



**United Way of
Southwest Missouri
& Southeast Kansas**

The Lafayette House provides a safe environment for women, children and their families touched by abuse and addiction in the Joplin area. At the end of 2011, the number of nights residents spent at the Lafayette House had increased by 73% from 2010. There has been a 25% increase in number of calls to their hotline.

The Children's Haven of Southwest Missouri, Inc. is building a new home with many more bedrooms to meet the area need of a safety net for children of families experiencing a crisis. The number of children provided overnight care has increased by 137%, with an increase of 422% in the length of their stay because it is taking families longer to access specialized community resources to resolve the conflicts, with organizations in the area still stretched so thin.

The Community Health Clinic increased 63% from 2009 to 2010 with 4874 visits in 2009 to 7728 visits in 2010. The Clinic is up an additional 30% over the previous year, with tornado related visits alone numbering 2,355. The Clinic completed 10,512 total visits in 2011.

The number of walk-in clients at the Joplin Associated for the Blind in 2010 was 5-10 per month. In 2011, this number substantially increased to 40-45 walk-in clients per month.

In Big Brothers Big Sisters, there is 60% increase in the number of children and youth to be matched.

1,470 total hours have been logged by the attorneys and paralegals at Legal Aid of Western Missouri for tornado cases.

An increase of 47% enrollment in Joplin Family YMCA's childcare programs. Childcare was one of the top three critical needs identified in Joplin.

The Voices in Court Program, assisting victims of abuse to obtain order of protections, saw a 44% increase in cases following the tornado.

Joplin NALA tutoring center has seen a 32% increase in student hours, representing 60 additional service hours in December 2011, as compared to December 2010.

The United Way has provided shelter and food to over 62,000 individuals in 2011. Following the May 22nd Tornado, United Way, and partner agencies that it supports, has provided more than 4,000 overnight stays to individuals and families and over 450,000 meals and snacks for those people affected by the tornado.

SUCCESS STORIES

“Susie”, age 7, lost her home and school to the May 22nd tornado. This is her perspective: “I was at my babysitter’s and my mom picked me up before the tornado happened. Then we were watching the news and we saw the T.V. go off. The power went off as well. We hid in the closet under the stairs and we sat there for half an hour and we had no food or water so we starved.” Her mother wrote, “She and her younger brother have been going to Children’s haven, she feels very safe there and smiling and comfortable. This is the only place she feels safe. I really appreciate everyone at Children’s Haven. They have really helped us a lot and we are doing our best to get back to the way we were.” “Susie” and her brother, “Steven”, age 3, were among the overwhelming number of local children in desperate need of safe housing and nurturing care after the devastation of our community.

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