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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **NEW EXHIBIT AT WOOD COUNTY MUSEUM**

### ***For Comfort & Convenience: Public Charity in Ohio by Way of the Poor Farm* One of Ohio's First Humanitarian Movements**

The Wood County Historical Museum, opens the 2019 season on February 1st with a new exhibit, *For Comfort & Convenience: Public Charity in Ohio by Way of the Poor Farm*. The exhibit depicts Ohio's earliest form of public charity, the poor farm, by representing all of Ohio's 88 counties. Historical documentation shared from many counties will be placed within diorama-style exhibits, along with 120 modern-day photographs of each county taken by local photographer Jeffrey Hall over the last two years.

The exhibit examines the architecture and design of institutional life in Ohio as characterized by the Ohio State Board of Charities, and the people who worked to uphold "comfort and convenience" for public charity. These early standards set in motion a variety of social welfare practices that are used today.

This exhibit was made possible by the Ohio Arts Council and the Ohio Humanities Council.

The museum will be open for self-guided tours Monday – Friday, 10 AM – 4 PM and weekends from 1 PM – 4 PM (closed on government holidays). Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children, with discounts for seniors, students, and military. Historical Society members receive free admission as well as a gift shop discount. The museum offers free admission to all visitors on the first Friday of each month, courtesy of the Bowling Green Convention & Visitors Bureau. The museum is handicap accessible and group tours are welcome.

A grand opening celebration for the exhibit will take place on Friday, February 22 with a ribbon cutting at 4:45 PM followed by a public reception and self-guided tours from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Exhibit photographer Jeff Hall will share remarks at 6:00 PM about his 5,000 mile journey to Ohio's poor farm sites.

All events detailed at [woodcountyhistory.org](http://woodcountyhistory.org) or by following the Wood County Historical Museum on social media. The museum is located at 13660 County Home Road in Bowling Green.

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