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## ***Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children Conference To Be Held***

### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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**TOPEKA**— The Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children will hold the “2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children State Conference” on Wednesday, August 23, 2006 at the Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita, Kansas. The training begins at 8:30am. ***Registration is full.***

***The conference features two nationally recognized experts on drug endangered children issues.*** Jerry Moe will present “Healing for Children from Addicted Families”, which will address the urgent need for children from substance abuse environments to receive special services, including treatment. An internationally known author and lecturer, Mr. Moe is National Director of Children’s Programs at the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, CA. Lori Moriarty, who is the Commander of the North Metro Drug Task Force in Thornton, CO and the President of the Colorado Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, will present the session “Drug Endangered Children: Taking the Next Step”. This session will address how agencies can overcome barriers and work together for the best interest of children affected by the drug use of parents. Opening comments will be made by U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren.

Four Kansans will be honored for their outstanding efforts to assist drug endangered children throughout the state. Awards will be presented at 1:30 p.m. to Tom Stanton, Reno County

District Attorney's Office; Steve Rosebrough, Kansas Bureau of Investigation; Jodie Beisner on behalf of the Cloud County Drug Endangered Children Task Force; and Andrew Mahoney, Western Kansas Broadcast Center. Additionally, Bailey LeGrand, a junior at Sedan High School, will receive the Outstanding Youth Leadership Award for her efforts to educate community members about methamphetamine.

Funding for the conference, in part, was provided through a grant from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Center (Children's Justice Act) through Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services, Children and Family Services.