



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kerry O'Connor, Public Relations, Saint Luke's Health System (816) 932-8646
Alison Risso, KaBOOM!, 202-464-6186

**DESIGNED BY KIDS, BUILT BY VOLUNTEERS:
PTA, SMEF, SMSD, KCOI AND KaBOOM! TEAM UP TO BUILD NEW PLAYGROUND IN JUST
ONE DAY FOR OVERLAND PARK CHILDREN AT TRAILWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

What: More than 200 volunteers from Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute (a member of Saint Luke's Health System), the Shawnee Mission School District, the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation, organizers from KaBOOM!, and residents of the Overland Park community will join forces on Saturday, Aug. 25, to build a new, safe playground at Trailwood Elementary, 5101 W. 95th St.. The new playground's design is based on drawings provided by children who will use the playground/attend the school at a Design Day event held in July.

Why: The new playground will provide more than 55,000 children—students, neighbors, site visitors, and after-school care—in the Shawnee Mission community a safe place to play. "KCOI is excited about being part of an event that's healthy for kids and the community," said Charles E. Rhoades, MD, CEO of Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute . The play space is the first built by KaBOOM! and Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute, and one of nearly 200 KaBOOM! will lead across the country in 2007 in an effort to provide a great place to play within walking distance of every child in America.

When: Saturday, Aug. 25
8:30 a.m.: Kick off and volunteer deployment
10:30 a.m. – 1p.m.: Best time to view playground and construction
2:30 p.m.: Ribbon cutting ceremony to open new play area

Where: 5101 W. 95th St.
Overland Park, Kan., 66207

Who: 200-plus volunteers, specials guests, and VIPs

Visuals: Before and after shots of the site
Volunteers assembling brightly-colored pieces of playground equipment
Ribbon-cutting ceremony to dedicate the playground
ADDITIONAL VISUAL ACITIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE DAY

Community Partners

The Trailwood PTA comprises parents, teachers, and school administrators, whose volunteer efforts are put toward classroom and school improvements and learning opportunities. The Trailwood PTA is part of the Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA, with more than 20,000 members.

The Shawnee Mission Education Foundation, established in 1989, is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote innovative and challenging teaching and learning in Shawnee Mission schools. The SMEF provides an avenue for private charitable support for programs and projects across the Shawnee Mission School District.

The Shawnee Mission School District spans 72 square miles and enrolls more than 28,000 students in 37 elementary schools, seven middle and five high schools. Among the largest employers in Johnson County, Kan., the SMSD graduates more than 90 percent of its students from a rigorous, nationally-recognized curriculum.

Funding Partner

The Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute is Kansas City's first and only orthopaedic specialty hospital. It represents the new way of delivering affordable, quality, and convenient orthopaedic care. It is a strategic alliance between Kansas City's leading orthopaedic providers and Saint Luke's Hospital.

KaBOOM!

KaBOOM! is a national nonprofit organization that envisions a great place to play within walking distance of every child in America. Over the past decade, KaBOOM! has used its innovative community-build model to bring together business and community interests to construct over 1,100 new playgrounds, skate parks, sports fields, and ice rinks across North America. KaBOOM! also offers a variety of resources, including a web portal and online community, regional and national trainings, grants, and publications for communities that wish to plan a new play space on their own. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., KaBOOM! also has offices in Chicago, Atlanta and San Mateo, Calif. For more information, visit kaboom.org.

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