



Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County

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

The Mid-Month Memo

Vol. 5, Issue 3
November 16, 2015

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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

How Do I Make a Report if I Suspect Abuse?

State law mandates that professionals working with children report suspected child abuse or neglect. However, any person with reason to suspect a child has been injured by physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect should report his or her concerns. The law does not require proof of abuse or neglect. The report is a request for an assessment of the condition and safety of the child. There is sometimes confusion about who should receive those reports. The Kansas Protection Report Center, 1-800-922-5330, takes reports 24 hours a day, every day, from any location in the state. Reports are referred to the appropriate local office and if the local DCF office is closed, the report center staff will refer emergency reports to the local law enforcement agency. **If you are concerned that a child may be in imminent danger, please call 911 directly.**

Giving Thanks



As we celebrate the season of giving thanks, there are things we can often take for granted, such as safety, security, and innocence. Too many children are without these essential rights. Thank you to our partners, volunteers, donors, and staff for their generous support and steadfast care in helping to protect the endangered children in our community.

For Your Calendar

November 24, 2015: Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center Lunch and Learn: Holiday Challenges and "Traumaversaries," for more information call 316-263-0185.

April 13/14, 2016: 19th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Conference, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka

May 23, 2016: "Change A Child's Life," Golf Tournament, Willowbend Country Club

Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County

130 S. Market, Ste. B183, Wichita, KS 67202-3850
Phone: 316-660-9494, or visit us online: www.cacsckansas.org

Celebrating with our Heroes at the Gala

With humor and humility, Margaret Hoelzer, our featured Heroes speaker, told of her sexual abuse which began when she was five years of age. Putting a face to an all too common but confusing experience, Margaret talked about the importance of having a Child Advocacy Center to support her and her family through the trauma of her disclosure and recovery. As a three time Olympic medalist in swimming, she is inspirational in her role as spokesperson for the National Children's Advocacy Center. We are grateful for the time she spent visiting our CACSC, meeting staff and committee members and helping us honor our local heroes.

Our extraordinary Wichita area heroes this year were agency partners and staff who have worked tirelessly to address the needs of human trafficking victims in our community.

- ◆ Anne Ellis, Social Worker, Dept. for Children & Families
- ◆ Debbie Wendt, APRN, Via Christi—HealthCare Haven
- ◆ Ericka Purcell, Therapist, CACSC
- ◆ Jennifer White, Executive Director, ICT S.O.S.
- ◆ Kent Bauman, Officer, Wichita Police Department
- ◆ Marc Bennett, District Attorney, 18th Judicial District
- ◆ Melissa Dame, Child Family Advocate Coordinator, CACSC
- ◆ Michael Nagy, Officer, Wichita Police Department



County Commissioner, Tim Norton, with CACSC Board Chair, Peggy Schwendeman



Margaret Hoelzer, National Children's Advocacy Center spokesperson, was our featured speaker

Sincere gratitude goes to **Bob and Martha Buford, Champion Sponsors**, and to **KU School of Medicine-Wichita, Superstar Sponsor**. Thanks also to all the VIP table hosts, eager bidders, auction item donors, hardworking volunteers and event participants who made this this a successful event! A special thanks to Michael Schwanke, host & emcee, and Terry Rupp, auctioneer. We hope to see you again next year!

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