



Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County

~ To lead our community in eliminating the suffering of abused children. ~

The Mid-Month Memo

Vol. 5, Issue 1
September 16, 2015

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Be sure not to miss this year's Heroes Gala on October 30! This inspirational event honors our community heroes, celebrates the work of the CACSC and our partners, and supports advocacy & therapy for child abuse victims.

Our featured speaker for this year's Gala is **Margaret Hoelzer**, three-time Olympic medalist in swimming in 2008 and spokesperson for the National Children's Advocacy Center. Living proof of her belief that you can do anything if you put your mind to it, Margaret overcame sexual abuse as a young child when she was able to tell someone several years after it happened. She used her swimming as an outlet for her frustrations and rose to the top of her sport, partly as a way to prove to herself that she was a worthwhile person. With a degree in psychology and a minor in criminology from Auburn University, Margaret wants to help children who have been abused and raise awareness of child sexual abuse. Please join us at the Gala to hear **Margaret Hoelzer** share her story and her Olympic spirit with hope and humor.



For information, contact:
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Primary Partner Agencies

COMCARE of Sedgwick County
Exploited and Missing Child Unit
KS Dept. for Children and Families
Wichita Regional Office
KU School of Medicine - Wichita
Office of the District Attorney, 18th
Judicial District, Sedgwick County
Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office
Via Christi Health
Wesley Medical Center
Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center
Wichita Police Department

For Your Calendar

October 30, 2015: **Heroes Gala**, Scottish Rite Center.

November 4-6, 2015: **39th Annual Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect**, Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Topeka. Info and registration through KCSL: https://www.kcsl.org/training_conference.aspx

Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County

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How Prevalent is Childhood Exposure to Violence and Abuse?

The National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence was initiated in 2008 as a joint effort of the Department of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to study the burden of and trends for violence and abuse in the lives of children. Assessments occur every three years using the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire, which contains questions about 53 types of offenses against youth, to obtain estimates of exposure to violence, crime and abuse at different stages of childhood development. The types of offenses are in six general areas: conventional crime, child maltreatment, peer/sibling offenses, sexual assault, witnessing and indirect exposure to violence, and Internet offenses. In telephone interviews, information was collected on 4,000 children 0-17 years of age. The answers were obtained directly from youth 10-17 years old and from caregivers for children through 9 years old.

In total, over 37% of youth experienced a physical assault in the study year (2013-14), and over 9% experienced an assault-related injury. Two percent of young girls were victims of sexual assault or sexual abuse in the study year, while the rate was almost 5% for girls 14 to 17 years old. Overall, 15.2% of children and youth experienced maltreatment by a caregiver during the study year, including 5% who experienced physical abuse. In total, nearly 6% witnessed an assault between parents. Strikingly, the percentage of 14-17 year olds who experienced any type of sexual offense during their lifetime was 21%. Additionally, 25% of all the children and 38% of youth 14-17 years old experienced some type of child maltreatment in their lifetime. Compared to the last survey which was completed in 2011, there were only two significant changes that were detected, namely, declines in past-year exposure to dating violence and lifetime exposure to household theft. These data are important to help support broad-ranging efforts in professional and community education and prevention.

Prevalence of Childhood Exposure to Violence, Crime, and Abuse. Results from the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence. D. Finkelhor, PhD, et.al. *JAMA Pediatrics*. 2015; 169(8): 746-754.

Introducing a New EMCU Partner

Detective Andrew Do immigrated to the U.S. with his parents after the Vietnam War. Raised in Wichita, he graduated from East High and earned a Bachelor's degree from Wichita State University. A fifteen year veteran of the Police Department, Detective Do served in Patrol, Traffic, and Community Policing. He is a certified instructor in Radar/Lidar operations, DUI Intoxilyzer and E-citations. He is also an Axon body camera technical administrator & patrol rifle operator. Detective Do's awards include two Bronze Wreaths of Merit, a Distinguished Service Award, Certificates of Commendation, a Ten Year Safe Driving Award and an Expert Weapons Badge. He has rotated through the SCAT, Investigations-Gang/Felony Assaults, and Homicide sections. Married for fifteen years, Detective Do and his wife enjoy their two amazing children.



If you suspect child abuse or neglect call 911 or 1.800.922.5330

"The purpose of child advocacy centers is to provide a comprehensive, culturally competent, multidisciplinary team response to reports of child abuse, in a dedicated, child-focused setting."
**The CACSC is accredited by the National Children's Alliance:
Empowering Local Communities to Serve Child Victims of Abuse**