



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Felix E. Martin, Jr. Foundation Makes Awards \$18,000 to School Family Resource Youth Service Centers**

Greenville, KY (September 2, 2011) – Through its efforts to support families and children in Muhlenberg County, the Felix E. Martin, Jr. Foundation has made a grant of \$18,000 to support the operations of the Muhlenberg County School District’s Family Resource Youth Service Centers (FRYSCs). Each of the County’s nine Family Resource Youth Service Centers recently received a \$2,000 grant from the Foundation. Foundation Board Chair Rod Tompkins said, “We are all aware of constant cuts the state keeps making to budgets and unfortunately the Resource Centers experience those cuts more than others. The Board is impressed with the impact these Centers have on Muhlenberg County. To keep them doing what they do best we want to provide some assistance for the remainder of this school year.”

The Family Resource and Youth Service Centers were created as a part of the Kentucky Education Act of 1990 (KERA). The mission of FRYSCs is to enhance students’ ability to succeed in school by developing and sustaining partnerships that promote: 1) Early learning and successful transition to school; 2) Academic achievement and well-being; and 3) Graduation and transition into adult life. The primary goal of these centers is to remove nonacademic barriers to learning as a means to enhance student academic success. Each center offers a unique blend of programs and services determined by the needs of the population being served, available resources, location and other local characteristics. FRYSCs have established a record of success based on improved student performance in class work, homework and peer relations as reported by teachers. Parents, too, report they experience greater satisfaction and involvement with the schools as a result of assistance through their local FRYSCs.

Vicki Yonts, Program Manager for the Felix E. Martin Jr. Foundation’s early childhood and literacy programs said, “These Centers have been designed to link families, school and communities together to help meet the needs families are facing today. The Centers are another way Muhlenberg County Schools provide services to enhance student abilities to succeed in school.”

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The Felix E. Martin, Jr. Foundation was created by a bequest of \$50 million in the will of Mr. Felix E. Martin, Jr. (1927-2007) to benefit the educational, civic and cultural needs of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. The Martin Foundation is administered by The Community Foundation of Louisville. Each year, more than \$1.5 million from the earnings of the endowment are distributed in Muhlenberg County. Through the generosity of the late Felix E. Martin, Jr., the Foundation has cumulatively committed more than \$6.1 million in grants to benefit Muhlenberg County.

To learn more about the Foundation, visit [www.FelixMartinFoundation.org](http://www.FelixMartinFoundation.org) or contact the Foundation's Program Officer, Lindsey Ransdell, at 270.977.9194 or [LindseyR@FelixMartinFoundation.org](mailto:LindseyR@FelixMartinFoundation.org).

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