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For Immediate Release:

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Seven members of Junior Girl Scout Troop 494 of Port Orange recently completed the community service portion of their Bronze Award. Their project was to fulfill the wish list for the Domestic Abuse Council's "Hugs & Love" Children's Center in the emergency shelter.

"The Bronze Award is a leadership adventure and the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. There are six components to earning the award. They include creating a Girl Scout Junior bronze team, making a plan, putting the plan in motion, exploring needs in the community, and spreading the word," said Kim Wood Diorio, troop leader.

The scouts presented the items they collected to Lynn Kaiser Conrad with the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. during their pinning ceremony recently. Items included CD players, children's music, plastic table cloths, garden tools and potting soil for the herb garden the children at the shelter are growing.

In addition the scouts received a donation of eight chairs from the Volusia County Schools' Excess Furniture Warehouse. The scouts scrubbed the surface rust off the legs with steel wool, wiped down the seats and backs, and had the feet replaced with all new glides.

"All of the donations came in wonderfully decorated boxes that I will use over and over. I thought the boxes were the donation, and when I opened them they were filled with so many items we need in the children's center. This is just a bountiful gift. I am so impressed that a group of 10 and 11 year old girls scouts were able to make this happen," Demetra Murphy, Children's Case Manager said.

Last year, the Domestic Abuse Council "Hugs & Love children's center provided services to more than 166 children while they were living in the emergency shelter.

For more information on how you can help or about programs or services offered through the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. contact 386-255-2102.

END

In the photo: Back row Hannah Stafford, 10 with glasses, Isabella Giello, 10 with bow in her hair, Faith Burnsed, 10 blond hair, Hanna Fidance, 10.

Seated: Madison McClelland, 11 with blue flip flops & hair pulled back, Juli Freeman, 10 pink leggings, Diana DeMonico, 10 with white headband, Lynn Kaiser Conrad, Chief Operating Officer, Domestic Abuse Council, Inc.

#### Services

- ❖ Emergency Shelter ❖ Transitional Housing ❖ School Based Prevention Programs ❖
- ❖ Court/Legal Advocacy ❖ Community Education and Professional Training ❖

