

Prosecuting Attorney
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NEWS

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2-Day Child Support Event Helps Parents Clear Confusion
Child Support Enforcement Agency solves problems, collects support

AKRON, OHIO –September 23, 2014- Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh announced that the 3rd annual Child Support Solutions event was successful in both collecting support for children and helping parents resolve child support issues. The Summit County Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) collected nearly \$3,500 in child support payments during the 2-day event. Over 300 clients were assisted in getting back their drivers' licenses, resolving outstanding civil and criminal warrants and learning about employment options.

The Child Support Solutions event was held on August 22nd and 23rd at the Ohio Means Jobs Center on Tallmadge Ave. This central location has been home for this event for the past three years and allows for clients to easily attend with a Metro RTA bus stop out front and ample parking. "The Job Center offers a safe and family friendly environment to host the Child Support Solutions Event," said Prosecutor Walsh. "This is important as we encourage parents to come talk to us about any child support concerns they have."

Parents participating in the event were greeted by more than 75 volunteers. Child support case managers were on hand to answer questions and make payment arrangements. In this setting, case managers were able to take the extra time to discuss a client's individual cases one on one, handle problems and clear any confusion.

This year, a 68-year old disabled veteran was assisted with his cases in both Summit and a neighboring county. He was wounded in the service and is currently on disability. Summit County CSEA helped this veteran by resolving an outstanding warrant, getting his driver's license back in a neighboring county and securing a commitment from him to begin making regular payments on his case in Summit County.

The ultimate goal of Child Support Solutions is to get parents to support their children. Openly discussing individual cases and attempting to uncover and eliminate barriers to non-payment encourage parents to work together with CSEA to help them get on the right path to make regular and consistent child support payments. This open forum led to the resolution of 42 civil warrants, 13 criminal warrants, and the reinstatement of 139 drivers' licenses.

"Thank you to the many partners that continue to make this event successful each year," said Prosecutor Walsh. These organizations include the Summit County Sheriff's Office, Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Summit County Executive's Office, Summit County Department of Jobs and Family Services, Ohio Means Jobs Center, Summit County Fiscal Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, Fathers & Sons of Northeast Ohio, Man 2 Man, Summit County Clerk of Courts, Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Summit County Domestic Relations Court, Fame Fathers, Summit County Adult Probation, and Oriana House.

About CSEA

The Summit County Enforcement Agency collects \$84 million annually and handles nearly 49,000 child support cases. Each year paternity is established for over 5,500 children and over 4,500 support orders are established. Since its inception in 2001, the Criminal Non-Support program has collected more than \$32 million through its aggressive prosecution of individuals neglecting to pay child support. You can learn more about CSEA on its website:

<http://co.summitoh.net/prosecutor/index.php/divisions/child-support-enforcement>. Clients can now access their cases online: www.jfs.ohio.gov/ocs