

# **Stark County Job & Family Services**

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**Human Services · Children Services · Child Support**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Seventh Annual *Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day* a Success!**

Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, marked the seventh annual *Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day*, sponsored by the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition, and Stark County Job & Family Services. This year's walk was the most successful yet with more than 1,800 fathers and over 2,200 children in the Alliance, Canton, Massillon and Plain Local public schools participating. This was an increase of 265 fathers and 312 children from last year's event.

A school greeter shared this incident that he experienced at last year's walk: a child was proudly walking up to school with his father who took time from work to participate in the walk. The child introduced his father to the greeter who asked the young boy if he wanted to be just like his dad. Before the child could respond, his dad smiled and said, "No, he is going to be better than me."

Research shows that children whose fathers are involved in their education perform better in school. The Walk is designed to provide male caregivers the opportunity to show their children how much they support and value their education.

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