



Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County

The Mid-Month Memo

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October 15, 2014

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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

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

Heroes Gala 2014

*It is not too late to join us as a sponsor or get tickets for this
heartwarming celebration with Heroes, Humor & Hope!
Saturday, November 1st, 6 PM; Scottish Rite Center*

This year's event includes a presentation and performance by **Deondra and Desirae Brown**, distinguished pianists and heroic survivors of child abuse. They have received extensive media coverage for their musical talents as well as their advocacy for victims of sexual abuse. Emcee for this inspirational event will be **Michael Schwanke** from KWCH. Special Wichita community heroes will be honored and there will be live and silent auctions to enhance the evening. Sponsorships are available and include seats at the event. To be a Gala sponsor or to purchase tickets, contact Theresa Lewis at 660-9494 or tlewis@cacsckansas.org. Check the website for more information.

October is Bullying Prevention Month

Bullying can be verbal, physical, or via the Internet. It affects a victim's self-image, social interactions, and school performance, often leading to insecurity, lack of self-esteem, and depression in adulthood. School dropout rates and absences among victims of bullying are much higher than among other students. Studies have shown that children who have been identified as a bully by age 8, are six times more likely to have a criminal conviction by age 24. Children who bully may continue to be bullies as adults and are more prone to becoming child and spouse abusers.

What can we do?

- Respond quickly and consistently to bullying behavior.
- Get the facts and listen without blaming.
- Support the kids involved. All kids - whether they are bullied, bully others, or see bullying - can be affected.
- Teach kids how to safely be more than a bystander.

National Child Traumatic Stress Network: <http://www.nctsn.org/>
US Department of Health & Human Services: <http://www.stopbullying.gov/>

Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County

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Phone: 316-660-9494, or visit us online: www.cacsckansas.org

Behind Closed Doors, A Campaign to End Childhood Abuse, Neglect and Sex Trafficking



On October 3rd, the CACSC received a \$50,000 check from Westar Energy that will help with renovation of the former Lincoln Elementary School. The \$6.5 million campaign provides for the building purchase and renovations needed to move all the investigation, therapy, advocacy and medical partners under one roof. Expressing appreciation for the Westar gift, Diana Schunn, Executive Director, said, "We're excited for the partnership with Westar and for being able to have community groups support us as we con-

tinue to work to improve the services we provide to children who have experienced abuse." Don Sherman, Vice President of Community Relations and Strategic Partnerships for Westar Energy, said, "We're very excited to partner with them (the CACSC) on their mission to transform this location. It's going to be a life-changing event for our kids." Over \$3.8 million has been raised for the campaign. Westar's donation will help the CACSC meet a J.E. & L.E. Mabee Foundation \$500,000 challenge grant by Dec. 15. As an all-or-nothing challenge, the last \$372,000 must be raised prior to the deadline. Contact Diana Schunn (316.660.9494 or info@cacsckansas.org) if you can help.

Introducing a New CACSC Team Member

Joseph Stearns, assigned as a Detective to Exploited and Missing Child Unit in July 2014, is a 12 year veteran of the Wichita Police Department. He graduated from Friends University with a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Management and Leadership. During his career, Joseph was a Gang Intelligence Officer for five years. Prior to that, he served as a Special Community Action Team (SCAT) officer and Field Training Officer. The CACSC is pleased to welcome Detective Stearns.

For Your Calendar:

Nov. 1, 2014: [CACSC Heroes Gala](#), Scottish Rite Center

April 27, 2015: [4th Annual "Change A Child's Life," Golf Tournament](#), Wichita CC.

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."**

National Children's Alliance

Empowering Local Communities to Serve Child Victims of Abuse