

**For immediate Release
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After the most competitive process in recent history the Office of the National Drug Control Policy announced on Tuesday that Our Futures in Licking County was awarded a grant of \$625,000 for a period of five years. Our Futures is a collation of key groups, organizations and individuals dedicated to improving the education, social, safety and economic environments in Licking County by reducing the use/abuse of drugs, alcohol tobacco and other drugs by youth and adults.

These grants provide community coalitions needed support to prevent and reduce youth substance use. These Drug Free Communities programs are able to demonstrate “significant reductions in past 30-day use of alcohol, tobacco and marijuana among middle and high school students,” according to Gil Kerlikowski, Director of National Drug Control Policy.

Our Futures in Licking County was one of 169 new grantees selected from 521 applicants and one of seven Ohio grantees.

Our Futures in Licking County is supported by the Community Mental Health and Recovery Board of Licking County, Licking County United Way and Children & Families First Council and is under the oversight of the Community Mental Health and Recovery Board serving Licking and Knox Counties.

For additional information please contact Dr. Lewis Mollica at mollica@bhq.org or 740-522-1232.

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