

Media Alert

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Youthville kids get a once-in-a-lifetime chance to play flag football game on Wichita Wild turf

(Wichita, Kan., June 25, 2009) –Two Youthville All-Star teams will get a once-in-a-lifetime chance to participate in a flag football game at the new Hartman Arena on Thursday, July 2. The teams are comprised of youth from Youthville’s Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) located in Newton, Kan. The players will be recognized for participation, sportsmanship, effort and skill later that evening during halftime of the Wichita Wild game. “This is a great opportunity for the kids to have a unique and positive experience that they will remember,” said Brad Merrifield, Youthville Activities Worker. “So many of our youth need opportunities like this to overcome trauma in their everyday lives.”

What: Youthville PRTF All-Star flag football game

Who: Kids from Youthville’s PRTF in Newton.
The following children are willing to speak to the media: Michael Lewis, Junior Recendez, Brandi Dugger and Jennifer Bruce.

When: Thursday, July 2

Where: Hartman Arena, 8151 N. Hartman Arena Drive, Park City, KS 67147

Time: Youthville PRTF All-Star game kickoff at 2:30 p.m.
Wichita Wild game begins at 7:05 p.m.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs) are for children ages 10 to 18 years who need time away to address issues and remove barriers from becoming a family again. This 24-hour, highly structured treatment is for youth whose behaviors threaten the safety of themselves. Youthville has two campuses, one in Dodge City and the other in Newton. Youthville is committed to caring for children in an innovative way that encourages growth mentally, physically, and creatively through creative forms of expression. Only 8 percent of the children in foster care reside in PRTFs.

Youthville is one of the largest nonprofit, child welfare agencies in Kansas, specializing in foster care, adoption, psychiatric residential treatment and counseling. The agency’s more than 600 employees are passionate about its mission of Giving Children Back Their Childhood to the 1,400 Kansas children who suffer from abuse, neglect, abandonment, and trauma. To learn more or to get involved with Youthville visit www.youthville.org.

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