



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Masons donate \$6,000 to Greene County D.A.R.E program

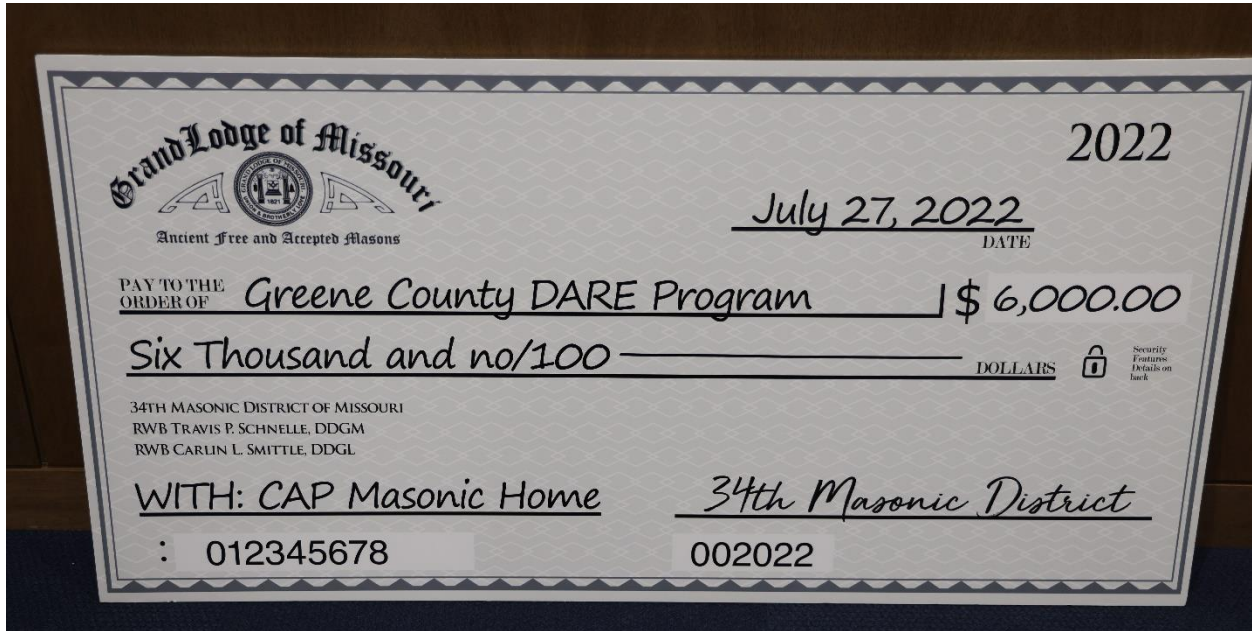


SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – The 34th Masonic District donated \$6,000 to the Greene County Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program on Wednesday at the Greene County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) in west Springfield.

The 12 lodges that make up the Masonic District originally fundraised for a Cornerstone at the new Sheriff's Office, but due to the donation of the granite's engraving and installation by Greenlawn Funeral Home, the Masons found another way to donate to the GCSO.

The Masons were able to triple their fundraising with matching funds since the cause went to helping children.

The \$6,000 will pay for at least one year's worth of D.A.R.E. program teaching materials. No taxpayer money is used for the program; only donations.



“Since the program started in 1991, I run into students who graduated D.A.R.E. all the time. Some of them work at our office today,” said Greene County Sheriff Jim Arnott. “Thank you so much to the Masons who graciously donated this money and I’m proud to continue this program that has an important impact on our community.”

Presiding Commissioner, Bob Dixon, said, “Greene County is grateful for the generous donation given today by county masonic lodges to benefit the D.A.R.E. program. Preventing drug and alcohol abuse today will benefit children today, adults tomorrow and citizens and taxpayers for years to come.”

The D.A.R.E. program is taught by two GCSO deputies across four schools in Greene County. Students can sign up for the program starting in the fall of 2022. Approximately 350 students graduate the program each year.

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Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving approximately 295,000 people. Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

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