



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact:

Lauren Lester

Fulton County Commissioners

Director of Marketing and Communications

419-337-9255

[laurenlester@fultoncountyoh.com](mailto:laurenlester@fultoncountyoh.com)

**Fulton County Senior Center Partners with Das Essen Haus  
To Expand Senior Nutrition Services During Pandemic**

September 29, 2020, (Wauseon, OH) – The Ohio Department of Aging has awarded Fulton County Senior Center \$48,600 in additional funding for a new, short-term program to provide meals for older adults affected by the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. The Staying Healthy program engages area agencies on aging and local, small-business restaurants to deliver free meals to seniors in our communities.

“We are excited that this new opportunity allows us to partner with a local business to help the Senior Center,” said Commissioner Jon Rupp.

Fulton County Senior Center will direct the program locally with a focus on serving seniors who live in rural Pettisville area. “Pettisville does not have a satellite site or convenient access to nutrition options, and Das Essen Haus was evaluated as having the ability to reach this population,” added Sheri Rychener, Fulton County Senior Center Director. “This program is designed to support our current services and not replace. We look forward to trying a new approach that should provide some insight on new ways to expand our services within the community that will ultimately benefit our seniors in the area.”

Das Essen Haus owner, Becky Rhodes stated, “We are excited to serve the seniors of Pettisville in this capacity. We aim to provide great quality homemade food along with exceptional customer service while supporting our community growth. We appreciate the opportunity to carry out our mission. Thank you to Fulton County Senior Center for their support with this program and for allowing us to play a vital part.” The restaurant will offer limited contact, stagger pick up options or delivery options for participants. Meals may be hot or cold and will be made available for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Dine in is not an option with this initiative.

Funding for Staying Healthy is provided by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The Fulton County Senior Center is located at 240 Clinton St., Wauseon, Ohio. Eligibility for this initiative requires participants to be age 60 and over and a resident of the Pettisville school district. This program plans to launch on October 1, 2020 and continue through September 2021. For more information, contact Fulton County Senior Center at 419-337-9299 or visit the website at [www.fultoncountyoh.com/StayingHealthy](http://www.fultoncountyoh.com/StayingHealthy).

###