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## Pfau give \$1M challenge grant to Lighthouse Youth Services

### Business Courier of Cincinnati

A \$1 million challenge grant from Susan and Don Pfau will help [Lighthouse Youth Services](#) buy the historic Gruen Watch Co. building in Avondale.

The grant is part of a \$4 million campaign to purchase the building, on East McMillan Avenue, and move Lighthouse's administrative offices and some programs there. The nonprofit is currently headquartered on Madison Road in Walnut Hills.

The Pfau will match dollar for dollar, gifts and pledges up to \$1 million, according to a news release. Don Pfau is chairman of [Cincinnati Fan and Ventilator Co. Inc.](#) in Mason, and his wife Susan is active in a number of community organizations.

"Entering our fifth decade, we are planning the resources that our staff and volunteers need to advance the Lighthouse mission for the next 40 years," said Bob Mecum, president and CEO, in a news release.

Besides the administrative offices, Lighthouse's Help Me Grow program, which serves children from prenatal to 3 years, will occupy much of the remainder of the building, Mecum said.

The Gruen Watch building was completed in 1917, when the Columbus-based watchmaker bought a pasture in Avondale, renamed it "Time Hill," and built a Tudor-style headquarters. In 1958, Gruen, which had fallen on hard times, was acquired and moved to New York; [Union Institute and University](#) now owns the property.

Lighthouse Youth Services provides housing for homeless teenagers, group homes for young people, foster care, and education, counseling and training for youths and their families.

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