**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** INSERT **DATE OF RELEASE**

Contact: XXXXXXXXXXXXX

**THE HEALTHY BUSINESS COUNCIL OF OHIO HONORS LOCAL EMPLOYER(S)**

The Healthy Business Council of Ohio (HBCO) has announced that 96 Ohio employers have been recognized for healthy worksite practices in 2022. All 96 worksites will receive recognition within the state-wide organization’s tiered designation program the Healthy Worksite Award. Among the recipients being honored is INSERT YOUR BUSINESS NAME (OR NAMES, IF YOU’LL BE JOINTLY PUBLISHING THIS NEWS RELEASE WITH OTHER LOCAL RECIPIENTS).

The Healthy Worksite Award recognizes Ohio employers who demonstrate a commitment to employee wellness through comprehensive worksite health promotion and wellness programs. Applicants are scored on the extent their wellness programs facilitate and encourage employee health, enhance productivity, and ensure a healthy work environment.

All applications were reviewed and evaluated using objective criteria. Four levels of high achievement were awarded in 2022 —Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum, in addition to an entry-level tier of “recognition”. To celebrate the accomplishments of Ohio worksites and their efforts to pivot and adapt during the pandemic, a Pandemic Response Section was included in this year’s extensive award application.

INSERT A QUOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR OF YOUR BUSINESS’ WORKSITE WELLNESS PROGRAM AND/OR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM THAT YOU’RE PARTICULARLY PROUD OF.

The online award application is available to all Ohio-based worksites from mid-August through late October each year. While the 2022 application deadline has passed, the HBCO would like to encourage all worksites, large and small, public and private, for profit and nonprofit, to consider applying for the [Healthy Worksite Award](https://healthactioncouncil.org/HBCO/Healthy-Worksite-Awards) in 2023.

"Our Media/Award committee will be making some exciting changes to the 2023 award application," explained Award Committee member, Lindsay Madaras. "As the landscape of worksite well-being continues to evolve, we want to ensure that the application reflects those changes. Moving forward, the award will have a stronger emphasis on how organizations support the holistic well-being of their employees with a greater focus on topics like mental health, financial wellness and more. In addition, the application will better align with organizations that have shifted to a remote and/or hybrid work environment."

Details regarding the awards ceremony will be provided to award recipients shortly.

For a full list of 2022 award winners, please visit the HBCO’s [Healthy Worksite Award website](https://healthactioncouncil.org/HBCO/Healthy-Worksite-Awards).