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Press Release

Children's Home Advancing Peoria to Become a Trauma-Informed City

What: Children's Home has received approval by Peoria's City Council and Mayor Jim Ardis to proclaim May 15th as Trauma Informed Awareness Day in Peoria, IL. This city-wide proclamation is complementary to the state-wide Trauma Informed Awareness Day that is also on May 15th. The proclamation was given at the May 14th city council meeting.

Why: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) are traumatic experiences that include physical or emotional abuse, sexual abuse, natural disasters, community violence, or physical or emotional neglect that occur during childhood and have a profound effect on a child's developing brain and body. ACE's appear to be the root cause of many challenging health and social problems, including substance abuse, heart disease, unemployment, and mental illness.

To help combat this, Children's Home practices trauma-informed care, which is an approach aimed at recognizing strengths and resiliency as well as helping those who have experienced trauma. A trauma-informed Peoria enhances the ability for children and families to adapt, cope and thrive despite trauma, and supports the mental well-being of our community.

Becoming trauma-informed is not just for clinicians and it doesn't necessarily require extensive trainings or certifications. Rather, this is an initiative meant for the community as a whole. Children's Home has been meeting the needs of children and families for over 150 years and is a leader in the areas of child and family safety and support. In conjunction with the state-wide trauma-informed initiative, Children's Home is increasing the awareness surrounding trauma at the city-level. Trauma-Informed Awareness Day in Peoria, IL is intended to encourage our community to understand the impact that trauma can have on a young person's future and provide actionable steps towards a trauma-informed community where everyone can reach their fullest potential. The media is encouraged to assist in the spread of this awareness.

When: May 15, 2019

Where: Children's Home Association of Illinois

Contact: For more information, please contact Holland Nickerson, Public Relations & Comm. Coordinator at Children's Home.

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CHILDREN'S HOME ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS has been caring for the children in our community for over 150 years. Operating from six locations in the Peoria area, our staff of 400+ professionals are committed to community-based, family-focused programs that provide counseling, education and support to more than 1,700 children and families each month. Programs for children and youth include: residential care, group homes, foster care and adoption, supervised independent living, private school, crisis intervention, mental health assessment, homeless services, in-home counseling and family preservation.