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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 27 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) will be the guest speaker Friday evening (May 28) at the Summer Kickoff Banquet of the Johnson County Council on Drug Abuse.

The banquet, which is to begin at 6:30 p.m., will be at the Glenwood Manor in Overland Park, Kansas.

Excerpts from the Kansas Senator's prepared text follow:

Today in Johnson County tending the growth of human beings and the growth of human society is just as important as ever. In fact, it may be ever more important now than during the 50s and 60s when the area was going through its major growing pains; because the process of mature growth --- for individuals as well as societies --- requires great care to guard against threats to the continued health and well-being of each.

Such a threat exists today in drug abuse. This threat is not unique to Johnson County: it exists everywhere in our nation. But the danger it poses is no less real than if it were solely a problem for this county.

In recent years, many people have been concerned with drug abuse control efforts has been that they have been narrow and related to the special prejudices of whatever group or body which has undertaken them. Arrest, education, medication, counseling --- all of these have been tried. And all of these remedies, when undertaken alone and in isolation have failed to accomplish any meaningful progress against the threat of drug abuse to our young people and the society of which they form such a vital part.

The Johnson County programs to combat drug abuse (Adult Intervention Group AIG and Drug Intervention Group DIG), however, are thorough and comprehensive. They are aimed at results, not just nice-sounding ideas.

What is equally important is the broad involvement of so many sectors of the community --- law enforcement, educators, PTA, county government, social scientists, the medical profession and ordinary citizens in this commitment to combatting the threat of drug abuse.