

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2026-076

2

3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4

5 DATE March 16, 2026 COMMITTEE Human Services

6

7 **A Resolution declaring the month of April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the**
8 **County of Summit and encouraging residents to join in this acknowledgement and Wear**
9 **Blue Day on April 8, 2026, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

10

11 WHEREAS, Summit County recognizes the importance of raising awareness in our
12 community for the prevention and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and

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14 WHEREAS, child abuse often results in serious psychological, emotional, and physical
15 effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse, this abuse being a serious problem that
16 affects every segment of our community; and

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18 WHEREAS, child abuse prevention activities succeed because of partnerships between
19 governments, non-profits, healthcare organizations, child protection organizations, educational
20 institutions, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

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22 WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a safe and loving environment, free of
23 abuse and neglect, so that they can prosper and live full, happy lives; and

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25 WHEREAS, Summit County Children Services (“SCCS”) has provided support to families
26 for more than 145 years, serving 1 out of every 13 children last year with the goal of ensuring that
27 children in Summit County can grow up in a safe environment. In 2025, 8,574 children received
28 services by SCCS; and

29

30 WHEREAS, SCCS provides a 24-Hour Child Abuse Hotline, 330-434-KIDS (5437) where
31 8,942 total intake calls were received last year and offers many resources to our community; and

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33 WHEREAS, reminding residents of resources as well as improving and creating resources
34 are essential to the wellbeing of children in Summit County;

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36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
37 of Ohio, that:

38

39 SECTION 1

40

41 The month of April 2026 is hereby declared Child Abuse Prevention Month in Summit
42 County and April 8, 2026, Wear Blue Day, and the residents and employees of Summit County
43 are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement by wearing blue to raise awareness that child
44 abuse is preventable.

45

46 SECTION 2

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48 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
49 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
50 immediately declaring April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Summit County.

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4 SECTION 3

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6 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take
7 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect
8 and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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10 SECTION 4

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12 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
13 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
14 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were
15 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22
16 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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19 INTRODUCED March 16, 2026

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21 ADOPTED March 30, 2026

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23 Signed by:
24 Monique Willis

25 ~~CLERK OF COUNCIL~~

26

27 APPROVED March 30, 2026

28

29 Signed by:
30 Steve Shapiro

31 ~~EXECUTIVE~~

32

33 ENACTED EFFECTIVE March 31, 2026

Signed by:
Erin Dickinson

~~PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL~~

Voice Vote – YES: 9 – 0: Darrow, Donofrio,
Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt,
Walters, Wilhite
Absent: Dickinson, Ford