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BOB DOLE

(R - Kansas) SI

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510



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CONTACT: WALT RIKER, SCOTT RICHARDSON 202/224-6521

WICHITA HEAD START PROGRAM BOOSTED BY 94-SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR POTENTIALLY ABUSED CHILDREN GETS FEDERAL HELP

WICHITA -- Kansas Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum announced today that 94 additional slots have been added to the Head Start program in the Wichita area following a \$176,795 federal grant from the Reagan Administration.

The funding from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Child Care Association of Wichita expands the current Head Start program in Sedgwick County by 94 children. The total budget for the program for the year is now \$1.2 million.

"We are pleased to make this announcement on behalf of a very worthwhile program for the city's children. Because of this federal award, more children will be able to participate in these education classes in the home as well as in the center," the Senators said. "Also, an expansion will now be possible in an important program designed to help educate and counsel children and their parents who have been identified as high risks for abuse," Dole said.

Because of the new HHS funding, 36 children will be added to the half day Head Start center program, 34 to the home-based curriculum and 24 to the special program for the potentially abused.

"Our children are our future. It's clear that these programs are designed to give a helping hand to those families that really need it," the Senators said.