

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sexual Assault Crisis Center to Expand Prevention Education Programming with Recent Grant and Fundraiser Donations

APPLETON, Wis., June 3, 2005—The Sexual Assault Crisis Center, Fox Cities Inc. (SACC) will be able to expand its sexual abuse prevention education programs with the help of a \$7,500 corporate grant from the Roundy's Foundation of Roundy's Inc. along with a \$5,400 donation from an employee fundraiser at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Kathleen Lhost, executive director of SACC, said the funds will go to support sexual assault prevention education programming to children and youth, 3 years to 18 years of age, in Outagamie and Calumet counties, within public and private school settings, day care centers and early childhood programs.

“These contributions are so vital to our education outreach efforts,” said Helen Kobussen, community educator. “This will allow us to not only continue, but to expand our educational programming in area schools. All of the programs focus on sexual abuse prevention education and safe behaviors. And these safety messages are no less important than talking about fire prevention, tornado drills and the wearing of seat belts when in a vehicle.”

During 2004, area schools requested education programming that resulted in 384 separate presentations to 12,122 students, including 803 parents and teachers.

Connie Jones of Roundy's, the parent company of Copps Food Center and Pick 'N Save Warehouse Foods grocery stores, presented a check May 24 to SACC officials during a special ceremony at SACC offices in Appleton.

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ADD ONE, Sexual Assault Crisis Center

Employees at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans held a used book and media sale on May 19 and 20, 2005, at its Operations Center facility on Ballard Road in Appleton. More than \$5,400 was raised from the sale of books, videos, DVDs, CDs and sexual assault bracelets. Employees also gave personal donations that were matched by Thrivent Financial's employee gift-matching program. In addition, a supplemental contribution was provided by the Appleton Operations Center Employee Chapter.

"The employees of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans did an amazing job rallying around this cause," said Peggy Steinberg, Fraternal Operations at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. "When we asked for employees to help coordinate this service effort, more than 40 stepped forward. The employees themselves owned and spearheaded this project to make it a success.

"Seventy employees were involved in some aspect of the project and gave more than 160 hours of their time to support this service project," Steinberg said. "I'm confident with the level of enthusiasm I've seen from this group, that many will volunteer again to help the same or similar causes. Service and care for others is what we are all about."

The Sexual Assault Crisis Center, Fox Cities Inc. is located in Appleton and was founded in 1978. The Center is dedicated to providing crisis intervention and advocacy services to survivors of sexual abuse, their families and others affected. The goal of the Center is to work toward ending sexual abuse and violence in our communities through prevention and education. Its services are confidential and free.