



Ohio High School Athletic Association Foundation

News Release

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OHIO STUDENT-ATHLETES ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OHIO COMMUNITIES

Columbus, Ohio – The OHSAA Foundation has announced the 2008 Foundation Game schedule as part of their new statewide community service initiative, "Foundation Service Week." Many schools already incorporate community service as an extension of learning in the classroom. "Foundation Service Week" provides an opportunity for OHSAA member schools to participate in a community service project(s), as well as a platform to highlight the community service activities schools already participate in throughout the year. Foundation Service Weeks are highlighted by "**Foundation Games**," where participating schools are permitted to use one of the five allotted basketball scrimmages to play a live game under all normal game conditions, although the scrimmage does not count on a team's record. The inaugural statewide OHSAA Foundation Service Week will take place **Friday, November 21, through Saturday, December 6, 2008.**

During the inaugural Foundation Service Week, over 260 schools will be participating in 137 events across the state (nearly all of which include multiple games). A complete schedule of Foundation Games is available online at www.ohsaafoundation.org.

As part of Foundation Service Week, all participating schools have identified a community service project that is meaningful for their school and community. OHSAA member schools will be raising money for a wide variety of charities including the American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Autism Society of America, Big Brothers & Big Sisters, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Meals on Wheels, Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Transplant Assistance Fund, Ronald McDonald House, Salvation Army, Special Olympics, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Susan G. Komen Foundation and United Way, amongst a number of other local non-profit organizations. Many schools are conducting food and clothing drives to assist those in need during the holiday season. In addition, Ohio student-athletes will be actively performing service in their communities such as working in local food pantries, reading programs with elementary school students, mentoring programs, visiting nursing homes / senior centers during the holidays, delivering gifts to underprivileged children and community clean-ups, amongst many others. All participating schools are working hard to make a difference.

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As part of each Foundation Game, participating schools make a \$250 contribution to the OHSAA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization created over ten years ago to provide resources for enhancing educational opportunities and services for Ohio's student-athletes. Contributions to the OHSAA Foundation will be returned to all OHSAA member schools in the form of scholarships, leadership conferences and educational materials for student-athletes in all sports. All remaining proceeds from Foundation Games go to the participating schools' selected charity and community service projects.

— OHSAA FOUNDATION —