

STATE OF OHIO

# Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*Columbus*

In Recognition of

## **Child Support Awareness Month August 2009**

Parenting and child support go hand in hand in ensuring children grow up safe and healthy, and children and families stay out of poverty. Ensuring that children receive the financial support they deserve involves working partnerships between county, state and federal agencies, parents, legislators, judges, healthcare professionals, advocacy groups, employers and many others.

Through these partnerships, Ohio collected nearly two billion dollars in Federal Fiscal Year 2008, ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation for current child support distributed, providing child support services for more than 1.2 million children, and receiving \$28.9 million in federal performance incentives for meeting or exceeding established goals.

*The theme of this year's Child Support Awareness Month is: "Your Support Means the World to A Child."* For children to succeed in life, it takes emotional, financial, and medical support. But even when families break up, both parents can go on contributing to that success. And when child support plays a part, a parent continues to build relationships that endure.

Evidence suggests that kids who receive support from both parents get better grades in school and have fewer behavioral problems. Child support helps families remain self sufficient, relying less on public assistance in the form of cash payments, food stamps, and Medicaid.

During Child Support Awareness Month, we recognize all parents who are deeply committed to the success of their children. With the recognition of the above successes comes the acknowledgment that our children's lives count enough to make every possible effort to ensure the financial foundation is established for every child in Ohio.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, TED STRICKLAND**, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

### **CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH AUGUST 2009**

throughout the State of Ohio and encourage all Ohioans to work together to foster a better understanding of the importance of fulfilling financial responsibilities to our children.

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2009



Ted Strickland  
Governor