



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Braveheart Children's Advocacy Center Receives Grant  
from the Walmart Foundation for Forensic Equipment**

**Cambridge, IL – Jan. 29, 2015** – Braveheart Children's Advocacy Center recently received a \$27,000 contribution to update the organization's forensic interview equipment. The grant – which was given to the non-profit organization through the Walmart Foundation's State Giving Program – will allow the group to continue to provide DVD recordings of interviews to assist with investigations.

Braveheart is a Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) which is a child-focused model that coordinates the investigation and treatment services for children who may have experienced abuse or who have witnessed a crime or other violent act.

"At Braveheart, we are thankful for many things, especially our dedicated multidisciplinary team members and those who support us in our work to help children and families in need. We are honored that the Walmart Foundation felt we were a worthy steward of their generous gift," said Jackie Diediker, Executive Director. "It means a great deal to not only us but also the families we serve that they partnered with us to make change right here in our community. This grant enables us to continue to provide quality services to our community's most vulnerable victims, our children. Their collaboration with Braveheart also helps us to raise awareness of child sexual and physical abuse. We believe that healing and growth can come from tragedy and that each life we touch creates a ripple effect throughout our community."

Walmart Market Manager Randy Slater presented the check to Jackie Diediker during a check presentation at the Braveheart office in Cambridge.

"The Walmart Foundation is very pleased to support the Braveheart Children's Advocacy Center and is committed to help those in need in the communities where we serve," said Randy Slater, Walmart Market Manager. "Through this grant, we hope these children will be able to receive the support they need right here in their community."

The contribution to the Braveheart Children's Advocacy Center was made possible through the Walmart Foundation's Illinois State Giving Program. Through this program, the Walmart Foundation supports organizations that create opportunities so people can live better. The Walmart Foundation State Giving Program strives to award grants that have a long-lasting, positive impact on communities across the U.S.

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In Illinois in 2013, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation awarded more than \$35.6 million in cash and in-kind donations to local organizations.

To be considered for support, perspective grantee organizations must submit applications through the Walmart Foundation State Giving Program's online grant application.

Applicants must have a current 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in order to meet the program's minimum eligibility criteria. Additional information about the program's funding guidelines and application process are available online at [www.walmartfoundation.org/stategiving](http://www.walmartfoundation.org/stategiving).

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***About Philanthropy at Walmart***

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are committed to helping people live better through philanthropic efforts. By operating globally and giving back locally, Walmart is uniquely positioned to address the needs of the communities it serves and make a significant social impact within its core areas of giving: Hunger Relief and Nutrition, Sustainability, Career Opportunity and Women's Economic Empowerment. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are leading the fight against hunger in the United States with a \$2 billion commitment through 2015. Walmart has donated more than one billion meals to those in need across the country. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit [foundation.walmart.com](http://foundation.walmart.com).