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CATCH A STAR



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Kathy King of Blue Ash holds the Ohio Attorney General 2008 Two Days In May Promising Practice Award. Steps TO Peace (STOP), a program she started in 2003, won the award for its work training child advocates nationwide to spot victims of domestic violence.

Child advocate wins state award

BLUE ASH - Kathy King of Blue Ash still remembers the first children she helped save from domestic violence.

"The 2-year girl crouched, screaming, in the corner, while her mother and father physically beat and screamed at each other," King said.

"The 1-year old boy cried so hard he vomited. I was caught in the house by accident - my only goal was to get the children to safety."

King got the children into a foster family that ultimately adopted them. Now, she is a program director of the Steps TO Peace (STOP) program operated by ProKids, a non-profit agency that trains and supports volunteers to help keep children from slipping through the cracks of the foster-care system.

STOP, which King started in

2003, trains child advocates to spot victims of domestic violence.

It was recently awarded the Ohio Attorney General 2008 Two Days In May Promising Practice Award. Only one agency in Ohio was chosen to receive the award, which recognizes outstanding services of an organization empowering victims of crime.

"We started STOP when research indicated that children who came into foster care were not only abused and neglected, but often had been exposed to domestic violence and were weren't always getting the treatment they needed to recover," King said.

"The overall goal of the STOP program is to ensure that the foster children served by ProKids will be safe, and that they won't suffer a recurrence of abuse or exposure to violence."



LyondellBasell volunteer Sebastian Joseph helps to c

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On Saturday, April 26, about 7 employee volunteers and family members from LyondellBasell Cincinnati Technology Center participated in a one-day community service blitz at Landen Deerfield Park as part of the company's ninth Annual Global Care Day.

Located in Deerfield Township, Landen Deerfield Park preserves 60 acres of open space in the more densely populated township in Warren County. The park offers a wide variety of activities and features for area residents to enjoy, including a natural area, trails and athletic fields.

Global Care Day was begun by the company in 2000 to challenge employees at each of the company's worldwide locations to participate on the same day in community service above and beyond ongoing community involvement activities. Employees organize their activities around one or more of the company's three community focus areas: Environment, education and community sustainability. Each participating LyondellBasell site selects a project that meets the following criteria: It addresses a community need, it is aligned with one of the three community focus areas, and it will leave behind a visible impact.