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Dayton's Ahiska Turkish American Community Center Named Finance Fund Community Champion

COLUMBUS, OH – Dayton-based Ahiska Turkish American Community Center (ATACC) has been named Finance Fund's Community Champion Award winner. The award recognizes ATACC's support of the immigrant community in Greater Dayton and their work to equip members with the education and tools needed to succeed and become citizens in the United States.

Miami Valley Child Development Centers President/CEO Mary Burns accepted the award last week on behalf of ATACC. The award was presented at Finance Fund's annual Gala for elected leaders, development and funding partners and clients held in Columbus.

"ATACC President, Islom Shakhbandarov and MVCDC President Mary Burns have truly been community advocates – providing education and tools for members of the local immigrant community and contributing to the overall revitalization of the greater Dayton region," said Finance Fund President and CEO James R. Klein.

Finance Fund provided ATACC with a \$124,000 economic development grant to improve classroom and recreation space at the community center. The community hosts a variety of programs and activities including literacy development, school improvement, job readiness and life skills development. The funding from Finance Fund also expanded the school's capacity to serve up to 60 low-income children and their families participating in Early Head Start.

About Finance Fund (FinanceFund.org)

Since 1987, Finance Fund and its affiliates have invested more than \$296.4 million in housing, economic development, and community facility projects leveraging over \$1.2 billion. This investment was accomplished through 2,950 awards to community-based organizations throughout the state. Finance Fund provides debt and equity to clients through the management of 22 entities totaling \$220 million. Partnerships have enabled low-income people access to 15,514 units of affordable housing, 21,417 direct jobs, and 3,036 early care and education spaces (classrooms) for 69,497 children.

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