



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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18th Annual K.N.A.F.F. Picnic Hopes to Build Positive Relationships Between Children and Local Law Enforcement

Victim Assistance Program is partnering with the Akron Police Department's Kids Need a Firm Foundation (K.N.A.F.F.) program for a fun day for children. The 18th annual K.N.A.F.F. Picnic is set for Friday, July 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge at 2610 Ley Drive, Akron, OH 44319. Children ages 17 and under, accompanied by an adult, are welcome to enjoy a fun and free afternoon with local law enforcement. Activities include, free food, K-9 demonstrations, archery, fishing, face painting and more!

The picnic is in honor of Officer George R. Knaff, killed in the line of duty on November 5, 1994. Officer Knaff had a love for children and had a special place in his heart for the kids he interacted with on his beat. In his memory, the picnic offers a fun opportunity for children to positively engage with police officers and a day free from violence to 'just be a kid'.

The annual picnic is a partnership between Victim Assistance Program, the Fraternal Order of Police Akron Lodge #7, and the Akron Police Department. In addition, representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources will be on hand to teach fishing and archery and Guardians Advocating Child Safety and Protection will be providing free Child ID & fingerprinting cards. The annual picnic is funded in part by The Millennium Fund for Children of the Akron Community Foundation.

The mission of Victim Assistance Program is to empower the community to restore lives impacted by crisis, violence, and tragedy. The purpose of the Agency is to provide 24-hour crisis intervention, advocacy, and education to victims of crime and trauma and the professional community who serves this population. To learn more about Victim Assistance Program's services, and ways to get involved, visit victimassistanceprogram.org or call our 24-hour hotline, 330.376.0040.

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(From left to right: Summa Health System Police Department, Officer Scott Moss, Officer Lyse Barnes, Sgt. Marcus Carter)

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