

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **METRO DETROIT YOUTH DAY CELEBRATES 39 YEARS OF BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH YOUTH EMPOWERMENT**

Detroit, MI - Metro Detroit Youth Day, the largest youth event in Michigan, is celebrating 39 years of bringing together young people from all walks of life for a day of sports, fun, and constructive activities. This event has become a metro Detroit tradition, drawing nearly 2 million youngsters over the years.

Founded by Ed Deeb, Tom Fox, and Jerry Blocker, Metro Detroit Youth Day aims to provide a positive and constructive setting for young people to channel their energies. The event was inspired by the need to unite the community following altercations in 1980 between youth and area retailers on Livernois Ave. between Six and Seven Mile Roads. Then Mayor Coleman Young asked Ed Deeb to "do something to help resolve the problem," leading to the creation of Metro Detroit Youth Day.

Over the years, Metro Detroit Youth Day has grown to become more than just a fun day for youngsters. The event includes youth guidance, mentors, role models, anti-substance abuse activity, motivational speakers, entertainment, and awarding college scholarships, among other things. Sports stars, government officials, College Row, media celebrities, and others attend the event and provide upbeat messages and encouragement to the youth.

"Metro Detroit Youth Day is more than just a day of sports and fun," said Ed Deeb, chairman, and coordinator of the event. "It is an opportunity to show young people that they are valued and respected by the community. We aim to provide them with the tools and resources they need to succeed in life."

Metro Detroit Youth Day has received countless honors and proclamations from all areas of the state and nation, including the Point of Light Award No. 477 from President George H.W. Bush and the Points of Light Foundation. Since 1991, the event has given more than 2,100 college scholarships to area graduating high school seniors in Metro Detroit.

This year's event, which takes about a year to plan, will be held on July 12th, 2023, at Belle Isle Park. It will feature over 40 interactive exhibits and activities, including arts and crafts, sports and fitness, and educational displays. The event is free and open to all young people in the Detroit metropolitan area.

"We are proud to have played a role in the growth and development of so many young people over the years," said Deeb. "We thank all the individuals, volunteers, participating organizations, corporate sponsors, and small businesses for the many years of dedicated service to our youth and our communities. Thank you so much!"

For more information about Metro Detroit Youth Day, visit [www.metrodetroityouthday.org](http://www.metrodetroityouthday.org).

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