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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Reusing Old Rubber Tires and Making a More Useable Playground Surface for Our Children Economic Security Corporation is having a Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Event!

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Solid Waste Management provided Economic Security Corporation (ESC) a \$30,000 grant award. This partnership with Missouri DNR, Region M District and ESC made big changes to North Joplin Head Start and South Joplin Early Head Start playgrounds. We were able to use a recycled pour-in-place compound to replace the current playground equipment fall zones which were grass and wood chips. This alleviates the costs for replacement and upkeep of the playgrounds' resilient materials.

One of the playground locations selected is South Joplin Early Head Start where they had used grass and portable mats on their playground for infants and toddlers. Having this alternative resilient material allows for different types of climbing, pushing, and riding toys that we weren't able to use due to safety considerations. These types of toys are helpful for the children's gross motor development.

The other playground is located at North Joplin Head Start. This is a large area that includes a climber and swings. We were using wood chips as the resilient material. Pour-in-place material allows us to save funds we had been using on the upkeep of this large space and makes the space more enjoyable for the children.

We are excited to share this event with our partners, Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Region M District and are thankful for this opportunity to improve the quality of services for children and families. Our dedication and ribbon cutting ceremonies for both playgrounds will be:

When: Wednesday, November 28th

Time and locations: 10:00 am at North Joplin Head Start, 1200 N. Main Street, Joplin, MO 64801

11:00 am at South Joplin Early Head Start, 4230 S. Richard Joseph Blvd. West,

Joplin, MO 64804

About Economic Security Corporation: Since 1965, Economic Security Corporation has been a leader in developing solutions and bringing resources to Barton, Jasper, Newton and McDonald County. It offers a diversity of services meeting basic human needs for food and shelter, while enriching people's lives by providing access to increased education, skills, and building relationships for the future. ESC is a private nonprofit organization that receives federal, state and local funding, foundation grants and donations from individuals and businesses in our community. To learn more about Economic Security Corporation please visit www.escswa.org.

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