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For immediate release:

22nd Annual State of the Child Luncheon

Directions for Youth & Families along with Title Sponsor Nationwide Insurance will present the 22nd annual State of the Child Luncheon on Wednesday, May 11, 11:30 am - 1:15 pm at The Greater Columbus Convention Center, Terrace Ballroom, 400 North High Street.

“Call to action is the fundamental goal of the Luncheon. We do this through raising awareness about the detrimental issues including mental health challenges, drug use, and crime that youth face in their daily lives.” said Susan J. Gueli, chair of the event and Sr. Vice President and CIO of Nationwide Financial.

“For the majority of us, the Luncheon and the State of the Child Report are our only window into the hardships and suffering that many of our community’s children and families endure. With funds raised through the Luncheon, we are able to continue and even expand the good work of Directions to address these issues,” said Gueli.

Scott Davis, chair of Directions for Youth & Families’ Board of Directors and attorney at Bricker & Eckler, indicated, “At the luncheon, the voice of the child can be heard through the creative performances of youth participants from the Ohio Avenue Youth Center, the Short Stop Youth Center, and the Crittenton Community School’s music and dance ensembles. The youth will share challenges they face daily. It is very inspiring to see how the youth use their time and energy to create such artistic performances.”

Reservations are \$50 per person and can be purchased at www.dfyf.org or by calling 614-294-2661.

The mission of Directions for Youth & Families’ is to empower families and their children to make sound choices and achieve promising futures. Services include counseling, prevention, and family strengthening programs provided in clients’ homes, schools, and neighborhoods. Programs address substance abuse, family violence, anger management, child abuse, neglect, delinquency, family dynamics, parenting and life skills issues. Directions served over 6,200 youth and their families last year.

For more information, contact Sue Phillips, 614-294-2661 or sPhillips@dfyf.org or visit www.dfyf.org.

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