



Johnson County Government Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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April Is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

(OLATHE, KS – **MARCH 29, 2012**) April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This month and throughout the year, The Johnson County Department of Health and Environment encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making Johnson County a better place for children and families.

Research shows that when parents possess six protective factors, the risk for neglect and abuse diminish and optimal outcomes for children, youth, and families are promoted. The six protective factors are:

- Nurturing and attachment
- Knowledge of parenting and of child and youth development
- Parental resilience
- Social connections
- Concrete supports for parents
- Social and emotional developmental well-being

“April is a time to celebrate the important role that communities play in protecting children,” said Lougene Marsh, Director, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment. “Everyone’s participation is critical. Focusing on ways to build and promote the protective factors, in every interaction with children and families, is the best thing our community can do to prevent child maltreatment and promote optimal child development.”

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About Johnson County

Located in the southwestern quadrant of the Kansas City Metropolitan Region, Johnson County, Kan. is a community of choice with a current population of more than 544,000, making it the most populated of the 105 counties in Kansas, but traditionally having the lowest mill levy in the state. Johnson County offers a vibrant quality of life including nationally recognized schools, libraries and parks where businesses and families choose to locate and call their home. For more information visit the county’s website at www.jocogov.org.



