



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Santa Rosa Kids House Receives Much Needed Support

On December 10, 2009, Santa Rosa Kids' House Board Chairman, Sheriff Wendell Hall, accepted a \$5,000 grant from Bank of America Charitable Foundation representative Bret Lomax, during a general board meeting of the Santa Rosa Kids' House Board of Directors. Because services provided at the Santa Rosa Kids' House are delivered at no cost to the child victim and their family members, the Santa Rosa Kids' House is continually seeking corporate partners like the Bank of America and its charitable foundation to help fulfill its mission. While this grant may seem like a small amount to some, these funds will cover many hours of victim advocacy, crisis intervention and program administration for children in Santa Rosa County.

The Santa Rosa Kids' House is a child friendly environment that houses all of the local agencies responsible for the investigation, prosecution and treatment of child abuse. In addition, the Santa Rosa Kids' House hosts the local Florida Attorney General's Cyber Crimes unit. The individuals that comprise this highly specialized multidisciplinary team understand the physical and psychological impact of child abuse and neglect and are equipped to respond to children of all ages and developmental stages. All interviews conducted at the Santa Rosa Kids' House are completed in state of the art interview rooms, monitored by law enforcement detectives, Protective Investigators from the Department of Children and Families, and an Assistant State Attorney from the State Attorney's Office. With all team members in house, Santa Rosa Kids' House is able to ensure that children are not required to repeat their story to multiple authorities, while ensuring families are effectively linked to recovery services.

The Santa Rosa Kids' House, Inc. is a non-profit corporation, governed by a board of directors comprised of Santa Rosa County citizens. These citizens are true child advocates and share the desire to address the issue of child abuse in our county, utilizing the National Child Advocacy Center service model.

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