

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2026

FATHERS WALK YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY ON SEPTEMBER 17

Canton, Ohio - Stark County Job & 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 17, 2026. This event invites fathers and other significant role models to walk or drive their child to school to show support for their education and demonstrate the important role they play in their child's life.

"The Fathers Walk is a great reminder that being involved in a child's life doesn't always require a big gesture," said Jerry Coleman, Executive Director of Stark County Job & Family Services. "Taking a few minutes to walk together, talk about the day ahead, and simply be present can make a lasting impression. These everyday moments help children feel supported, valued, and encouraged to succeed."

Representatives will be on-hand to greet fathers and students at participating schools in the Canton, Massillon, Plain, and Alliance school districts. Participants will be presented with a free giveaway. The event is sponsored by Buckeye Health Plan, Humana Healthy Horizons in Ohio, CareSource, and Molina Healthcare.

"The Fathers Walk is a wonderful way to turn an ordinary school morning into an opportunity for connection," said Ann McGill, Deputy Director of Stark County Job & Family Services' Division of Child Support. "When dads and father figures show up and take an active interest in their child's school experience, they help strengthen the support system around that child. We hope this event continues to inspire fathers to stay involved long after the walk is over."

Fathers are invited to share their photos on social media using the tag #StarkFathersWalk. The Fatherhood Coalition will share photos and updates throughout the morning from their Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/StarkCountyFatherhoodCoalition.

The mission of the Stark County Fatherhood Coalition is to empower fathers to take a positive role in their child's life, sponsor activities that strengthen families, and educate the community. For more information, please call 330-451-8477 or visit StarkJFS.org.

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