

**PRESS RELEASE**

*Media contact: Toni Cardarella (816) 753-1841  
tcardar@aol.com*

## **MOCSA Responding To Record Number of Calls to Hospitals**

KANSAS CITY, MO. (May 27, 2011)– MOCSA, the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault, says it's responding to a record number of calls to assist sexual assault victims at Kansas City hospitals this month.

As of midday Friday, MOCSA had gone to area hospitals 70 times this month to support victims of sexual assault, surpassing the previous record 64 calls it received for hospital advocacy in August 2009 and the 45 hospital runs it made in all of May last year.

MOCSA and law enforcement agencies have long said that warmer weather typically brings increased crime, including sexual assaults, but that doesn't necessarily explain the rise of sexual assaults right now.

MOCSA's hospital advocates – who are mostly volunteers -- respond to requests from area hospitals 24-hours a day, seven days a week. In 2010, MOCSA sent 527 advocates to Kansas City area hospitals to assist sexual assault victims.

The mission of the Kansas City-based MOCSA is to lessen the ill effects of sexual assault and child sexual abuse through prevention, education, intervention, treatment and advocacy. It serves the metropolitan area on both sides of the state line.