

Prosecuting Attorney County of Summit

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## Child Support Solutions Assists Hundreds of Parents

Child Support Enforcement Agency collects back child support, offers parents help

**AKRON, OHIO – August 20, 2013 –** Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh today announced that the Summit County Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) collected close to \$4,000 in child support payments during Child Support Solutions. Volunteers helped 343 parents receive services, including driver's license reinstatement, warrant resolution, case reviews and genetic paternity testing.

"I'm thrilled that so many parents took advantage of the resources Child Support Solutions offered," said Prosecutor Walsh. "Almost half of the attendees were unemployed, which proves that our economy is still playing a large role in why parents don't make their child support payments. That's why it's so vital for us to continually seek new ways like this to help parents meet their financial obligations."

Close to 80 volunteers were on hand to assist attendees. Of those who attended Child Support Solutions:

- 343 parents received services
- \$3,849.54 in child support paid
- 61 warrants resolved
- 101 driver's licenses reinstated
- 46 parents attended Workforce Orientation
- 27 parents received free genetic paternity testing

CSEA case managers were available to discuss payment arrangements and support modification. Attendees were offered a quick, painless genetic paternity test to legally establish paternity. Parents who had their driver's license suspended for failure to pay child support were able to reinstate their license. Those with outstanding child support-related warrants were able to resolve them without going to jail. Additionally, representatives from a multitude of federal, state and local agencies were on hand to discuss the available resources to help attendees finish their education, get a new job and become a better parent.

Partner organizations offering their services at this event include the Summit County Sheriff's Office, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles, the Summit County Executive's Office, the Summit County Fiscal Office, the Department of Veterans Affairs, Fathers & Sons of Northeast Ohio, Man 2 Man, the Summit County Clerk of Courts, the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Summit County Domestic Relations Court, The Job Center and Fame Fathers.

## About CSEA

The Summit County Child Support Enforcement Agency collects nearly \$84 million annually and handles more than 51,000 child support cases. Each year it establishes support orders for approximately 4,000 children. Since its inception in 2001, the Criminal Non-Support program has collected more than \$30 million through its aggressive prosecution of individuals neglecting to pay child support. You can learn more about CSEA on its website: <u>http://co.summitoh.net/prosecutor/index.php/divisions/child-support-enforcement</u>.