## **News Release**



 Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive

 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: July 18, 2017

## Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro Recognizes the Month of August as Summit Kids Month in Summit County

Summit for Kids Expo to Take Place August 19th

Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro has recognized the month of August 2017 as Summit Kids Month, featuring a month-long focus on child health and wellness, as well as safety and early childhood education. Each week in August will focus on a new theme critical to the welfare and upbringing of the children of Summit County. And, for the 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row, the banner event of Summit Kids Month, the "Summit for Kids Expo," will take place at the John S. Knight Center on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

"Focusing on early childhood initiatives such as education, health and wellness is an imperative part of a larger strategy focusing on our children in Summit County," said Executive Shapiro. "Summit Kids Month provides numerous opportunities for families to engage in activities focusing on the well-being of their children and family, which in turn helps to build a stronger foundation for our community."

Week one of August is "New Beginnings Week"; week two is "Health and Wellness Week", followed by the third week, "Family Week" and ending the month with "Child Safety Week". The

8<sup>th</sup> annual Summit for Kids Expo will be held at the John S. Knight Center on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Summit for Kids Expo is open to the public and is free of charge. The Summit for Kids professional symposium, <u>The Opiate Epidemic's Effects on the Family</u>, will be held at the downtown Akron-Summit Main Library on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Individuals attending the professional symposium will be eligible for CLE and CEU credits.

Summit Kids Month is part of the "First Things First" Child Development Project of Summit County, which was created by the Summit County Family and Children First Council. Initiated in 2009, the Summit County Family and Children First Council is the lead agency focusing on childhood development in Summit County, including a comprehensive and collaborative education system enhancement and early care plan.

For more information, dates, and location please visit: <u>http://summitcountyfirstthingsfirst.com/</u>



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