

This event is hosted by **Rotary**
Rapid City Rushmore



Legacy ^{OF} Hope

**A Gala Benefiting Children's Home Society
Rapid City Campus**



SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 • 5 PM
HYATT PLACE RAPID CITY/DOWNTOWN
525 SAINT JOSEPH STREET

**Children's
Home
Society**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

WELCOME AND

Thank you!

Welcome to Legacy of Hope, A Gala Benefiting Children's Home Society Rapid City Campus. **With your support, Rotary Club of Rapid City Rushmore has raised more than \$2,505,319 over the past 37 years to support Children's Home Society services in the Black Hills.**

The Gala event originated at Mount Rushmore in 1994 as a very special way to thank the major sponsors of the Rotary Golf Tournament. The event still serves as a thank you for the largest Rotary Golf sponsors, but has also grown into a wonderful fundraising event for Children's Home Society.

Proceeds from the 2026 Gala will support the new Children's Home Society Rapid City Campus on Mount Rushmore Road. Building renovation uses trauma-informed design and is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2026. This campus allows us to best serve children and families in the Black Hills by bringing these services together under one roof:

- **Child Advocacy Center**
- **Outpatient Mental Health Services**
- **Prevention, Training and Education**
- **Residential Treatment and Schools**
- **Therapeutic Foster Care and Adoption**

With your generosity and support, we can prevent, treat and heal trauma for more children, adults and families in the Black Hills.



Michelle Lavallee
CHS President
& Chief Executive
Officer



Jon Mammenga
CHF Chief
Philanthropy
Officer

**Children's
Home
Society**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

*Hope and Healing
for children and families.*

EVENING PROGRAM

5:00 Socialize and view live auction packages

Enjoy passed appetizers

Complimentary wine and beer courtesy of Black Hills Caregiving



Check out the 360-degree photo booth courtesy of The HomeSlice Group



5:40 Welcome and announcements

Jeff Kingsbury, Emcee and Auctioneer

Darla Crown, Gala Committee Chairperson

5:45 Please find your seats

6:00 Dinner served to your table

6:30 Thank you

Michelle Lavallee, CHS President and Chief Executive Officer

6:45 Heads and Tails Game

Bruce Nearhood, Ron Jeffries and Mark Crosswait
\$20 per player (*labeled envelope is on your table*)

WINNER GETS HALF THE POT!!

7:00 Live Auction *(see auction pages 11-15)*

Adam Karrels, Auctioneer

Special Appeal/Bid Your Donation

Jeff Kingsbury, Emcee and auctioneer (*see page 16*)

Video: CHS Hope and Healing

Jessica Broullire, CHS Child Advocacy Center Assistant Director

8:00 Entertainment *(see page 17)*

South Dakota Jazz Orchestra
A Program of Improvise Arts



Dinner

Gourmet Dinner
by Jonathon Walsh
Hyatt Place Chef

Passed Appetizers

Swedish Meatballs

Prosciutto Melon

Fig and Feta Flatbread

Bacon-Wrapped Shrimp

Salad

Arugula and Spinach Salad

Served with

Vinaigrette Dressing

Dinner

Tri-Tip Sirloin and
Chicken Breast

*Tri-tip sirloin with sweet
bourbon glaze and breaded
chicken breast with artichokes,
tomatoes, arugula and shallots*

Roasted Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert

Chocolate Cherry or
Lemon Blueberry Cheesecake

Courtesy of Fork Real
Community Café

Complimentary wine and beer

Courtesy of
Black Hills Caregiving



PLEASE NOTE:

Special Dietary Meals are both
Vegan and Gluten-Free

THE LONG WAY HOME

Imagine moving 24 times during a period of six years.

And imagine that you aren't moving with your family. You are alone. And you're moving from one family to another.

On April 15, 2025, former Children's Home Society (CHS) client Day'Qwan stood in a courtroom in Rapid City, SD. That's when Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge Stacy Wickre told him that 24 moves in his life were too many, and that she was granting the petition of adoption.



THE JOURNEY BEGINS

According to Black Hills Children's Home Therapist Rachel Walton, Day'Qwan entered the state's care in 2017, when he was five. "He had many foster care placements, both in Rapid City and Sioux Falls. That included basic foster care, therapeutic foster care, emergency foster care and then psychiatric residential treatment."

In 2018, Day'Qwan began residential care at Black Hills Children's Home, along with his older brother. "He was with his brother on the same living unit," says Rachel. "They would argue, act out and gang up together on other kids."

"At the same time, Day'Qwan very much lived in the shadow of his brother. His brother would talk for him, would get things for him, would get him out of trouble and get him in trouble."

Eventually the brothers left residential care for a foster placement which was a possible adoptive home. It lasted only three months. The older brother was removed from the foster home first and returned to Children's Home. Day'Qwan's behavior deteriorated, and he was also sent back to Children's Home, but this time on a different unit.

"And when he was separated from his brother, he blossomed," Rachel shares. "He could become his own person. His brother had just tried to control him and kind of smothered his growth."

That's when Rachel became Day'Qwan's therapist. "He was very quiet and reserved. He tried to be as invisible as possible," she says. At first in therapy he would often write or draw to communicate but began to open up over time.

FINDING HIMSELF AT HOME

In June of 2022, Day'Qwan was discharged from residential treatment, after making excellent progress.

Before long he joined his older brother at the home of CHS Therapeutic Foster Care provider Jodi Lindstrom. Therapeutic Foster Care operated by CHS is a higher level of care for children with behavioral or emotional needs. Providers receive additional training and continuous support from our case managers and therapists.

While the goal had always been to keep the two brothers together, Day'Qwan's older brother soon moved on to another placement. Day'Qwan began to recognize his own voice, developing those inner thoughts of coping, practicing new skills in a safe setting and growing in his resilience of past trauma.

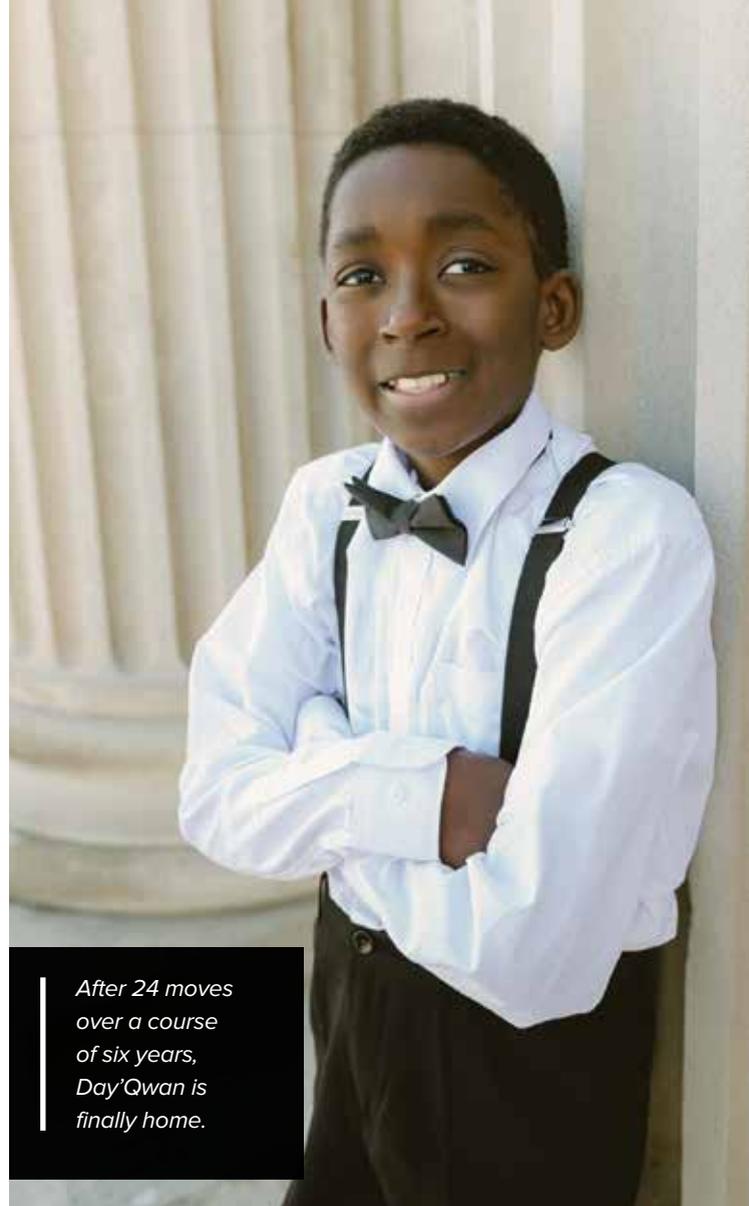
Jodi noticed something similar. "After his brother left, I got to see a whole new side of Day'Qwan," she says. "He started to make more progress in school and in the home."

In 2023, the boys' aunt in Illinois was approved to become their legal guardian. "The older brother was very excited about moving there," Jodi says, "But Day'Qwan was not."

"He said he didn't want to leave our home. He didn't want to leave me. He didn't want to live with his brother because of how it was the first time that we tried it here. He didn't want to live with people he didn't know or remember. He didn't want to change schools. He didn't want to be so far away."

It's extraordinarily difficult for children to navigate relationships between their biological families and foster or adoptive families. For Day'Qwan to make such a brave decision for himself at age 11 was remarkable. But Jodi, Day'Qwan and a host of friends and supporters wrote letters which convinced the judge to allow him to stay with Jodi.

That's around the time Jodi started thinking about adopting him. Department of Social Services staff had asked her previously about adopting him, but at that time, Day'Qwan still wanted reunification with his biological family, so Jodi declined. But when they asked the second time, she agreed.



After 24 moves over a course of six years, Day'Qwan is finally home.

And so, Day'Qwan officially became a Lindstrom—his choice—that day in the courtroom.

"Thinking back on the progress that he's made—he's feeling comfortable, not in that fight or flight mode anymore," Jodi says. "He knows that this is his house now. He's not going to be up and moved at any given time. He's established friends at school and relationships at church and with neighborhood kids. And now he gets to be a typical kid instead of a kid in care."

ONGOING CONNECTIONS

Jodi is committed to keeping Day'Qwan connected to his biological family to the extent he wants. "We have talked to his biological mom and sister, so they know about the adoption," Jodi says.

"The sister was very excited about the adoption." They'd met several times when Day'Qwan was in foster care

at Jodi's. "She and I built a trust-based relationship. She knew the boys would be well taken care of and they would have what they need. His mom, on the other hand, she was quite surprised by it."

After some time, his biological mother thanked Jodi and asked that they keep communication lines open. "We came to an understanding of what her role is as his biological mom and what my role is as his adoptive mom," she says.

"Day'Qwan loves his family very much. We talk about them often and celebrate their birthdays and things like that." Although he may feel some guilt from time to time, Jodi believes he is confident in his decision.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CHS

Every step of the way, Jodi has worked hand-in-hand with CHS.

She owns and operates a private preschool and in addition to her two biological children and Day'Qwan, she currently has a two-year-old and a three-year old in Therapeutic Foster Care at her home.

Jodi carries a great deal of responsibility and depends on CHS for support. In fact, she says she feels like she's in partnership with the CHS Therapeutic Foster Care staff. She has relied on them for everything from counseling to training, Christmas gifts and circus tickets.

"I could call my case manager or our therapist and could always find someone within my team to walk me through any issue or give me more tools for my toolbelt," Jodi says. "If we needed to meet, they were always available the following day for an in-person meeting. Or if we needed to see Dr. Wilson [the CHS psychiatrist], I'm confident we could have gotten an appointment, they would have made it happen."

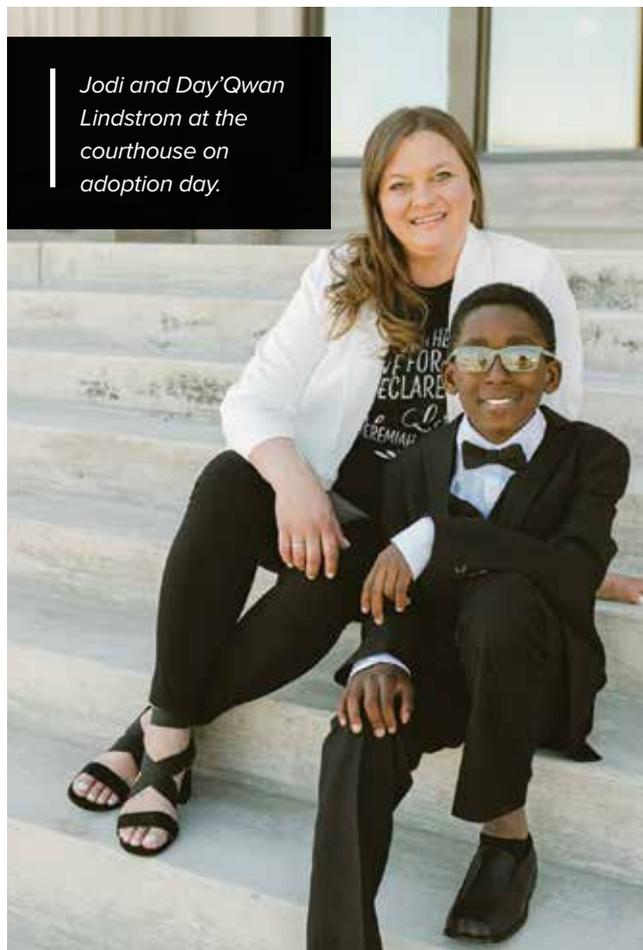


"Just to know I had my people at Children's Home to walk through it with me, was great. They are experienced and had suggestions and resources."



Jodi has friends who are foster care providers licensed through other programs. "I always want to tell them to work with CHS instead, because they'll get more training and support."

Thanks to CHS Residential Care and Therapeutic Foster Care staff, and Jodi Lindstrom, Day'Qwan is finally home.



THE STORY IN NUMBERS

Therapeutic Foster Care staff tracked Day'Qwan's **Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)** scores; this assessment is widely used to monitor children's progress and make decisions about services.

When Day'Qwan was admitted to Therapeutic Foster Care, **his CANS score was 67**, which meant he had high needs. Within a year, his score dropped to a 61 and then to a 43. After he decided to remain with Jodi, his score was 26.

By the time he was adopted, Day'Qwan's CANS score was at just 19!

TO ALL OUR EVENT SPONSORS

Thank you!



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sparkles, but
kindness shines
brighter.

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AUCTIONEERS

JEFF KINGSBURY



JEFF KINGSBURY

Jeff Kingsbury is our emcee and one of our auctioneers this evening. He has appeared in more than 200 plays and musicals throughout his career. He is a Black Hills Playhouse favorite, having played some of his most cherished roles. At the top of his list of favorites Jeff cites: Man In Chair in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (twice), Morrie in *Tuesdays With Morrie*, Lurch in *The Addams Family Musical* and Frankie Cavalier in *Pageant*. Jeff is the Director of Development for Black Hills Playhouse and a member of Rotary Club of Rapid City Rushmore. When he is not on stage, he is also an auctioneer for charity groups and helps to raise millions of dollars for good causes annually.

ADAM KARRELS



ADAM KARRELS

Adam is a fourth generation rancher, and his family's ranching history dates back to the 1870s. He helps manage over 50,000 acres of farm and ranch land. In 2007 Adam graduated from Western College of Auctioneering. Adam hosts auctions all across the country and is also a licensed realtor with Allison Real Estate specializing in farm and ranch land. He is married to his beautiful wife of 14 years and has two daughters and a son.



LIVE AUCTION PACKAGES

Please make checks payable to **Children's Home Foundation**. Visa/Mastercard also accepted at the checkout table. Guests will check out by bid paddle number. **To pay online**, use the **QR code** on page 17.

PACKAGE #1



FAMILY FUN PACKAGE

PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$956

- Four unlimited ride wristbands and cave tours at Rush Mountain Adventure Park 2026 season
- Two-hour unlimited arcade and virtual reality wristbands for four guests for Sprockets Fun Foundry in Keystone, SD
- PLUS Reptile Gardens Family Season Pass for four guests (Expires 11/30/2026)

Courtesy of Rush Mountain Adventure Park, Sprockets Fun Foundry and Reptile Gardens

LIVE AUCTION PACKAGES

PACKAGE #2



Courtesy of Paul Thorstenson, Byrch Boutique, Bear Country USA and Vibrant Life Wellbeing

MOTHER'S DAY TO THE MAX

PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$1,299

You will make Mom's day with this package that includes:

- A case of wine from Firehouse Wine Cellars
- Byrch Boutique package BC Rome purse, Fearless necklace, hand-poured candle, Beekman cream, Honey Belle soap, lip balm and a \$50 gift card
- Three Bear Country USA family carload passes (*These never expire!*)
- Anytime Auto car detailing certificate (*Interior, exterior, and engine compartment for car, SUV or pickup up to F-250 size*)
- Vibrant Life Wellbeing: 60 minutes in the salt room and infrared sauna for one guest

PACKAGE #3



Courtesy of Central States Fair

CENTRAL STATES FAIR CELEBRITY EXPERIENCE 2026

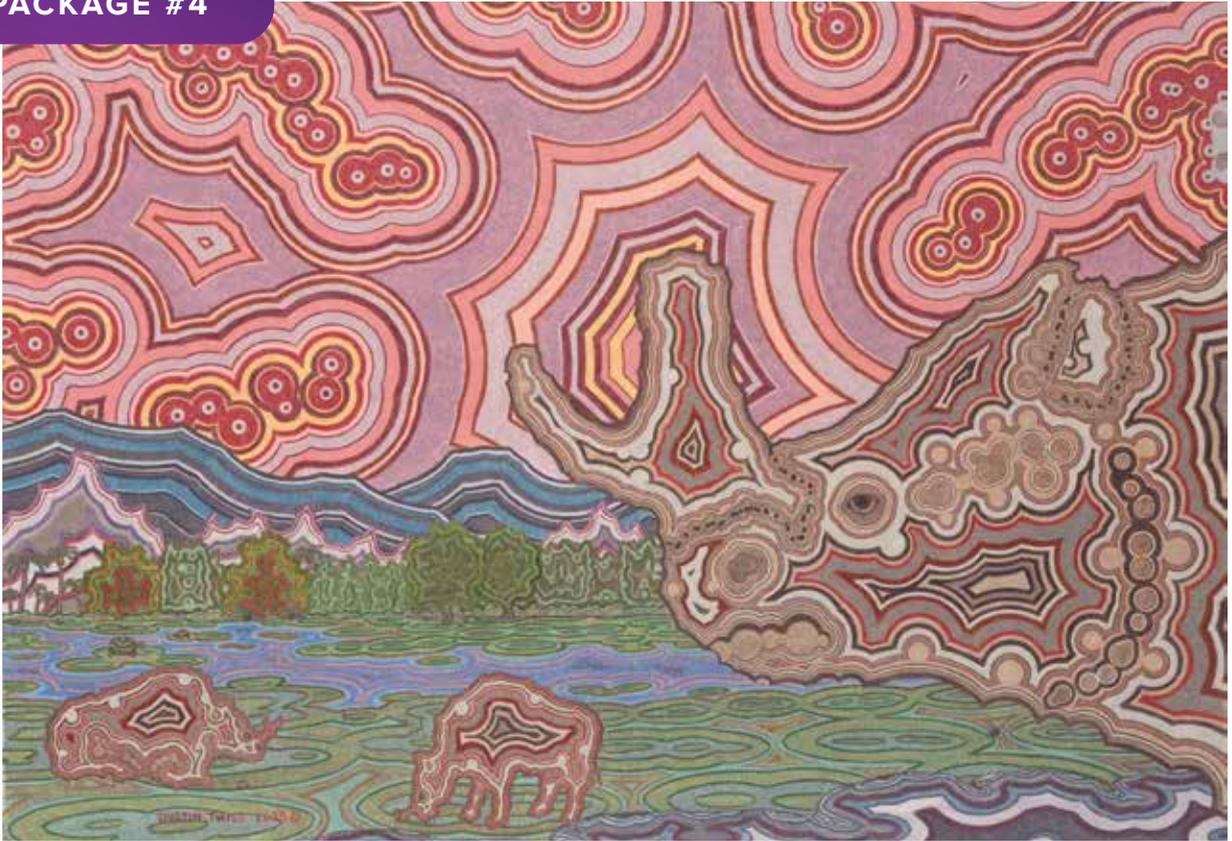
PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$1,200

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity during the 2026 Central States Fair August 21–29!

- Four VIP passes to ONE CONCERT
- Backstage tour
- Autographed guitar
- Meet and greet with ONE ARTIST

LIVE AUCTION PACKAGES

PACKAGE #4



FRAMED DUSTIN TWISS ARTIST PROOF

PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$2,400

This gorgeous framed 32" x 28" artist proof of *Thunder Horse* would look great in your home or office!

Lakota legends speak of great beasts that thundered across the ancient plains, heralding intense storms. When the Lakota discovered enormous skeletons of rhinoceros-like creatures in the Chadron formation of the Badlands, they associated them with these legendary beasts and named them “Thunder Horses” (*wakinyan sunkawakhan*). They have since also been called “titanotheres” and “brontotheres.” Skeletons of these magnificent horned creatures are on display at the School of Mines Geology Museum and at the Natural History Museum in New York. About 35 million years ago, at the end of the Eocene epoch, these animals became extinct.

In addition to these rare discoveries, the Chadron alluvial gravels also hide exquisite gemstones—Fairburn agates. Dustin Twiss, a Lakota conceptual artist, who beautifully incorporates the Fairburn banding pattern into his art works, connects the Lakota legends of the Thunder Horse with South Dakota’s state gemstone in this unique work completed in 2025.

In addition to the framed artist proof, this art package includes original art by Daisy and Dustin Twiss, who are here with us this evening.

Courtesy of Dr. Scott and Helen Van Dam

LIVE AUCTION PACKAGES

PACKAGE #5



CUSTER STATE PARK STAYCATION

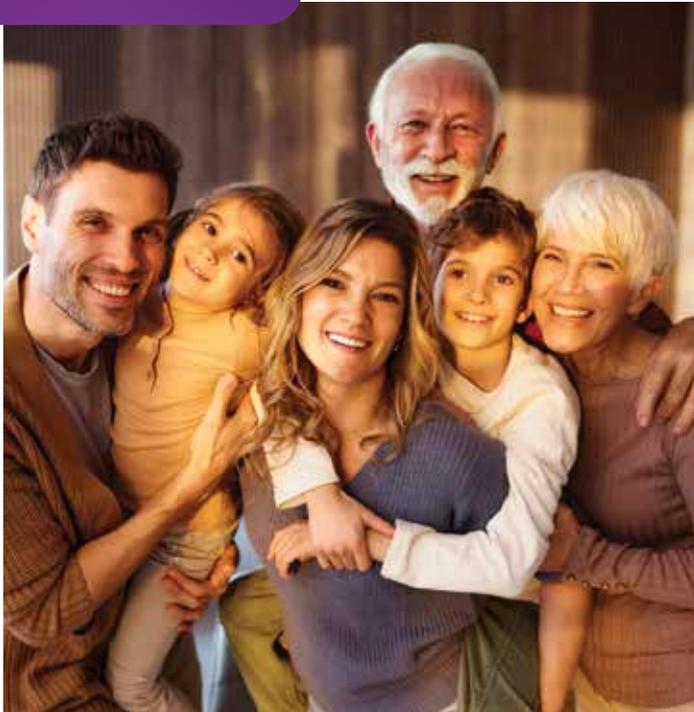
PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$2,500

Take the time to create some incredible memories with those you love!

- \$1,000 Custer State Park gift card (Redeemable for lodging, meals, tours and more)
- Eight Black Hills Playhouse passes
- Black Hills Balloons hot air balloon ride for two guests
- One-night stay for two guests at the State Game Lodge
- Three 2026 State Park vehicle passes
- Adorable stuffed owl, wine, candle and camp mat

Courtesy of Carmen and Gary Hansen, Black Hills Playhouse, Black Hills Balloons and Custer State Park

PACKAGE #6



FAMILY LEGACY VIDEO

PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$2,500

CHS videographer Dempsey Tapley will help you preserve your family history for generations to come!

- Two interviews with family members
- Two sessions of supplemental footage (*video of a significant place or activities like hunting, fishing, cooking, woodworking, knitting, etc.*)
- Digitization and inclusion of historical photos
- Two rounds of revisions on each video
- One full-length video featuring full interviews
- One highlight video (5-10 minutes) (*Digitization and inclusion of older video footage from VHS, 8mm, Beta Cam, etc. may be purchased at additional charge to be negotiated between buyer and Dempsey*)

Courtesy of Dempsey Tapley

LIVE AUCTION PACKAGES

PACKAGE #7



Courtesy of Jeffrey A. Meyer

PRIVATE IN-HOME CONCERT BY ALEX MASSA AND WHISKEY TASTING FOR 10 GUESTS

PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$3,000

- Private, in-home concert by composer and trumpeter, Alex Massa
- Whiskey tasting for up to 10 guests hosted in your home by Justin or Jeanne Henrichsen, Windsor Bar
- Expires 12/31/2026

PACKAGE #8

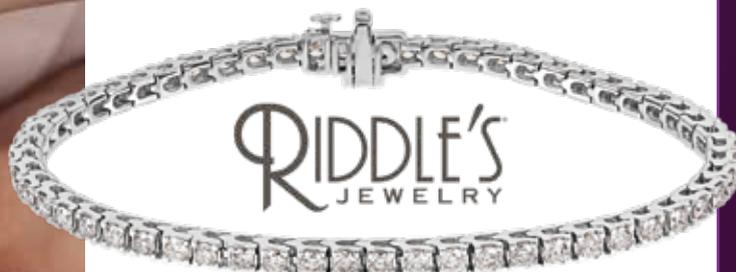


Courtesy of Riddle's Jewelry

RIDDLE'S JEWELRY 3CT TDW DIAMOND TENNIS BRACELET IN 14K WHITE GOLD

PACKAGE VALUE EXCEEDS \$6,420

This gorgeous bracelet is the perfect gift!



SPECIAL APPEAL

Your gifts matter



JESSICA BROULLIRE
Child Advocacy Center
Assistant Director

PAY YOUR DONATION

AT THE CHECKOUT TABLE IN THE FOYER

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE
TO CHILDREN'S HOME FOUNDATION.**

OR

PAY ONLINE:



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF
CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY RAPID CITY CAMPUS!

ENTERTAINMENT



SOUTH DAKOTA JAZZ ORCHESTRA A PROGRAM OF IMPROVISE ARTS

The South Dakota Jazz Orchestra (SDJO), a program of Improvise Arts, is a 17-piece band dedicated to continuing and growing the tradition of jazz and Black American music played by a large ensemble. Established by prominent musicians in east river South Dakota, the SDJO became the premier big band in the region and was a staple of the music scene for decades.

In 2024, the founding members of the orchestra passed the baton to trumpeter and composer Alex Massa of Rapid City. Alex brought in trombonist and composer Danny Thornburg as music director. Under the direction of Massa and Thornburg, the SDJO has continued to present and promote big band music based out of its new home in the Black Hills. The SDJO's roster includes professional musicians, educators and students from communities across the region. Members range in age from 17 to 70.



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2025-2026

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**Sally Anderson is an honorary member, and the great-great-grand-daughter of Children's Home Society co-founder Elizabeth Sherrard.*

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Directors Emeritus: Board members who attain Director Emeritus status have met all three of the following requirements:

- served six or more years as a CHS Board Member
- served six or more years as a CHF Board Member
- served as President of either Board

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Rush Mountain Adventure Park
Sprockets Fun Foundry
Dempsey Tapley
Paul Thorstenson
Twiss Gallery
Daisy Twiss
Dr. Scott and Helen Van Dam
Vibrant Life Wellbeing
Windsor Block

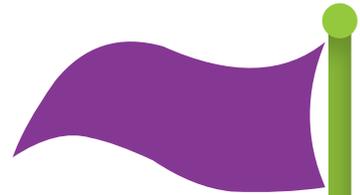


SAVE THE DATE

37th ANNUAL
Rotary Club of
Rapid City Rushmore

GOLF TOURNAMENT

To Benefit Children's Home Society
Rapid City Campus



Monday, July 27, 2026

Arrowhead Country Club • Rapid City

To sponsor, donate or inquire
call Theresa 605.393.4297 or
email theresa.schreiner@chssd.org.



ABOUT CHS

Established in 1893, Children's Home Society of South Dakota (CHS) was the state's first nonprofit human service organization. As South Dakota's primary orphanage and adoption agency for more than 70 years, CHS cared for and provided permanent families for thousands of children.

CHS has expanded to meet the evolving needs of children and families, today offering Emergency Shelter and Crisis Intervention, Residential Treatment and Schools, Outpatient Mental Health Services, Forensic Interviews and Advocacy, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Adoption Services, Nurse Home Visitation, and Prevention, Training and Education.

**CHS is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA)
and licensed by the South Dakota Department of Social Services.**

MISSION

To prevent, treat and heal trauma.

VISION

A world that stands up to trauma where all people are safe, healthy and resilient.

VALUES



We are
better together.



We choose
kindness.



We are
tenacious.



STAND FOR **GOOD**

chssd.org