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Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.
Rose Brooks Achieves National Accreditation

WE DID IT! Rose Brooks Center has achieved national accreditation through the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA). But, what does this all mean?

COA accreditation affirms that Rose Brooks meets the highest national standards of best practice and establishes Rose Brooks as effective and professionally sound. Over 2,000 organizations - voluntary, public, and proprietary, local and statewide - have successfully achieved accreditation. Implementing COA standards means Rose Brooks is among the best in the field, and we are proud to be a part of this community of excellence.

Although the formal accreditation process has been completed, our work is far from over. COA accreditation is not an end in and of itself. Rather, it is a process by which we can consistently strive for and achieve new levels of excellence.

The Organizational Strengths report from COA certainly validated the work of the entire Rose Brooks Center staff and their collective work throughout the community:

- “The staff is very professional and expressed strong support for both the organization and for those they served. The organization offers very impressive and vital programs.”
- “In addition to an emphasis on client safety and safety plans, another strength of the program services is the high degree of coordination, cooperation, and collaboration with other community stakeholders.”
- “The organization is committed to ethical practices and transparency in the way it conducts business, raises money, treats staff, and serves clients.”

Thank you all for your continued support of Rose Brooks Center and our mission, allowing us to better provide groundbreaking programs to those seeking help and safety. Please visit our website to see the official accreditation press release at www.rosebrooks.org/about-rosebrooks/news-headlines/.

Together, We Are Stronger

In August, Rose Brooks Center officially turns 40, and we couldn’t be more proud of the work that we have accomplished together over the past four decades. It is no secret that you, our friends and partners, make up a large part of why we’ve been able to accomplish so much, and we thank you!

Recently we sought out and completed the requirements for national accreditation (see below) and it confirmed all of the things you would expect from an accreditation process - financial and organizational transparency, service standards, and program excellence - but it also confirmed that together, we are stronger!

Together as staff, as a community, as board members, and as program partners - we are stronger. Our community’s support has allowed us to meet the incredible needs of those escaping domestic violence, and those working with domestic violence survivors. The Council on Accreditation particularly noted, again and again, our collective work, pointing out the “high degree of coordination, cooperation, and collaboration with other community stakeholders.”

For 40 years we have been helping individuals and families break the cycle of domestic violence in their lives, and we know this work does not happen without effective and proven services. These services would not have been possible without the support of our new, and long-time friends and partners.

With this accreditation we will continue our groundbreaking work, making a significant difference in the lives of those who are seeking a life free from violence.

Sincerely,
Susan K. Miller, CEO

P.S. Our 24-hour Help Line is 816.861.6100. We are here to listen.
The PAWS Program

When faced with animal abuse, what are the questions that come to mind? Who harmed the animal? Is the animal safe going home? Our compassion and concern are generally focused on the animal for good reason, but not many people take a moment to think of the family connected to the animal that could be at risk. If an animal is being abused, the perpetrator is also capable of human violence.

In an effort to provide intervention for those experiencing domestic violence and animal abuse, Rose Brooks Center created the Pet and Women’s Safety Assessment Program (PAWSAP). PAWSAP is a safety screening program for veterinary clinics and animal welfare organizations to better assess the needs of their clients and connect those who are experiencing domestic violence with help. Organizations who participate in this program receive education on the dynamics of domestic violence and community resources available in the area. The hope of PAWSAP is to provide help to those who may need it at any point, allowing both the owner and their pet a chance to find help and safety.

To date, Rose Brooks has provided PAWSAP screening education to several local clinics and pet shelters, and continues to be invited to speak at national conferences on this groundbreaking tool.

For more information on PAWSAP or Rose Brooks’ on-site pet shelter, please contact the PAWS Place Program Coordinator, Zoe Agnew-Svoboda, at zoea@rosebrooks.org.

You can also learn more or support this important work by visiting www.rosebrooks.org/services/pet-shelter/.

We Stand With Rose Brooks

For 40 years, Rose Brooks has strategically partnered with systems like the police department, public school districts, hospitals, community leaders and more throughout the city to remind survivors, Rose Brooks is here. Along the way, our partners have stood with us, deepening their commitment to our mission and making Kansas City a safer place to live and grow. If you would like to join us to volunteer, donate, or learn more about the needs of survivors who want to break free from domestic violence, and how Rose Brooks meets those needs, visit www.rosebrooks.org/.

‘I stand with Rose Brooks because they understand the importance of keeping families together, pets included.’ - Lauren Dorsch, Deputy Director of Communications

‘I stand with Rose Brooks because they provide badly needed services for children who have experienced domestic violence.’ - Dr. Luis Cordoba, Chief Student Support and Intervention Officer

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Captain Stacey Graves and Sergeant Mike Lenoir with KCPD

Lauren Dorsch
Bayer Animal Health

Dr. Luis Cordoba
Kansas City Public Schools

Mayor Sly James
Kansas City, MO

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Planned Giving Myths

Planned Giving is a way to plan your personal legacy in a way that’s right for you. Whether you would like to put your donation to work today or after your lifetime, you can find a charitable plan that lets you provide for your family and be a part of someone’s bright, safe future at Rose Brooks Center. We appropriately call our planned givers, Guardians.

If you have any questions about becoming a Rose Brooks Guardian, we are here to help. In the meantime, we thought we would turn to Raleigh Lang, Principal & Personal Financial Solutions President with Twin Financial, and ask an expert about some common planned giving myths.

**MYTH:** Planned giving is difficult to plan.
**Raleigh:** Planned giving can be as easy has naming Rose Brooks as a beneficiary on an IRA account or on life insurance accounts. Each individual donor is unique, with very simple ways to give.

**MYTH:** Donors need a large estate to make a planned gift.
**Raleigh:** Estates don’t have to exist in order to make a gift. Donors can give directly through beneficiary designations with no recommended amount for a planned gift. The gift could be a certain dollar amount, or percentage of an estate or certain asset. All gifts are important to the charitable organization.

**MYTH:** Planned giving only applies to donors of a certain age.
**Raleigh:** Planned Giving can be established at any age for any amount.

Rose Brooks Center’s mission remains as vital today as it was when we started 40 years ago, and we will continue to provide safety, healing and resources for thousands of families, individuals, and their pets as long as we are needed.

From our families to yours -

Join The Challenge and WIN!

**Purple Purse Challenge**
**Allstate Foundation**

Rose Brooks is honored to be a part of The Allstate Foundation’s National Purple Purse Challenge - raising awareness about financial abuse, and funds for the families seeking safety at Rose Brooks. Most people think of physical abuse when they consider domestic violence. Yet, financial abuse happens in nearly 99% of all cases and is one of the most powerful ways to keep a victim trapped.

Starting soon, Rose Brooks will be respectfully recruiting individuals who will help us raise funds as part of our involvement in The Purple Purse Challenge. It’s a lot like raising money for a charity run, but you don’t have to do a 5k at the end!

Not only will 100% of the funds generated through this challenge go to Rose Brooks (WIN!), but our top individual fundraisers have a chance to win prizes as well (WIN-WIN)! One of those prizes this year will be two tickets to our upcoming 32nd Annual CABARET event on March 3, 2019. A prize valued at $1,000!

To learn more about the challenge and how Rose Brooks provides support to those experiencing financial abuse, please visit [www.rosebrooks.org/purplepurse/](http://www.rosebrooks.org/purplepurse/).

To learn more about Planned Giving, visit [www.rosebrooks.planmygift.org/](http://www.rosebrooks.planmygift.org/). Or contact Chief Development Officer, Marla Svoboda at 816-605-7110, Marla@RoseBrooks.org.

Save The Date

**Casino and Auction Night**

**SAVE THE DATE**
Saturday, September 8, 2018
5:30 to 9:00pm

**LOCATION**
Sheraton Overland Park
6100 College Blvd, OP, KS

**ALL THE FUN**
Casino-style gaming, dinner, drinks, and extraordinary auctions.

**LEARN MORE**
Contact Sarah Smith: 816.605.7112
or SarahS@rosebrooks.org
[www.rosebrooks.org/casino](http://www.rosebrooks.org/casino)

Be a game changer for the families and pets of Rose Brooks Center.