

MEDIA RELEASE

Summit County Children Services ■ 264 South Arlington Street ■ Akron, Ohio 44306

For Immediate Release

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Summit County Children Services awards Caseworker and Supervisor of the Year

AKRON, Ohio – March 2020 – Summit County Children Services (SCCS) staff members, Ms. Beatrice Flett and Ms. Colleen Harris were recently honored as the 2020 Caseworker and Supervisor of the Year by agency staff. They were both nominated because of their commitment, advocacy and dedication to working with families and staff. There were twenty four caseworkers and 9 supervisors nominated for these awards as a part of National Social Work Month, which is observed each March.

Ms. Flett, 30 Days to Family® Specialist, with over 12 years of service to the agency, received the Caseworker of the Year award for outstanding casework rooted in the belief that children fare best with strong family connections. 30 Days to Family® is a short-term intervention program that aggressively searches for extended relatives and kin to identify potential placement options and supports, decreasing the need for long-term foster home placements. Flett was recently assigned a case involving a sibling group of five children with five different placements. Ms. Flett found placements and family connections for each child.

Ms. Harris, supervisor of the Family Preservation Unit and twenty three year employee of SCCS, was recognized as the Supervisor of the Year for her ability to promote trust and respect within her unit. She is extremely supportive to her staff and families alike, going above and beyond to foster familial relationships and empathy related to difficult family circumstances. She is highly invested in the well-being of her staff and promotes self-care routines. She displays unwavering leadership skills through her daily actions. Ms. Harris has been described as an advocate, intelligent and caring. She understands the importance of children remaining in their own homes whenever safely possible and advocates for family preservation.

Through this life-affirming work, Ms. Flett and Ms. Harris uphold the mission and vision of the agency.

For more information about Summit County Children Services, please visit the website at www.summitkids.org