

MHA Launches Bell Society

Wichita, KS – Jan 17, 2018: MHA (Mental Health Association) of South Central Kansas is proud to announce the launching of their planned giving society, known as the Bell Society. Their Director of Development, Eric Litwiller, explained, “Within days of my joining MHA in September, I started finding people who had put us in their will or trust. It was never something that we knew about previously, and we needed some way to recognize that kind of dedication. So, we created the Bell Society.”

Says Litwiller, “Including an organization in your will or trust is the ultimate act of faith and confidence. After all, if you’ve been supporting MHA every year for years on end, you obviously believe in what they do. Wouldn’t you want them be able to continue doing it even after you’re gone?”

The bell, a national symbol of mental health as well as the MHA logo, was an obvious choice to recognize these top-echelon supporters. During World War II, mental health was so poorly understood that workers in state mental hospitals witnessed patients literally being chained to the walls. After the war, future leaders of MHA collected these chains from across the country and melted them down to form a 300-lb bell. Inscribed on the original bell, a replica of which is displayed proudly in the lobby at 555 N. Woodlawn, are the words, “***Cast from the shackles which bound them, this bell shall ring out for the mentally ill and victory over mental illness.***”

Individuals who have made the decision to dedicate a portion of their assets, retirement fund, life insurance policy, or even non-cash assets like real estate or art collections, immediately become members of the Bell Society. And those members receive an exclusive membership gift, special recognition in printed materials, and complimentary tickets to MHA’s annual Diamonds are Forever Gala event, as well as other perks.

MHA offers over 30 programs dedicated to public education and treatment about issues related to mental health throughout south central Kansas. Call their Development office today at 316.651.1241 with questions, or to be included in the Bell Society. Or visit MHASCK.org.

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Issued by Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas
Eric Litwiller, Director of Development and Communications
316.651.1241, eric.litwiller@masck.org