

pittsburgh

For More Information Contact: Bill Schlageter, Director of Marketing Cell #: 412-559-2744 bschlageter@pittsburghkids.org

## Children's Museum of Pittsburgh Launches 21st Annual Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Sweater Drive

Museum Continues Tradition with a Safe and Socially Distant Outdoor Collection

PITTSBURGH, PA (November 16, 2020) —Today, In the spirit of Fred Rogers' lessons of helping others, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh kicks off its 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Sweater Drive, which will continue from now until December 17, 2020.

Over the past 20 years, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh's Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Sweater Drive has collected more than 42,552 sweaters, distributing them to families in need throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

While Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is now temporarily closed to the public due to COVID-19, the sweater drop off will be outside the front door of the museum located at 10 Children's Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Donors can safely - without human contact - share the feeling of warmth with neighbors-in-need by dropping off their new or gently-used, adult and child sized sweaters in collection bins located OUTSIDE of the museum on the ramp leading up to the front door.

"For decades, Fred Rogers has been an invaluable resource for imparting lessons about giving and sharing to millions of children," says Jane Werner, Executive Director of Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. "It is important to continue the tradition of kindness by holding the sweater drive this year, albeit under difficult circumstances. The Sweater Drive allows us to support those in need in our Greater Pittsburgh neighborhood."

Between December 18 – 22 collected sweaters will be distributed to nonprofit agencies that work with families and children throughout the region. The nonprofit partners include: the Presbyterian Churches of the Tri-State Area, The Homeless Children's Education Fund, and Community Human Services (CHS).

For further information about the 2020 Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Sweater Drive, visit <u>https://pittsburghkids.org/about/in-the-community</u>, e-mail <u>hi@pittsburghkids.org</u>, or contact the Sweater Donation Hotline at (412) 322-5058 ext. 363.