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## Shumaker Celebrates Centennial by Expanding Commitment to Literacy, Aims to Impact Over One Million Lives

**TOLEDO, OH** – As Shumaker, a leading national full-service law firm, enters its centennial year in 2025, the firm is proud to announce an expanded commitment to its Make a Difference through Literacy Initiative, aiming to improve literacy for over one million individuals by the end of 2025.

Originally launched in September 2023 to celebrate Shumaker's upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the campaign set out to transform the lives of 100,000 individuals through literacy-focused initiatives. Exceeding all expectations, Shumaker has impacted 175,000 individuals through strategic community partnerships, employee engagement, and the gift of time.

"As we celebrate 100 years of service, our mission to make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve remains stronger than ever," said Jennifer Compton, Chair of Shumaker. "Exceeding our initial literacy goal is a testament to the power of collaboration and the dedication of our team. We are excited to expand this initiative, with the goal of touching over one million lives by the end of 2025 and continuing the program year after year."

Since launching the initiative, Shumaker has collaborated with multiple organizations in the firm's 12 markets, including the Boys & Girls Club of Toledo, Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota and DeSoto Counties, Toledo Public School Foundation, Charleston Library Society Book Drop Dinner, 2nd & 7, Great Explorations Museum, Down Syndrome of Central Ohio's Adult Literacy Ohio Program, TutorSmart, Union County Library North Carolina, and many more.

"Shumaker's generous donation to TutorSmart Toledo's literacy campaign has made an immediate and lasting impact on our community's children," shared Tiffany Adamski, Executive Director of TutorSmart. "Because of Shumaker's support, we've been able to expand our reach to more TutorSmart teachers,

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providing them with the essential resources they need to help students thrive. Shumaker is not just supporting literacy programs—it is helping to build stronger futures for Toledo's students."

The Make a Difference through Literacy Initiative is rooted in Shumaker's century-long legacy of community impact and reflects the firm's commitment to being a force for positive change. The campaign is designed to bridge literacy gaps by providing tailored learning resources, mentorship programs, and engaging activities that foster a love of reading and lifelong learning for participants of all ages.

"Thanks to Shumaker's meaningful support, Adult Literacy Ohio continues to transform lives through literacy," said Rachel Huber, Program Manager for Adult Literacy Ohio. "The firm's donation helped create pathways to brighter futures for adults with developmental disabilities and their families. Together, we are building a stronger community!"

To further support the campaign, Shumaker has pledged over 4,000 hours of paid volunteer time for its employees to help address literacy needs in their communities.

As Shumaker embarks on its next century, the firm looks forward to strengthening its partnerships, building new collaborations, and continuing to transform lives through the power of literacy.

"Shumaker's kind donation has truly made a lasting impact on the Union County Library. The display has been a hit since day one, starting with the Wonderbook collection, which became so popular that every item was quickly checked out. From seasonal themes to our 'Who Was' Biography series and even a National Rainforest display, everything featured on the display flies off the shelves. It has become a favorite among our younger patrons, and we are incredibly grateful for the support in fostering their love of reading and discovery!" said Nina Chaffin, Union County Library North Carolina Director.