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BILL SNYDER, CHAIR

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Coaches' Challenge Winner Announced

Kansas remains undefeated, for the 6th year, recruiting over 3,500 new mentors during the 2013 Coaches' Mentoring Challenge!

TOPEKA, KS –December 18, 2013– Kansas' mentoring efforts were celebrated this week as the state was announced the winner of the 2013 Coaches' Mentoring Challenge, recruiting 3,729 new mentors.

The intent of the Coaches' Mentoring Challenge is to promote and encourage Kansans to become a mentor, amongst the spirit of the college football season and neighborly state competition. Over the last six years, the Coaches' Challenge has recruited over 35,000 new mentors among participating states during Coaches' Challenge competitions!

In this year's Challenge, close to 9,000 new mentors were recruited across Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota - helping to close the mentoring gap in all five states. "Mentoring really can change lives," said Cheri Faunce, Director of Kansas Mentors. "The reality is that youth on these waiting lists will greatly benefit from having an adult, other than their parent, be a positive influence and role model."

"Mentoring is a cost-effective and proven intervention that not only provides a safe and positive role model for our youth, but gives individuals in our communities a way to support their young people," Snyder said. "I want to thank the thousands of mentors that signed up to become a mentor and also the mentoring programs that work tirelessly to serve our youth."

Kansas Mentors, coordinator of the Coaches' Challenge in Kansas, is partnered with more than 185 mentoring programs throughout the state. To view a list of programs or to sign up to mentor, visit the Kansas Mentors website at www.kansasmentors.org or call 785-368-6211.

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