

For Immediate Release

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Older Americans Month Celebrated in May

TOPEKA – This May marks the 50th anniversary of Older Americans Month, a proud tradition of honoring the value that elders contribute to our communities. This year’s Older Americans Month theme—“Unleash the Power of Age!”—highlights the significant contributions made by thousands of older Americans across our state and our nation.

“A true measure of our society is how we honor the wisdom and experience of the elderly. I am proud that the State of Kansas respects and supports older Kansans,” Governor Sam Brownback said. “An old German proverb teaches us that, ‘The oldest trees often bear the sweetest fruit.’ This is something that we should all keep in mind when we consider the contributions that older people continue to make to our state and nation.”

While the Kansas Department on Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) provides services, support and resources to older adults year-round, Older Americans Month is a great opportunity to reach out to elders and show special appreciation for their presence in our communities – and our lives.

KDADS Secretary Shawn Sullivan says, “The older population in our state has a lifetime of experience to share with us and have paved the road of opportunity for younger Kansans. It is our moral and ethical responsibility to make sure we take care of our elders through improved health care and access to resources.”

To learn more about activities and events planned for Older Americans Month, or to find ideas about what you can do to unleash the power of age, visit the Older Americans Month website at www.olderamericansmonth.acl.gov.

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The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services’ mission is to foster an environment that promotes security, dignity and independence, while providing the right care at the right time in a place called home.