July 8, 2013

**Casey Toomay Budget Manager** City Manager's Office City of Lawrence

RE: 2012 Annual Report

Dear Ms. Toomay,

Per the Agreement for the use of City General Funds, I am submitting this annual report of the Emergency Service Council (ESC) rent and utility assistance program.

Funding to support ESC was included in the 2012 City of Lawrence Social Service Agency funding allocation in the amount of \$7,500. ESC provides rent and utility assistance for Lawrence residents who are in imminent danger of being evicted or having essential utility services disconnected. ESC focuses on cases where short term help can continue an overall pattern of self sufficiency for the individual or family. These cases include families trying to maintain long-term housing and elderly on fixed incomes facing a one-time utility assistance need. Intake workers at ESC agencies work directly with clients to complete applications and obtain the required documentation. Required documentation includes a disconnection notice or eviction notice, photo ID, social security or tax identification number for household members and proof of income level. ESC is a collaborative effort between Ballard Community Services (BCS) and partner agencies, including the Salvation Army, ECKAN, Willow Domestic Violence Center, and Douglas County Senior Services.

During 2012, ESC served 152 households totaling 409 individuals, of which about 64% were women. Of those households, 68% of those received utility assistance and 32% received rent assistance.

In all of 2012, over 80% reported they were able to maintain their residency, over 65% reported they were able to keep their utilities on and over 50% of program participants reported their housing situation as stable.

Sincerely, Kyle Roggenkamp **Director of Human Services** 



Ballard Community Services is a non-profit organization that provides a high quality early education program and essential basic life assistance to families and individuals in need.



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