



NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

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PARMA “HOMES FOR HEROES” PROGRAM A SUCCESS IN THIRD YEAR

(PARMA) – The City of Parma has successfully completed its third consecutive year of the popular Homes for Heroes program. The unique first time home buyer down payment program is aimed at assisting those serving in the armed services and safety forces.

“Parma has a long tradition of supporting the men and women who protect our country, our neighborhoods and our lives,” says Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. “What better way to demonstrate our respect and gratitude to these fine professionals than to assist them in purchasing a home in a community that truly cares about them?”

Individuals serving in an eligible employment position receive a 3% grant, maximum \$5,000, for the purchase of their first home within the City of Parma. An annual budget of \$10,000 has been established with additional funding being applied for in 2011 pending approval by Parma City Council.

“It has proven to be a very popular program, and the money goes quickly,” said Community Services and Economic Development Director Erik Tollerup. “The hope is that in years to come we can apply for additional funding in order to help more military and safety forces personnel. This year, three families took advantage of Homes for Heroes and it made a big difference in their ability to purchase their first home.”

Eligible employment positions include those who serve in law enforcement, corrections and firefighting along with persons who are active duty with any branch of the military or National Guard. Those who have been honorably discharged from military service are also eligible. Mayor DePiero says he is pleased with any program that helps new residents as well as the community.

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“I feel that this great program will enhance the quality and safety of our neighborhoods. After all, having a firefighter, policeman or an emergency medical technician living next door would give most everyone an added sense of security.”

The Homes for Heroes program is administered through the Community Services & Economic Development Department.

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