of a representative of youth, parents, business, media, the school district, Athens County Children Services, law enforcement, religious and fraternal organizations, Glouster F.O.E., the Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Program, county government as well as local volunteers from the community. In addition representation through this key partner group, and governing and advisory board positions, Trimble Township residents' voices will be heard in the planning stages through data gathering procedures such as Townhall meetings, focus groups, and other general data collection.

Historically, in an effort to improve the conditions in the Township, monies and efforts have typically come from the outside in an effort to “fix” the area and its troubles. However, rather than coming into the Township as outside entities attempting to **do** something to the community, the Trimble Promise Neighborhood project team is focusing on **empowering** the people of Trimble Township; empowering them to define the most pressing needs, communicate broadly with community members and creatively generate solutions that will best serve their community’s children and most at-risk populations. It is through this empowerment of community members and leaders that capacity for the change will grow and sustainable results will be realized.

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Shane Gilkey, Assistant Vice President  
Ohio University Research and Sponsored  
Programs

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Date

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Svea Maxwell, Project Director, Bridgebuilders

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Date

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Kim Jones, Superintendent  
Trimble Local School District

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Date

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Chris DeLamatre, Child Development Director  
Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action  
Program

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Date