

## Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade Press Release 10-22-2009

The Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is kicking-off its annual fundraising campaign. Recipients this year will be Women's Transitional Care Services, Douglas County CASA, Family Promise, VanGo, and The Lawrence Humane Society. Proceeds will be divided equally between all five organizations. These organizations provide an opportunity to support local young people in a number of ways.

Women's Transitional Care Services works to restore health and safety to victims of domestic and family violence. It intends to use the funding to provide more beds as well as additional services for children who are not in the shelter.

Douglas County CASA is currently moving to a different office space. It needs funds to make that location accessible to the disabled and to acquire child friendly furnishings.

Family Promise estimates that Lawrence has more than 100 homeless children on any given day. To help provide shelter for those families, it needs money to refurbish and furnish its day center.

VanGo is a homegrown organization that works with schools and others to provide academic support, job skills training, and responsibility to young people at risk. They are seeking funding to continue their mission.

The Lawrence Humane Society is seeking support for its 3<sup>rd</sup> grade educational outreach program.

In 23 years the Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee has provided more than \$527,000 to local charities. The Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization that makes a difference through community spirit, giving back, and by turning a one day holiday into an opportunity to celebrate the community all year.

Money raised comes from hosting special fundraising events including the Annual Benefit Auction, 5K fun run, and T-shirt sales. Additional events are Trivia Night, Dart Tournament, and Motorcycle Rally. New events this year will include a Texas Hold'em Tournament, Casino Night, Bowling and more. The community is invited to help by attending one or more of these activities. Information and schedules can be found at <http://lawrencestpatricksdaysparade.com>

Roger Browning  
Executive Chair  
Lawrence St. Patrick's Day Parade