FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Celebrate Day 366 shines awareness on infant mortality locally and across Kansas

Every year, nearly 250 Kansas babies die before their first birthday*

WICHITA, KANSAS — Kansas Sisters and Brothers for Healthy Infants and KU School of Medicine-Wichita are hosting Celebrate Day 366 on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Saint Mark United Methodist Church Family Life Center Gym (lower level).

The focus of the event is to bring awareness to the African-American infant mortality rate in Sedgwick County and Kansas. New and expectant mothers and fathers, caregivers and family members are encouraged to attend. Daycare will be available.

This one-day event centers on community education with vendors, volunteers, a community listening session and a free lunch. Incentives for participation will be available. Sessions will be conducted on understanding infant mortality, benefits of co-parenting, fatherhood, birth equity and conditions that impact parents’ health. Following the sessions will be a birthday party, door prizes and giveaways.

Kansas Sisters and Brothers for Healthy Infants includes members of graduate/alumni chapters of historically black fraternities and sororities.

The event is funded by the Kansas Health Foundation.

Sponsors include: Global Infant Safe Sleep Center, Dr. Stacy Scott, executive director; Tracie Collins, M.D., MPH, MHCDS; Freddy's Frozen Custard (Rock Rd.); Chick-Fil-A (West, Maize, Kansas); Wichita Sports Forum; Casey's General Store; and Sistahs Can We Talk.

For more information, please contact Sharla Smith, Ph.D., MPH, assistant professor, KU School of Medicine-Wichita Department of Population Health, at 316-293-1816 or ssmith37@kumc.edu.

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*Kansas Department of Health and Environment*
Media Notes

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