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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**ERIE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BETH MAIDEN
NAMED LEADERSHIP OHIO CLASS OF 2023 FELLOW**

Sandusky, Ohio, March 21, 2023 — Erie County Community Foundation is pleased to announce that Executive Director Elizabeth P. Maiden has been named a 2023 Fellow in Leadership Ohio, the state's premier leadership development program that connects diverse leaders from across Ohio to promote positive change. Maiden was selected along with 34 other statewide fellows, selected from over 120 statewide nominations.

Leadership Ohio cultivates experiences that elevate leaders' knowledge, perspective, and connections from a community to a state-wide level, creating a unifying movement of diverse, connected leaders who make Ohio a better state to live and work in. The Leadership Ohio experience is typically comprised of eight, 1½ day sessions. Spring through fall, Fellows traverse the state—engaging with some of the most influential business, community, and elected officials in Ohio. Fellows' experiences are in-depth and often unexpected interactions and explorations of critical questions, challenges, and opportunities facing Ohio and its people. Leadership Ohio's approach produces a class of leaders with statewide knowledge, perspective, and connections, who are inspired to a higher level of service.



The 2023 Leadership Ohio class is one of the most dynamic in the organization's history. Each Fellow was nominated and completed a competitive application process to be considered for the class.

"This is a distinguished group of accomplished individuals from all across the state," said James W. Murray, president of the board of trustees, Leadership Ohio. "Ohio needs effective and civil leadership in today's polarized society, and we are excited to welcome this diverse cross-sector cohort to Leadership Ohio today."

The Class of 2023 participants hail from every corner of the state, and represent a spectrum of ideological viewpoints, with leaders working in innovation and business, state reform, education, nonprofit, and more. They will engage in programming across the state from April through November, and the curriculum and experience will provide a thoughtful opportunity for different perspectives and backgrounds to come together to learn and grow. Fellows will engage in a series of intensive sessions that cover topics such as the state judiciary, small town resurgence, and civil discourse while being exposed to an influential network of decision makers.

"I am humbled and excited to be included in this incredibly impressive group of 2023 Fellows," said Maiden. "I am looking forward to growing, learning, and sharing my experience toward creating positive solutions where there is need in Ohio."

Upon graduation, Fellows are inducted into the Leadership Ohio alumni network comprised of accomplished, diverse, talented Ohioans. Leadership Ohio's alumni reside in Ohio cities big and small, lead major companies and nonprofits, launch small businesses, and serve in government agencies, elected offices, commissions, and Ohio's boardrooms.



News Release

For more information about Leadership Ohio, visit www.leadershipohio.org.

About Erie County Community Foundation

Erie County Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to building a thriving and vibrant Erie County, Ohio by addressing community needs, providing leadership, and cultivating resources for a lasting impact. The organization's primary purpose is to provide a means for people to make permanent gifts of assets to enhance the quality of life in Erie County and Sandusky, Ohio—today, tomorrow, and forever.

An independent Board of Directors and Officers governs Erie County Community Foundation, comprised of Erie County business, civic, and non-profit leaders. The Board of Directors employs Foundation staff, establishes policies and priorities, and directs final grantmaking decisions. The Board's strength lies in the diverse range of knowledge and expertise of its members, and in their shared commitment to improving the quality of life in Erie County, Ohio.

Since the Erie County Community Foundation's founding in 1995, the Foundation has grown from assets totaling \$1.8 million to more than \$36.6 million in 2022. During this time, the Foundation has distributed over \$20.5 million to area non-profits for local projects, programs, scholarships, services, and initiatives to improve the quality of life in Erie County, Ohio.

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