

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2023

STARK JFS' EMPLOYEES TO HOST WARMING WALL, INVITE COMMUNITY TO HELP

Canton, Ohio - Employees of Stark County Job & Family Services will offer free winter apparel to those in need again this winter through their Warming Wall. Hats, gloves, scarves, socks, and other warm clothing will be hung from November through March on the chain link fence located across the street from the agency at 221 3rd St. SE, Canton, Ohio 44702. Disadvantaged residents are invited to take items from the wall to help them stay warm this winter.

“This effort is 100% employee driven and organized. We are fortunate to have employees who go above and beyond to help our residents. They understand there are individuals and families in our community who may be facing a challenging time this winter, and they are here to help,” said Jerry Coleman, Executive Director of Stark JFS.

The Warming Wall was introduced last year by staff from the Division of Child Support and is intended to be a community collaboration. Those who need an item may take it, and those who have an item to give may hang it. All items are collected through donations.

“Last year proved that there is a real need in Stark County for an initiative like the Warming Wall, especially on days that reach freezing temperatures,” said Ann Durkin, Deputy Director of Child Support. “We don’t want to see anyone go cold during the winter months. Our goal is to maintain a steady supply all season to keep up with the demand. We invite individuals and local organizations to help by donating to the wall. Any number of items that you can give will make a difference and be appreciated.”

Residents who wish to contribute to the Warming Wall can add items to the fence themselves or drop them off in the lobby of Stark JFS’ Midtown Building during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at 221 3rd St. SE, Canton, Ohio 44702. Donated items will be collected now through March and should be placed individually in sealed plastic bags, to protect them from rain and snow.

For more information about the Warming Wall or questions about donating, please call 330-451-8141.

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