



NEWS RELEASE

For more information, contact
Katie Ping, Marketing & Events Coordinator, at Seasons Center
800-242-5101 x1322 | kping@seasonscenter.org

June 17, 2019

For Immediate Release

Maurice Reformed Church Donates to Camp Autumn during Mental Health Awareness Month

Sioux Center, IA – On Saturday, May 11th, Maurice Reformed Church and Seasons Center hosted the WALK for Mental Health Awareness in Sioux Center in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, raising over \$750. Additionally, Maurice Reformed Church gathered a special offering during the month of May, donating \$1,000 to Camp Autumn.

“Pastor Hoekstra sought us out earlier this spring when he had the idea of partnering for an awareness walk for Mental Health Awareness Month – and we’re so glad he did!” said Kim Scorza, CEO/President of Seasons Center. “It has been wonderful to work with Maurice Reformed Church on raising awareness in our communities. We are so grateful for their contributions to Camp Autumn and for the partnership we’ve formed.”

Pastor Hoekstra led a series of sermons throughout the month of May centered on mental health. This series included one sermon titled “Depression” which received over 200 views on their website.

“As a church, we were blessed to partner with Seasons and talk openly about mental health,” said Ross Hoekstra, Lead Pastor at Maurice Reformed Church. “The sermon series and the walk for mental health awareness paved the way for honest dialogue. Out of May we will be starting a group for individuals and family members struggling with mental illness. Mental health is not something that churches often talk about, but we wanted to change that.”

The proceeds of the WALK for Mental Health Awareness and special offering from Maurice Reformed Church are being used to benefit children in northwest Iowa through scholarships to attend Camp Autumn during the summer of 2019.

“Camp Autumn is a special place for our kiddos who are struggling with behavioral health challenges,” added Scorza. “It’s a safe place where they can heal from trauma and other big feelings – and play and have fun alongside other campers who are extremely supportive.”

Maurice Reformed Church and Seasons Center have plans to host the WALK for Mental Health Awareness again next May in Sioux Center.

In addition, Seasons Center and Maurice Reformed Church are hosting a Mental Health First Aid training course on Saturday, June 29 from 8 AM – 4:30 PM at the church. It is a free training available to help individuals in the community learn how to help someone who is struggling with depression, anxiety, addiction, or another mental health crisis. Seating is limited, so pre-register today by emailing Taylor at tprather@seasonscenter.org.

For more information on this event or services provided by Seasons, Autumn's Center, and Camp Autumn, please visit our website at: www.seasonscenter.org or call 1.800.242.5101.

– 30 –

Founded in 1959, Seasons Center for Behavioral Health continues to be a leading, comprehensive behavioral health center in the northwest region of Iowa. Offering a broad range of behavioral health Services, Seasons recognizes that investing in behavioral health is investing in a community's economic, education, health and human services systems. Seasons strives to empower individuals so they might become active, contributing members of their communities. For more information on Seasons' services, please visit www.seasonscenter.org or call 1-800-242-5101.

Avera is a regional partnership of health professionals who share support services to provide excellent care at 300 locations in 100 communities in eastern South Dakota and surrounding states. Our ministry, our people and our superior values distinguish Avera. We carry on the health care legacy of the Benedictine and Presentation Sisters, delivering care in an environment guided by our values of compassion hospitality and stewardship. Avera employs more than 13,500. Inpatient, outpatient and clinic visits totaled nearly 2.5 million in the last year, a number equal to more than twice the population of the Avera service area. For more information please visit www.avera.org.