

The Police Athletic League of Kansas City, Inc.

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www.kcpal.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kansas City Police Athletic League of Kansas City Athletic Natural Turf Field at PAL Stadium \$100,000 Chiefs/NFL Grant Makes Upgrades Possible

KANSAS CITY, MO. (April 15, 2013) — The Kansas City Police Athletic League of Kansas City can unequivocally say the grass is greener on its side of the fence as a new beautiful natural turf will be dedicated at the Kansas City Police Athletic League (PAL) location 1801 White, Kansas City, Missouri on May 1, 2013. The field upgrade was made possible by a \$100,000 grant awarded to PAL by the Kansas City Chiefs, the National Football League (NFL), the NFL Players Association (NFLPA) and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). The NFL Grassroots funding was matched by over \$500,000 from PAL major donors, community leaders and local businesses business, including Messenger Lawn and Landscape, Paul Davis Restoration, Curry Real Estate Company, Mark One Electric, United Heating and Cooling, and ACME Fence.

“The Chiefs care about our young people both on and off the field, which is why we’re pleased to help provide safe and accessible places to play like the field at PAL Stadium,” Kansas City Chiefs President Mark Donovan said. “Our hope is that this will provide an opportunity for kids to learn the game of football and stay involved in productive after school activities.”

PAL Board members and officers have invited Mayor Sly James, City Manager Troy Schulte, City Council and many other Community leaders, funders, and kids of PAL to be present at this wonderful event.

“The renovated, multi-use field will spur increased community use at PAL Stadium,” said Mayor Sly James “This new stadium provides our Kansas City metro youth additional opportunities to work with positive role models to learn the game of football, get physically fit and stay involved in productive after-school activities.”

Prior to the renovation, kids were unable to play on the field due to the poor condition of the terrain. In some places, rocks had to be hand removed in order to make way for the new natural turf. Construction on the new field began in late October of 2011. The field turf installation began on a Saturday and was completed by Sunday evening through the help of dedicated volunteers and local businesses. A formal groundbreaking will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013.

The NFL Grassroots program is funded by the NFL Youth Football Fund (YFF) a non-profit foundation established by the NFL and the NFLPA to support youth football. Since 1998, the NFL Grassroots program has provided more than \$17 million to help build, or rebuild, 155 youth fields in more than 40 cities, typically in neighborhoods where funding sources are few and far between.

(more)

The Police Athletic League of Kansas City, Inc.
“Cops and Kids Together, Part of the Solution”
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“These fields are a critical part of our efforts to create sustainable communities – places where people want to live, work and raise families,” said Terri Mueller, Greater Kansas City LISC Deputy Director. “Through the NFL Grassroots Fields Program we are not only creating places for young people to compete in football and other sports, we’re also making countless neighborhoods better and stronger.”

This award to the Kansas City Police Athletic League of Greater Kansas City marks the eleventh metro-area field grant awarded locally by this program since 1999. A total of \$2 million has been allocated for field refurbishments thanks to the Hunt Family Foundation and the NFL Grassroots program these past 14 years.

About The NFL Youth Football Fund

Established in 1998 by the NFL in collaboration with the NFL Players Association, the NFL Youth Football Fund promotes positive youth development, while ensuring the health and future of football at the grassroots level. Through \$150 million in funding by the YFF, many NFL youth programs such as NFLHS.com and Coach of the Week have been developed, providing youngsters with opportunities to learn the game of football, get physically fit and stay involved in productive after-school activities with adult mentors. Innovative and effective youth football programs have resulted from teaming with organizations like LISC on the NFL Grassroots program. The league’s National Youth Football Partners also include the Amateur Athletic Union, American Youth Football, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Jewish Community Centers Association, National Police Athletic League, National Recreation & Park Association, Pop Warner Little Scholars and YMCA of the USA.

About Greater Kansas City LISC

Greater Kansas City LISC is the local site for LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation), the nation’s largest community development organization.. Greater Kansas City LISC supports redevelopment in more than 100 square miles of Kansas City metro area neighborhoods. By providing capital, technical expertise, training and information, Greater Kansas City LISC helps transform targeted neighborhoods into healthy, sustainable communities in partnership with their residents. Since 1981, Greater Kansas City LISC has invested more than \$143 million into urban neighborhoods on both sides of the state line resulting in 5,881 new and rehabbed homes and apartments; the development of more than 1.4 million square feet of retail and commercial space; and 942,435 square feet of community facilities and sports fields. For more information, visit www.lisc.org/kansascity, follow us on Facebook; and nationally @LISC_HQ.

Community Partners

Over 25 local businesses in the past twelve months have pulled together in an effort to enhance the main PAL facility. Improvements include encasement of the windows shot out, painting inside and out, plumbing upgrades, electrical enhancements, new baseball field fence, landscape renovations, HVAC installation and much more. The major contributors include, Messengers Lawn and Landscape, Curry Real Estate Company, United Heating and Cooling, Paul Davis Restoration, Mark One Electric, ACME Fence along with twenty other local businesses. For more information about donations or to become a corporate partner, please contact PAL Board President, Christine Lentz at clentz@curryre.com.

Kansas City Police Athletic League of Kansas City Missouri

The Police Athletic League of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department offers youth the opportunity to interact with police officers in a positive setting while participating in cultural, mentoring and sports programs with the main emphasis being placed on academics. The PAL program serves as a constructive alternative to anti-social behavior and boredom during their developmental years and into adulthood. PAL is a registered non-profit 501 (c)(3) and relies on the generosity of citizens and corporations to provide the resources to keep our youth active, productive and safe. The PAL Center is supervised by Kansas City Missouri Police Officers who are assigned full-time to direct activities and oversee the young people. With the help of community volunteers, these officers provide the youth of Kansas City with the proper guidance, life skills, and opportunities that will give them a better chance at a successful life. The PAL Center located at 1801 White in Kansas City, MO. For more information, visit www.kcpal.org.

This is a joint press release issued by:



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