



Press Release

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Relay for Hope Brings Together Community in Support of Child Abuse Prevention
Children's Home Society of Washington raises \$6,200 for local child abuse prevention program

Walla Walla – May 7, 2010 – On April 10, Children's Home Society of Washington and WalMart Associate Volunteer Program #2476 Co-Sponsored a community wide Relay for HOPE "Walk Away Child Abuse" event to support the prevention of child abuse and spread awareness that a strong family supports the development of healthy children. All proceeds benefited the HomeTeam Parent Aide Program, a partnership with the Walla Walla Exchange Club and Children's Home Society of Washington.

The Relay for Hope, held at Borleske Stadium, drew 100 community members (47 of whom were children). Children enjoyed the Kid Olympics, gunny sack races, and football toss. Beginners Mind Martial Arts, a local martial arts school, held a demonstration for the kids. One dedicated family, Tara Crain, Keith Crain, Jeromy Kerby, Kayla Crain and Brie Green, had such a strong passion for child abuse prevention walked seven miles – a total of 28 laps around the track!

68 WalMart associates volunteered over 400 hours for the Relay for Hope event. In recognition of the volunteer hours WalMart Foundation donated \$5,000 to support child abuse prevention. The event raised an additional \$1,200 dollars in registration fees and food sales.

About the HomeTeam Parent Aide Program

Because positive parenting is our community's priority, HomeTeam helps parents create strong families by reducing isolation and providing and promoting healthy relationships. As supportive caring individuals, Parent Aides have made the critical difference in empowering parents to succeed. The program has helped more than 161 families; 179 parents and 211 children break the cycle of child abuse.

About Children's Home Society of Washington

CHSW's mission is to develop healthy children, create strong families, build engaged communities, and speak and advocate for children. Last year in Walla Walla, over 800 children and families were helped through early learning, counseling, family support, and mentoring programs. For more information, visit www.childrenshomesociety.org.

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