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**BraveBe Child Advocacy Center Launches Brave fACEs Initiative
to Address Adverse Childhood Experiences in Lincoln**

Lincoln, NE — BraveBe Child Advocacy Center (5025 Garland Street, Lincoln) will announce the launch of **Brave fACEs**, a Community Health Endowment Legacy Project, on November 19, 2024, at 10:00 am. Brave fACEs is designed to increase awareness, provide education, and deliver essential support to prevent ACEs in the community. Through partnerships and generous funding provided by **Community Health Endowment (CHE)** and **Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI)**, Brave fACEs aims to equip Lincoln with the resources needed to understand and respond to trauma.

Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic events in a child's life, including abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction. These experiences, especially if unaddressed, can disrupt healthy brain development and are associated with long-term impacts on physical, mental, and emotional health. Individuals with a history of ACEs are at higher risk for a range of health conditions, such as heart disease, depression, and substance misuse.

CHE has designated Brave fACEs as a "Legacy Project," and is encouraging community stakeholders to support this essential work. According to CHE President & CEO Lori Seibel, *"Sadly, many children in our community are deeply impacted by negative experiences in early childhood. Research shows that this trauma results in short- and long-term consequences that are difficult to overcome. CHE is committed to elevating the understanding of ACEs in our community, seeking every opportunity to prevent them from occurring, and creating a thriving future for our youngest residents. We challenge every resident of Lincoln to become part of this important movement."*

Brave fACEs seeks to make Lincoln an **ACEs-aware community**, promoting strategies to break generational cycles of trauma, foster resilience, and encourage healing. The press conference will feature notable leaders, including **Lincoln City Council member Tom Beckius, BraveBe Executive Director Paige Piper, CHE President & CEO Lori Seibel, CHI Health St. Elizabeth President, Tyler DeJong, and CHE and ACEs Advisory Board Member Dr. Marilyn Moore.** Each speaker will stress the importance of community action and highlight the role Brave fACEs will play in preventing ACEs and supporting children and families impacted by trauma.

“By educating our community on ACEs and equipping people with the tools to respond to trauma, we’re not only helping children today but building a healthier, more resilient Lincoln for generations to come,” **said Paige Piper, Executive Director of BraveBe.**

“Brave fACEs is a transformative step for our community. By addressing ACEs, we’re giving families the opportunity to heal and thrive, while ensuring a healthier future for all,” **said Tyler DeJong, President, CHI Health St. Elizabeth.**

Brave fACEs is committed to building a strong foundation for ACEs prevention by creating accessible resources and community training. This approach aims to help local organizations, educators, healthcare providers, and families identify ACEs early and respond effectively to trauma. By increasing community awareness and understanding, this initiative will support Lincoln in addressing ACEs on multiple levels—encouraging a culture of support, healing, and resilience. BraveBe, in partnership with CHI and CHE, envisions a future where children grow up in a community that understands and actively works to prevent trauma.

The Brave fACEs initiative is one of several programs championed by BraveBe Child Advocacy Center to enhance support for children and families. This launch represents a pivotal step toward a community-wide commitment to trauma prevention and recovery, underscoring Lincoln’s dedication to improving the well-being and long-term health of its residents.

For more information about Brave fACEs, or to learn how to get involved, please contact Abby Worster at Abby@BraveBe.org or (402) 476-3200.

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