

DCRA receives nutrition center funding

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Derby Reporter

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Derby, Kan. -

The Derby Citizen's Recreation Association (DCRA) has received a \$12,830 Recognition Grant from the Kansas Health Foundation.

Awarded twice a year, Recognition Grants support grassroots organizations across the state promoting health in Kansas.

The Derby Citizen's Recreation Association is a non-profit foundation that solicits and accepts tax-deductible donations to be used for the enhancement of public recreation opportunities for residents of USD 260.

To accomplish this, the DCRA partners with the Derby Recreation Commission (DRC) on projects or programs that require supplemental funding.

With the Kansas Health Foundation Recognition Grant, the DCRA will purchase equipment and furnishings for the kitchen/nutrition center in the soon to be constructed addition of the Oaklawn Activity Center (OAC).

The OAC nutrition center will be used to serve healthy snacks to youth at the facility, provide an area for community instruction on healthy food preparation and serve as a food outreach area to support wellness activities occurring at the center.

The Oaklawn Activity Center is a project lead by the Derby Recreation Commission along with other community partners.

The OAC project will build an addition to the existing Derby USD 260 school building located at 4900 S. Clifton.

Once completed, the Oaklawn Activity Center will have a large community room, technology center, art center/FEMA safe room, activity rooms, a fitness center and the kitchen/nutrition center.

In addition to the recreation amenities and programs that will be provided at the Oaklawn Activity Center by the Derby Recreation Commission, the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department will also continue to have a Community Policing Substation located within the OAC building.

The OAC will serve as an activity center, offering office space to other partnering organizations that provide services and opportunities to residents of the Oaklawn/Sunview community.

The Oaklawn Activity Center construction project is possible through financial partnerships utilizing federal, state and local government funding as well as private donations and grants, like the recognition grant from the Kansas Health Foundation.

The 2.5 million dollar project broke ground in October is estimated to be completed by August 2009.

The DCRA was established to promote recreation in USD 260 by furthering additional fundraising activities for recreation capital projects and programming, encouraging citizen involvement and coordinating special events.

"The DCRA plays a vital role in fundraising through both grants and private donations," said Ken Greteman.

For more information about the DCRA contact Greteman at 788-3078.