

Local domestic violence help receives funds

(KAIR)--Two Leavenworth-based organizations, which provide service to Atchison County, are among programs earmarked to receive a portion of \$1.6 million.

According to a release from the office of Kansas Governor Laura Kelly, the funds are awarded to Kansas "to prevent family, domestic, and dating violence; to support victims of such violence; and to increase noncustodial parents' time with their children safely."

The funds are granted by the Federal Health and Human Services for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act and the Federal State Access and Visitation Program.

Among the recipients of the 2024 Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Grant Awards is Leavenworth's Alliance Against Family Violence, which receives \$59,783. The Alliance provides domestic violence-related support to victims in Atchison.

Among the recipients of the 2024 Federal State Access and Visitation Program funds is First Judicial District CASA Association, which provides resources for those in Atchison County. The Association is earmarked to receive \$12,962.

When the awards were announced earlier this month, Kelly, in the release, said it's "imperative" that Kansas does "everything we can to ensure access and support for survivors of domestic violence," adding that "the programs being funded are critical to the safety and well-being of the survivors and families impacted by those situations."

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act grants provide funds to domestic violence programs that ensure free services are available 24 hours a day for domestic violence victims and their children. Programs provide shelter, support groups, crisis intervention, advocacy in obtaining protection orders, transportation, and prevention education in schools and communities.

The State Access and Visitation Program grants provide funds to increase noncustodial parents' access to and time with their children and provide services that benefit both parents with safeguards to minimize the risk of family violence for program participants. Funded agencies provide on-site supervision, exchange monitoring, therapeutic supervision, recording observations of visits, referrals to other services, and educational parenting classes.

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