

Jennifer McLaughlin  
Chief Criminal Division



Gina DeGenova  
Chief Assistant Prosecutor  
Public Information Officer

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Prosecutor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 29, 2022**

**MAHONING COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE TO HOLD SECOND ANNUAL  
DONATION DRIVE IN HONOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

(YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio) - October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office and South Range High School Senior Macenzee Gaal want to spread the word. Last year's donation drive was extremely successful; it brought in more than **3,000** donations! "So many people in our community are affected by domestic violence that we want to raise awareness and provide resources for victims," said Chief Assistant Prosecutor and Public Information Officer Gina DeGenova.

Chief Assistant DeGenova, and Miss Gaal, attended a meeting held by the Kiwanis Club of Salem, Ohio, on September 15, 2022, to discuss this year's upcoming donation drive. And as explained by Chief Assistant DeGenova and Miss Gaal, during the entire month of October, the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office, along with members of the South Range, Poland, and Salem High School Key Club programs, will be seeking donations of items to benefit area domestic violence programs offered by Sojourner House, Beatitude House, and Christina House. With Miss Gaal's assistance, we expanded this donation drive regionally with many area businesses, schools, and organizations serving as drop-off locations throughout Mahoning and Columbiana Counties.

Gaal explained why this donation drive is essential to her and the community, "I feel a lot of the same charities and organizations get most of the recognition when it comes to raising awareness. I strongly believe that there are other organizations that deserve just as much recognition, which is why I wanted to take on this project." According to Chief Assistant DeGenova, "we see the need for these items firsthand. Each day, our Victim-Witness Coordinators and members of our 'Violence Against Women Unit' work to protect the rights of domestic violence victims and ensure that their abusers are brought to justice." Sojourner House, a program of COMPASS Community and Family Services, Beatitude House, and Christina House, provide shelter and other essential services to victims of domestic violence across our region. Gaal expounded on how she wanted to help organize this drive for her community; "I try to give back to my community any way possible; this is just one way I can."

While all donations are appreciated, we are specifically seeking the following items: gift cards to grocery stores, twin sheets with pillow cases, standard-sized pillows, disposable diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, undershirts (all infant sizes), pull-ups, teething rings, bath towels and

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washcloths, socks of all sizes, personal hygiene products (all kinds), ethnic hair care products, sleepwear (especially plus sizes for women), paper products such as paper plates, toilet paper, and tissues, and cleaning supplies such as bleach, dish soap, laundry detergent, all-purpose cleaner, and glass cleaner.

### Donation Boxes locations:

- **Poland High School** 3199 Dobbins Rd, Poland, OH 44514
- **Salem High School** 1200 E 6th St, Salem, OH 44460
- **South Range Local School District** 11300 Columbiana-Canfield Rd Suite M, Canfield, OH 44406
- **Canfield High School** 100 Cardinal Dr, Canfield, OH 44406
- **Compass** 535 Marmion Ave. Youngstown, OH, 44502
- **Beatitude House** 238 Tod Lane. Youngstown, OH, 44504
- **Mahoning County Administration Building**, 21 W. Boardman Street, Youngstown, OH 44503 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday
- **Buckeye Hospice and Palliative Care** 810 Boardman-Canfield Rd Suite 1, Boardman, OH 44512
- **Cornerstone Caregiving** 755 Boardman-Canfield Rd Suite K-4, Boardman, OH 44512
- **Continuing Healthcare Solutions** 100 Vista Dr. Lisbon, Ohio 44432
- **Starbucks** 4546 Boardman-Canfield Rd, Canfield, OH 44406
- **Giant Eagle** 525 E Main St, Canfield, OH 44406
- **North Lima Nutrition** 11995 South Ave, North Lima, OH 44452
- **Columbiana Nutrition** 18 S Main St, Columbiana, OH 44408
- **Print Works** 409 E 2nd St, Salem, OH 44460
- **Mahoning County Courthouse** 120 Market St, Youngstown, OH 44503

[Click here for the complete wish list.](#)

Attached are pictures taken from the Kiwanis and Thursday's Commissioners' meetings. Pictured in file one is Chief Assistant Prosecutor Gina DeGenova, along with South Range High School Senior Macenzee Gaal. The second file shows Chief Assistant Gina DeGenova and members of the South Range, Salem High School Key Clubs, and the Poland Leadership club. In file three, Attorney DeGenova, Miss Gaal, and the Commissioners pose for a picture following the conclusion of Thursday's meeting.