

MEDIA RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summit County Children Services Hosted 2nd Annual Winter Wonderland

AKRON, Ohio – December 2021 – Summit County Children Services (SCCS) hosted their 2nd Annual Winter Wonderland Drive-Thru event on Friday, December 3rd. This special event was created as a result of the pandemic as a safe way to celebrate the spirit of the holidays to those children in the care of SCCS.

The drive thru event, organized by agency staff, featured live reindeer that were brought to SCCS by Spring Mist Farms and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Staff and volunteers dressed in costumes, including a snowman, reindeer, elves and minion look-a-likes. Holiday decorations, blow ups and lights adorned the agency grounds. The children and families who participated were able to enjoy this fun activity from the safety and comfort of their vehicles.

"Once again, our staff and many generous community partners came together to make this a memorable event for the children and their foster or kinship caregivers," said Julie Barnes, Executive Director.

There were 132 families who participated and nearly 400 children who received goodie bags filled with pajamas, a \$15 gift card, hats, gloves, stuffed animals, crafts and other treats. Table stations were hosted along the drive thru route by the Women's Auxiliary Board of SCCS, the Summit County Foster Parent Association, Summit County CASA Program and SCCS where participants were greeted by staff and volunteers. At each station, a special give away item was given to the children and families. The pajamas were in part donated by the Akron Children's Museum who hosted a collection drive and Keller Williams Chervenic Realty Company. SCCS would like to thank their community partners and volunteers for their support and donations for this notable event.

For more information about SCCS or how to become a foster parent, please visit the website at summitkids.org or call the foster home inquiry number at (330) 379-1990.