



MEDIA RELEASE



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Mayor Michael B. Coleman and FCCS Present FamJam

Mayor Michael B. Coleman and Franklin County Children Services have partnered together to present the 3rd annual *FamJam - A Family Enrichment Festival* on Saturday, August 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Downtown Columbus's newest park, Columbus Commons. The event is free and open to the public.

This year Mayor Coleman's Neighborhood Pride program is co-producing the event which will continue to welcome all families and children in the city and throughout Franklin County.

"We are excited to co-produce this festival with Franklin County Children Services," said Mayor Coleman. "This event is just another great opportunity to bring your family downtown."

In keeping with Franklin County Children Services' mission to protect children by strengthening families, this event will allow participants to engage in educational and interactive activities as well as to have a lot of fun. An array of community providers will be present to share valuable information and resources with families.

Children Services staff will provide parenting tips, as well as information on adoption, foster care and volunteer opportunities. Attendees will also learn home and neighborhood safety tips from the Columbus Division of Police and fire safety from the Columbus Division of Fire. In addition, participants can ride the Neighborhood Pride bicycle safety course and learn the rules of the road and the importance of wearing helmets. Free bike helmets will be fitted and available to children courtesy of Franklin County Children Services while supplies last. Other community exhibitors such as the Federation of Settlement Houses, Bikers Against Child Abuse, the Franklin County Auditor's Office, Franklin County Clerk of Courts and COSI Columbus will also be present.

Anne O'Leary, Interim Executive Director of Franklin County Children Services said, "This festival is a great example of a community coming together to celebrate and strengthen families. We hope that everyone will come out, bring their children and enjoy the day."

In celebration of the community's rich diversity and talent, local youth groups will provide entertainment for the day. The Ohio Hispanic Coalition's Youth Dance Team, GymX All Starz, CC Angels Double Dutch team, and Somali Youth Committee will be featured, among others.

For more information, call 341-6060 or visit: www.franklincountyohio.gov/children_services or www.columbus.gov/pride.

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