

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOC Employees Raise Money for Victim Advocate Organizations

Kansas Department of Corrections employees banded together during Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 10th – 16th, to raise nearly \$4,100 to support ten organizations that serve crime victims throughout the state. The Office of Victim Services invited KDOC facilities and parole regions to participate in events to generate funds and raise the level of awareness for crime victims under this year's theme: *Reshaping the Future, Honoring the Past*, which means never forgetting the impact of crime on victims and family members and recognizing the impact crime has on each community. This year's total is more than twice the amount that was raised last year.

Organizations receiving funds include:

Cowley County Safe Homes, Inc. – provides operation of the 24-hour crisis line for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and non-residential services such as crisis counseling and advocacy.

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Association of Central Kansas – a non-profit organization dedicated to the task of helping women, children, and men who suffer from forms of domestic and sexual violence.

Family Crisis Center, Inc. – located in Great Bend, provides advocacy and services to all survivors of domestic and sexual violence while encouraging social change through education.

Family Life Center (Safehouse) – provides comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual assault/abuse, with special attention to each client's individual needs in Butler County.

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Leavenworth Child Advocacy Center – a collaboration of public and private professional agencies designed to combat the abuse of children, with the goal of providing services for children and families who have experienced the trauma of physical and/or sexual abuse.

LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center – by bringing together representatives from different agencies, the Center creates a child-friendly, safe place where the needs of child victims and their families can be served, and the healing process can begin.

Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD-Kansas) – works to protect families from drunk driving and underage drinking, and serves drunk driving victims and survivors at no charge.

Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) – works to support those who survive the violent death of someone close as they seek to recover and provide information about the grieving process and the criminal justice system as they pertain to survivors of a homicide victim.

Sunlight Children’s Advocacy and Rights Foundation (SCARF) – established in 2004 to better address the needs of children in Butler County in regards to child abuse and neglect.

The Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center (WASAC) – offers crisis information, support, information and referrals. Direct services to victims and their family and friends are free and confidential.

Employees at the El Dorado, Ellsworth, Lansing, Topeka, and Winfield Correctional Facilities, the Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility, the Wichita Work Release Facility, the Northern and Southern Parole Regions, and the KDOC Central Office participated this year.

The Kansas Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services staff offers assistance to victims of offenders in a Kansas correctional facility or on parole/post-release supervision. If there are questions or concerns, please call the Office of Victim Services toll free at 1-866-404-6732. For information about additional services provided, you can go online to this Web address: www.doc.ks.gov/victim-services.

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