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Ribbon Cutting Today

Finance Fund Awards \$100,000 to Build Medina Creative Pet Play

MEDINA, OH – A doggy spa and daycare facility opened at Medina Creative Housing, LLC (MCH) today, thanks in part to a \$100,000 economic development grant from Finance Fund, a statewide financial intermediary that links communities in need with public and private sources of capital.

Today's ribbon cutting ceremony and open house welcomed "pets and their people" to tour the pet palace, located at 4080 Creative Living Way. The new 3,000 sq. ft. Medina Creative Pet Play facility will employ 12 MCH residents with disabilities and offer a doggy daycare, spa and pet photography studio. In addition, doting dog owners can visit the facility's doggy boutique to buy pet clothes, furniture and Creative Canine Cookie doggie biscuits. During construction, the new facility provided jobs and work experience to MCH's property maintenance/construction vocational training and Supportive Employment Enclave workers who worked alongside skilled construction professionals.

In addition to the doggy daycare, Finance Fund awarded MCH with pre-development and economic development grants to build a commercial hydroponic greenhouse, which is providing training and jobs for 30 people with disabilities and professional staff. "We are extremely grateful for Finance Fund's ongoing partnership and support of our mission," said Michael Carlson, MCH board president.

"The doggy day care is an exciting social enterprise that provides employment opportunities traditionally closed to people with disabilities," said Finance Fund CEO James R. Klein. "It's the area's first pet care services facility and could potentially generate revenue to enhance MCH services to special needs clients."

About Medina Creative Housing (www.medinacreativehousing.com)

MCH and its affiliate organizations provide housing, services and life skills training, vocational training and employment opportunities to help hundreds of students and adults with disabilities in Medina County live independently and earn income.

About Finance Fund (FinanceFund.org)

Since 1987, Finance Fund and its affiliates have invested more than \$258.8 million in housing, economic development, and community facility projects leveraging over \$1 billion. This investment was accomplished through 2,847 awards to community-based organizations throughout the state. Finance Fund provides debt and equity to our clients through the management of 19 entities totaling \$200 million. Partnerships have enabled low-income people access to 15,514 units of affordable housing,



18,417 direct jobs, and 3,036 early care and education spaces (classrooms) for 69,497 children benefiting the lives of over 127,000 Ohioans.

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