

Government Shutdown Has A Human Face

(KAIR)--When the federal government shut down in the early morning hours Tuesday, it effected more than just national parks and museums, it is quickly taking its toll on people as well, specifically children.

KQ2 news is reporting that locally, it is hitting kids at Friends Gather Here Childcare in St. Joseph. The center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Center staffer Vicki Gentzell states that the primary goal of the program is to increase the quality of nutrition that is provided by daycare centers like Friends Gather Here.

The shutdown means that \$900 a month will not be coming to the center, which represents about a third of its food budget. While the center's twenty kids will be effected, Gentzell says they will do everything they can to ensure the effect is minimal.

The effects of the shutdown are being felt in other local areas as well. The St. Joseph Women, Infant, and Children, or WIC program is also feeling the pinch. Health educator Nancy Taylor states that their clients depend on the healthy food and formula they provide. Things are okay for the time being, but money could run out in about four weeks.

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