

# **County News Now**

# July 22, 2021

# Cuyahoga County Resources, Services and Information for You



## Affordable High-Quality Preschool in Cuyahoga County

Are you looking for a high-quality preschool for your child? Cuyahoga County's Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program (UPK) by Invest in Children may be for you, and free scholarships are available.

Any preschool aged resident of Cuyahoga County can attend a UPK Preschool. Each program sets its own tuition, but Cuyahoga County can provide scholarship assistance to families earning up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level – that's \$106,000 a year (for a family of four).

The UPK program has won five national awards. Our sites provide the best in a highquality and family centered preschool experience. You can find a UPK site at



### Help with Evictions and Paying Rent

Renters who are struggling due to lost income from COVID-19 are not alone. Many may qualify for free eviction help and/or rent assistance. In Cuyahoga County, United Way of Greater Cleveland and The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland are working together to provide legal help to tenants facing eviction so those <u>CuyahogaKids.org</u> or by calling Staring Point at (216) 575-0061.



tenants may stay in their homes or locate better housing. Cleveland households with children that meet federal poverty guidelines are eligible for "Right to Counsel – Cleveland," a new law that provides free legal help in eviction cases. If you don't qualify for this program, you may still qualify for rent assistance and other resources. Call 216-861-5835 for assistance or visit freeevictionhelp.org.

## Get Help with Evictions and Paying Rent



#### Join the Fill the Backpack Challenge

As our communities are slowly returning to normal, this school year thousands of children will be returning into their classrooms. Despite the changes to schools during the pandemic, the need to help prepare local youth for their classrooms in unchanged. Many of the families our Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) serve lack access to the school supplies necessary to overcome the challenges that lie ahead. You can help us prepare our youth for success by supporting the DCFS Fill the Backpack Challenge. By donating, you are making sure local kids have the tools they need to start the school year off on the right foot, and the need is greater than ever.

> Learn More and Join the Backpack Challenge



#### Cuyahoga County Approves Five Year 2021-2025 Economic Development Plan

This week, Cuyahoga County Council approved the County's 2021 five-year economic development plan, which serves as an update to the County's 2020 COVID-19 recovery plan and offers strategic goals to continue to rebuild the County as the economy shows signs of recovering from the pandemic. The County's 2021-2025 economic development plan includes three strategies, focused on continued investment in support of small and minority businesses and residents, investing in and expanding innovation, and reducing unemployment.

# Read the Five-year Economic Development Plan

#### You Can Help Increase Cuyahoga County's Tree Canopy

The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission's 2019 Urban Tree Canopy Assessment shows there is over 370,000 acres available in the county to plant trees. Tree canopy provides improved air and water quality, reduced stormwater runoff, improved natural habitat, and many other benefits. One of the most



significant things you can do to increase the tree canopy in Cuyahoga County is to plant a tree in your own yard. For more information about planting a tree, call your city forestry department or the <u>Cuyahoga Soil and Water</u> <u>Conservation District</u>.

Cuyahoga County | <u>Visit Our Website</u>

