

For immediate release: January 22, 2015 CONTACT: Wayne Marlow 573 434 4043 <u>waynesm2@yahoo.com</u> <u>http://www.ozarkcoastkiwanis.org</u> PO Box 1245, Lake Ozark, MO 65049

## Kids Harbor Assists 700 kids in Crisis Each Year with Help from Kiwanis Funds



Katie Karr, Jenn Hoose & Lindsey Ellerman from Kiwanis & Christmas for Kids present check to Heather Durbin



Jason Hynson, Ozark Coast Kiwanis, President, presents another check to Heather Durbin, Progam Director, **Kid's Harbor** 

For more information about all that Kid's Harbor does to help kids or to support **Kid's Harbor** please check out <u>http://kidsharbormo.org/</u> Heather Durbin, **Kid's Harbor** Program Director, presented an update to Kiwanis members on January 22. Kid's Harbor provides services to over 700 children in crisis annually who are referred by law enforcement, Children's Division, Juvenile Offices and medical professionals in St. Robert and the Lake area. The vast majority of children seen are referred because of allegations of sexual abuse (62%) and over 90% of the children seen knew their alleged perpetrator. Agency staff advocates spent over 350 hours in court with children and their non-offending caregivers.

**Checks totaling \$5,000** were presented to help support day to day operations and growth of this important agency that helps children in need in our area Ozark Coast Kiwanis is one of the largest service organizations at the Lake. All funds raised go back to the Lake Community to support dozens of children focused programs that depend on Kiwanis to fund and run their programs.

Kiwanis fundraisers that you might recognize as sponsored by Kiwanis include :

Annual Peanut Day Duck Drop & Duck Drop Golf Tournament 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Bikes Christmas for Kids 5K Run/Walk to the Beach over the Community Bridge

Plus we provide volunteer support to many community wide events.

Some of the groups that we support/sponsor include: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boy & Girl Scouts, CADV, Feed The Children, Hope House, Lake Regional Hospital, Parents as Teachers, Share The Harvest, Wonderland Camp, YMCA...Key Club, Key Leader, Builder's Club, College Scholarships.

Kiwanis Club of Ozark Coast was organized in 1988. We have proudly served Lake Community children for 26 years.

We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable foundation. Our club members are service-minded men and women from all segments of the community. We meet every Thursday, at **Ozark Yacht Club**, 12 noon to 1:00 pm for lunch, fellowship, discussion of club business, and a program presented by community business people on topics of interest such as community issues, public affairs, service, or entertainment. (Members do not have to attend every week...just when you can and be willing to help volunteer).

We'd love for you to join us for good times as we work together to better the lives of the children in our community. Please join us at our next meeting or contact our Club President for more information.