



Protecting Children by Strengthening Families

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# media release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Franklin County Holiday Wish and the Malaika Mentoring Program hosts 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Black Girl Magic event**



This year marks the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Black Girl Magic Toy drive on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at Copious, 520 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Join Holiday Wish and the Malaika (Meh-LIKE-a) Mentoring program as we celebrate and promote self-love and acceptance for girls of color under the care of Franklin County Children Services. We are asking the public to bring a culturally specific gift; ethnic dolls, inspirational poetry, STEM items, books featuring African-Americans or multi-cultural characters, ethnic hair and skin care products. We also accept donations for our young men of color including STEM items, hats, gloves, and motivational books.

Black Girl Magic was created as a culturally specific gift program under Holiday Wish. In the past, we have found it challenging to receive gifts for our children of color specifically for girls between the ages of 8 and 11 that reflect their diversity and celebrate their uniqueness. Children Services believes that ALL our children should receive gifts that celebrate their culture.

The event will focus on the disparities that our young girls of color face and opportunities for the community to get involved. It will be a fun evening filled with music, networking, and inspiration. Community partners include Synergi Salon, OhioHealth WE D.R.E.A.M. Business Resource Group, Judge Stephanie Mingo, Donna's Delicious Dozen, Cakes by Chantal, Sweet Ries, and Making a Difference Inc. Come out and help us celebrate Black Girl Magic!

### **About Holiday Wish and Franklin County Children Services**

Franklin County Children Services is a public agency mandated by law to protect and care for the county's abused, neglected and dependent children. For more than 50 years, the Holiday Wish program has been granting the wishes of children under the care of children services. FCCS believes that all children should receive gifts for the holiday that reflect and celebrate their culture. For more information on Holiday Wish/Black Girl Magic visit [childrenservices.franklincountyohio.gov](http://childrenservices.franklincountyohio.gov).

**Call Holiday Wish at (614) 275-2525 or send an email to [holidaywish@fccs.us](mailto:holidaywish@fccs.us).**

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