



SWOPE HEALTH SERVICESSM

Member Swope Community Enterprises

For Immediate Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Swope Health Services Presents Family Empowerment Showcase *Event Highlights Child Abuse Prevention Month*

WHAT: The Family Empowerment Showcase will feature visual and performance artists of all ages who will explore issues of family violence and child abuse through painting, dance, song and spoken word. Survival stories will be shared.

WHO: U.S. Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, Councilman Terry Riley and Vice President of Swope Behavioral Services, Gloria Joseph, will serve as judges and award honorariums to outstanding efforts in various visual, performance and age categories.

WHERE: Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, 2310 East Linwood Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri, 64109

WHEN: Friday, April 18th, 7:00 p.m.

WHY: Missouri has one of the highest child abuse mortality rates in the nation. Department of Social Services data indicates that 46 children died in Missouri in one year, 11 of those deaths were in Jackson County. Nationally, over 2 million reports of abuse or neglect are made each year, and 1500 die from their injuries. One of every three girls will be sexually abused before the age of 18; one out of every five boys will be sexually abused by 18. It's time to bring child abuse out of the shadows and into community consciousness.

Sponsors: Supported in part by the Jackson County Safe Family Coalition

VISIT: www.swopehealth.org for more information