

Stark County Job & Family Services

HUMAN SERVICES - CHILDREN SERVICES - CHILD SUPPORT

221 3rd Street S.E., Canton, Ohio 44702

Deborah Forkas, M.Ed - Executive Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ANNUAL FATHERS WALK YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 1, CHANCE TO WIN A \$25 GIFT CARD

Canton, Ohio - Stark County Job & Family Services and Stark County Fatherhood Coalition are pleased to announce that the annual *Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day* will take place on Thursday, October 1, 2020. Fathers countywide are encouraged to demonstrate the importance of education to their child by helping them get ready for school, sharing breakfast, or walking to school together.

"Students enjoy school more and perform better academically when fathers are involved in their education," said Deborah Forkas, M.Ed, Executive Director of Stark County Job & Family Services. "This day is very special for the child, as much as it is for the father. I hope to see a huge turnout this year."

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this year's event will be celebrated virtually through the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StarkCountyFatherhoodCoalition. To participate, fathers should document their morning activity by taking a photograph or recording a short video and submitting it to matthew.lytle@jfs.ohio.gov. The images will be edited into a slideshow and presented on Facebook.

Fathers who submit a photo or video will be entered into a raffle to win one of 40 gift cards, valued at \$25. When sending a submission, please include the following information: a.) father's name, b.) child's school district, and c.) phone number. The email must also state that you give permission to the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition to use the image.

Last year, more than 2,000 fathers participated by walking their children to school. The students were from thirty-four schools within the Alliance, Canton City, Massillon, and Plain school districts.

For further information about the annual *Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day*, please contact Matt Lytle, Program Administrator, at 330-451-8477 or matthew.lytle@jfs.ohio.gov.

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