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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Prosecutor Participates in Kick-off of month-long campaign to raise awareness

DAYTON, OH (4/2/2015) – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr., Montgomery County Commissioners Deborah Lieberman and Judy Dodge, Deb Downing, Assistant Director of Montgomery County Children Service, and Libby Nicholson, the Executive Director of CARE House, all participated in announcing local recognition of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Prosecutor Heck commented, “I’m asking every citizen in Montgomery County to take the time and become involved – pledge to help protect our children. We need to be active in our community and report child abuse if we suspect it is occurring.”

The national statistics are shocking:

- A report of child abuse is made every 10 seconds.
- This year, nearly 1700 children will die as a direct result of abuse or neglect – nearly 5 children every day
- 80% of those deaths are children under 4 years of age.

Prosecutor Heck continued, “It takes all of us to help protect our children. Not just case workers, or police officers, or prosecutors. Everyone in our community should be active and report child abuse if they suspect it is occurring. Child Abuse Prevention Month was created expressly to remind us to get involved. Ask yourself, are you the one ? The one with the courage to report child abuse?”

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