

Frank A. Barnitz 16th Senatorial District For Immediate Release: June 17, 2010 CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 427 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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Sen. Frank Barnitz Announces Missouri Foundation for Health Grant for Russell House

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, today announced that the Missouri Foundation for Health has awarded the program's Women's Health Grant to the Russell House in Rolla. The organization will receive \$99,801 for their efforts to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The Russell House, which provides case management, crisis intervention, and health services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, recently added 28 beds to the facility. The funding provided by the grant will go towards hiring a full-time and a part-time case manager to help with the additional cases.

"While not a pleasant reality, the Russell House fulfills an important need in our community by providing shelter and services for women in need," said Sen. Barnitz. "Their efforts extend even further, into prevention and awareness, so that the issue of domestic violence in the area can be addressed head-on."

The Missouri Foundation for Health awarded several grants this year in several areas, including women's health. These funds are designed to support programs that target unmet prevention and treatment needs for women in the state. This includes increasing awareness of violence against women, prevention of sexual assault and domestic violence, and increasing access to health services for victims of sexual and domestic violence.