

# News Release

**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **County of Summit Executive Sponsoring Go Red for Women Events in February**

Throughout the month of February, County of Summit Executive Ilene Shapiro will sponsor a number of events in support of the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women initiative. The Go Red initiative is a nationwide platform designed to increase women's heart health awareness and serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally. In 2010, the American Heart Association set a strategic goal of reducing death and disability from cardiovascular disease and strokes by 20 percent while improving the cardiovascular health of all Americans by 20 percent by the year 2020.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States and is responsible for 1 in every 4 female deaths. Summit County Public Health data indicates that in 2017, 641 women in Summit County died of diseases of heart. Despite the data, heart related deaths are still primarily identified as a risk for men.

“The Go Red for Women initiative is an opportunity to encourage awareness of women and heart disease and to take action to save more lives,” said Executive Shapiro. “The educational events we will hold in February give County employees an opportunity to learn about heart disease and gain knowledge of risks and preventative measures.”

Since the Go Red for Women initiative began in 2004, more than 2 million women have learned their personal risk of developing heart disease by taking the Go Red Heart CheckUp, more than 200,000 healthcare provider offices have received critical patient information on women and heart

disease, and more than 900,000 women have received important information that allows them to take action to improve their health.

The schedule for Go Red events open to County employees is as follows:

Friday, February 1: National Wear Red Day  
Memorial/Tribute Hearts and Lapel Pins will be available for purchase and free Heart Healthy information will be available at the Ohio Building and the Russ Pry Building.

Friday, February 8: Memorial/Tribute Hearts and Lapel Pins will be available for purchase at the Ohio Building, the Russ Pry Building and Building Standards.  
The Guess the Amount of Candy in Jar contest will be available at the Ohio Building and the Russ Pry Building.

Friday, February 15: Lunch and Learn at the Russ Pry Building from Noon to 1:00 p.m., located in Room 371 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor). The American Red Cross will present Heart Healthy information. A healthy snack will be provided. RSVP to Jill P. Adams at (330) 643-2560. Earn 50 Virgin Pulse points!

Friday, February 22: CPR Training at Building Standards.

For more information about Go Red Events, please contact Jill P. Adams at (330) 643-2560 or [jadams@summitoh.net](mailto:jadams@summitoh.net).

For more information about Go Red for Women and heart disease, please visit <https://www.goredforwomen.org/>.

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