

Area hospitals raise funds for Damon's Purpose

(MSC News)--Four northeast Kansas healthcare organizations recently collaborated to raise funds for Damon's Purpose, a grassroots organization dedicated to suicide awareness and prevention and improving mental health.

According to a news release, employees from Sabetha Community Hospital, Nemaha Valley Community Hospital, Holton Community Hospital, and Community HealthCare System raised \$5,813.

Sarah Hancock, director of communications with Onaga-based Community Healthcare System, said they hope it will help Damon's Purpose continue to do amazing work in the area, particularly in reaching out to youth to remind them that 'It's OK to not be OK' and to seek help with mental health.

Damon's Purpose was established by the family of Damon Quigley, of Corning, who died by suicide in January 2021 at the age of 13. He was a 7th grader at Centralia school.

Hancock said part of the fundraiser was a friendly competition among the hospitals to see which one could raise the most money per capita. This year-winner was Community HealthCare System, which raised \$9.65 per employee. Hancock said they created a traveling trophy, and plan to engage in fundraising for a charitable cause each year.

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