

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact**

Stephanie Sheldon, 816-469-9252

[stephanie.sheldon@cornerstonesofcare.org](mailto:stephanie.sheldon@cornerstonesofcare.org)



**Local Nonprofit Cornerstones of Care Named Finalist for National Grant Award**

*Voting for the third annual Gerry Rauenhorst Building Community Award is open April 4 to 14.*

**Kansas City, MO – APRIL 4, 2017** - Cornerstones of Care is proud to announce that it's one of eight national finalists for the third annual Gerry Rauenhorst Building Community Award. The award winner will receive a \$64,000 grant from the Opus Foundation®. Cornerstones of Care is the only local finalist.

Established to honor Gerry Rauenhorst, philanthropist and founder of The Opus Group®, the Gerry Rauenhorst Building Community Award recognizes Gerry's legacy of giving and commemorates the rich history and tradition that dates back to 1953. One nonprofit will be awarded \$64,000, recognizing the 64-year tradition.

Cornerstones of Care is dedicated to partnering for safe and healthy communities through an array of prevention, treatment and support services to children and families in Missouri, Kansas and beyond. Cornerstones of Care has a long-legacy of providing support and an environment for hope and healing in Kansas City through six key service areas: education, mental & behavioral health, foster care & adoption, youth support, family support and community trainings.

"We know the unfortunate, long-term consequences when services like ours are not available – be it kids dropping out of school, families slipping into poverty or individuals developing mental or physical health conditions as a result of trauma. But we also know that with the right supports, and the right trauma-informed interventions that children and families in need can heal and build towards a safe and healthy future," says Denise Cross, President and CEO.

Each year Cornerstones of Care provides services and programs to promote safety and health to more than 10,000 children and families. As the community's needs evolve, so does Cornerstones of Care. In 2016, Cornerstones of Care expanded to 14 locations throughout Kansas and Missouri – ten of which are in the Kansas City Metro Area.

"\$64,000 for Cornerstones of Care would mean even greater impact and support for children and families in need. It will help fund a range of services that meet the health, safety and educational needs of children and families, everything from basic safety for children through mental healthcare for entire families. Having community support makes all the difference in our ability to help so many children and families, and we are so grateful for the countless individuals and supporters who make our work possible," says Denise.

Community voting for the Gerry Rauenhorst Building Community Award begins on April 4 at 9am CDT and ends on April 14 at 3pm. You can vote across multiple devices by visiting the [Opus Group's Building Community Award website](#), and selecting Cornerstones of Care. The winner will be announced on April 19.

**About Cornerstones of Care:**

*Cornerstones of Care has a long legacy of partnering with children, young adults and families to create safe and healthy communities. Through decades of trauma-informed expertise, Cornerstones of Care effects positive change in the communities it serves, raises awareness and gives a stronger voice to those in need, and delivers a fully-integrated approach to care. For more information, visit [cornerstonesofcare.org](http://cornerstonesofcare.org).*

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