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The Columbus Foundation Makes Historic \$2 Million Contribution to Community Shelter Board

Investment helps fill critical gap for crisis response system amid public funding reductions

[COLUMBUS, OH, June 4, 2025] - The Columbus Foundation has awarded a historic \$2 million grant to the Community Shelter Board (CSB), marking one of the most significant philanthropic gifts in the organization's history. This extraordinary investment will provide critical support to strengthen the region's response to homelessness and ensure continued services for individuals and families facing housing instability.

At a time of growing community need and shrinking public funding, The Columbus Foundation's leadership addresses an urgent funding gap—reinforcing CSB's role as a HUD-designated Unified Funding Agency and leading the region's coordinated, regional response to prevent and end homelessness in central Ohio and Franklin County.

"This generous contribution from The Columbus Foundation is more than a gift—it's a powerful statement about what's possible when we come together," said Shannon TL Isom, President + CEO of Community Shelter Board. "Solving homelessness in our region demands an all-hands-on-deck approach—philanthropy, government, business, and community members united in a common purpose to solve homelessness. This moment calls for bold investment, shared responsibility, and a regional response that transcends zip codes and sectors. The Columbus Foundation's leadership sets a powerful example of what it means to show up with urgency and conviction. We hope others will follow their lead."

The \$2 million investment will directly support CSB's network of system partners delivering shelter, housing, and supportive services. These resources are essential as the region faces rising economic pressures, rising housing costs, a shortage of deeply affordable housing, and increased demand for emergency assistance. This funding resource arrives at a pivotal moment to help stabilize the crisis response system and protect the most vulnerable members in the community.

"The Community Shelter Board's role to convene and provide financial support to the network of partners addressing our community's housing and shelter needs is paramount. Its diligent response, in collaboration with direct service providers, is worth acknowledging and investing in to help strengthen our community for the benefit of all," said Doug Kridler, President and CEO of The Columbus Foundation.

As CSB continues its advocacy for long-term, sustainable public funding, this bold philanthropic leadership provides immediate relief—and sends a resounding message that community-wide challenges require community-wide solutions.

To learn more about the Community Shelter Board www.csb.org.

About the Community Shelter Board

Community Shelter Board leads a coordinated, community-wide effort to make sure everyone in Columbus and Franklin County has a place to call home. With a proven model built on collaboration, accountability, and measurable results, CSB strategically invests funding from diverse sources into a network of nonprofit partners to deliver housing, shelter, and supportive services. To learn more about the Community Shelter Board, visit www.csb.org.