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For Immediate release – June 4, 2012

North Central Ohio Educational Service Center (NCOESC) has recently received notification that they are the recipient of a \$100,000 grant for the Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF). This grant was funded from the Ohio Department of Development. There were 105 applications received.

The Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF) is a competitive statewide program that provides loans and grants. The program will award up to \$100,000 in grant funds per feasibility study, up to \$100,000 in loan assistance per public entity for demonstration projects and up to \$500,000 in loan assistance for collaborative demonstration projects. The LGIF council has approved more than \$3.4 million in grants and \$2.9 in loans to Ohio Communities. This new program provides financial assistance which encourages collaboration, shared services and efficiency at the local level to reduce the cost of community services and provided a foundation for fiscal sustainability. The loans and grants are contingent upon State Controlling Board approval.

“Teamwork leads to great successes. Today’s investments foster collaboration that will ensure valuable services are delivered, while overcoming financial issues that plague many local communities,” said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. “The large response to this new program shows local governments are willing to do what is necessary to provide for their communities and their citizens.”

The NCOESC grant focuses on advancing technology for the following public entities: NCOESC, the City of Tiffin, Seneca County, Clinton Township, North Central Academy and the Village of New Riegel. The NCOESC funded project was “Roadmap to IT Solutions.” In addition to the named public entities the grant will be used to explore advanced options for shared technology services with other school districts and future members of the NCOR (North Central Ohio Regional Council of Governments).

NCOESC and North Central Ohio Regional Council of Government (NCOR) completed the grant application on behalf of the members of NCOR. The current membership includes: NCOESC, the Village of New Riegel, City of Tiffin, Tiffin City Schools, Marion Townships, Marion County, Seneca County, Seneca East Local Schools, Clinton Township, North Central Academy and the City of Marion

NCOESC was also awarded a no interest loan of \$300,000 in an extensive partnership effort with the Educational Service of Central Ohio and the Franklin County Board of Development Services. This award will be used for Developmental Disabilities in Franklin, Seneca, Wyandot, Sandusky and Marion Counties. This award will be used to capture increased Related Services, Staff Scheduling and a Medicaid Reimbursement Project Administration.

For more information about NCOR, please visit the website at www.ncorcog.org or call Director, John Davoli at 419-447-2927 extension 136.