Monday, June 2, 2014

For Immediate Release

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When: Tuesday, June 3, 3:30 PM with program to begin at 4:00 PM
Where: Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (918 SE 11th St, Des Moines)

YESS “Takes it to Another Level” with Expansion Groundbreaking

DES MOINES, Iowa – Join Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (YESS) on Tuesday, June 3, as the agency celebrates the official groundbreaking of its emergency shelter expansion. YESS is expanding its capacity to help meet the growing demand for emergency services for children, building a better tomorrow for kids in crisis.

The $3.76 million capital campaign, announced earlier this year, will include a two-story, 19,000 sq. ft. addition, featuring 32 single bedrooms designed for children healing from especially difficult traumatic experiences. The upper level of the expansion will house four new classrooms, a designated library, a music therapy studio, art therapy space, counseling rooms, and recreational space. Project completion is expected in February of 2015.

“The expansion, which represents unprecedented growth for the agency, is intended to provide the infrastructure necessary to care for the unique needs of children who are struggling with trauma, mental health issues, and crisis situations,” said Stephen Quirk, CEO of YESS. “With YESS’ projected growth, it is the hope that we will no longer have to turn children away who are in need of emergency shelter or crisis intervention and counseling services.”

Since 1973, YESS has evolved to provide families with around-the-clock access to emergency shelter and crisis intervention services. As the largest youth shelter and the only crisis nursery of its kind in the state of Iowa, YESS serves over 1,000 children each year, newborn through 17, providing quality emergency shelter, respite, crisis care, and counseling services. For more information, visit www.yessiowa.org.

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Help us celebrate the official groundbreaking of YESS’ new addition! We are expanding our facility to nearly double our capacity to help meet the growing demand for emergency services for children in our community.