

MEDIA RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summit County Children Services Promotes Wear Blue to Stop Child Abuse

AKRON, OH – **March 2021** – The month of April is recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Summit County Children Services (SCCS) is asking the community and agency partners to 'join the movement' and Wear Blue on April 14th to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect and support the safety and well-being of children in Summit County.

Increased awareness of child abuse and neglect is critical. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, many children and families have experienced increased stress and isolation which are factors that can increase child abuse and neglect. SCCS urges the community to remain vigilant to the safety of children. It is important to make a report to the agency when you become aware or suspect that a child is or may be abused or neglected.

SCCS currently has nearly 750 children in agency custody. Last year, SCCS served 1 out of 12 children in Summit County. SCCS remains committed to the safety, permanency and well-being of all children served, in partnership with families and the community.

SCCS asks that you show your support in preventing child abuse and neglect by wearing blue on April 14th. Wear Blue pictures can be emailed on April 14th to <u>Shannon.Ede@summitkids.org</u> or by tagging SCCS' Facebook page @SummitCountyChildrenServices.

For more information about Summit County Children Services, you can visit our website at summitkids.org.

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