

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2022

FATHERS WALK YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 15

Canton, Ohio - Stark County Job and Family Services and the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition are pleased to announce that their annual Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2022. This event invites fathers and other significant male caregivers to spend the morning with their child by walking or driving them to school.

"Spending quality time together before school lets your child know that you are interested in their education and it sets them up for a successful day," said Deborah Forkas, M.Ed, Executive Director of Stark County Job and Family Services. "Each year, I am impressed by the number of fathers who participate in the walk. Many go above and beyond to create a special memory for their child, by finding unique and fun ways to travel to school together or turning it into a neighborhood activity."

Representatives from the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition will be on-hand to greet fathers and students at schools in the Canton City School District, Massillon City School District, Plain Local School District, and Alliance City School District.

Those who participate in the walk will receive free gifts, presented by CareSource, Molina Healthcare, and the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition. The first 100 students at each school will receive sunglasses and a lollipop. Fathers will receive a jar gripper. Each father and child will be honored with a wearable sticker.

This will be the twelfth year that the Fatherhood Coalition has hosted the event. Last year's walk had one of the largest turnouts to date, with 2,011 fathers and 2,556 children.

The mission of the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition is to improve the lives of children by encouraging and enabling fathers to take an active and positive role in their child's life. The organization sponsors activities designed to strengthen families and educate the community. For more information, please call 330-451-8477 or visit StarkJFS.org.

###