



The Children's Friend

Serving Children and Families Since 1893 • Volume 119 • Number 2 • Fall/Winter 2014

Giving a Voice to Children

EDITOR'S NOTE:

In our last issue of The Children's Friend, we announced the launch of the new CHS Prevention Initiative to help reduce child abuse and domestic violence. After reading our story, MaRita (who lived at CHS as a child) called to ask what she could do to help.

Our conversation with MaRita helped us even more than she realized. MaRita, now 34, offered thoughtful reflections of her past, and we are grateful for her insight.

We learned that each of us has the potential to recognize and respond to child abuse. It inspires our efforts to do more to educate and train others, and to prevent what happened to MaRita from ever happening again to another child.

The sorrow in MaRita's voice is evident as she remembers a painful childhood: "There have been so many times over the years that I wanted to go back in time and change the past, or to wake up one morning and realize everything was just a bad dream..."

Her bad dream was a history of extreme neglect and sexual abuse from the time she was born. Her mother would be gone for weeks at a time, leaving 2-year-old MaRita and her brothers, ages 7 and 8, to fend for themselves. They scrambled for food, maggots infested dirty dishes in the sink, piles of clothing were left unwashed, and the children rarely bathed. When MaRita was 8 years old, she weighed less than 50 pounds and wore toddler clothing.

A concerned neighbor noticed the situation and called Social Services (DSS) to step in. From 1989 to 1991, MaRita lived in foster homes, was hospitalized in a behavioral health unit, and eventually was placed at Children's Home Society where she lived for 19 months.

The recent launch of the CHS Prevention Initiative prompted MaRita to talk about her life. She can't go back and change the past, but she wants to share what she knows and give a voice to children who may not have one.

"At first, I felt that no one ever listened to me," said MaRita. "I want to help people understand what it's like to be a child of abuse and neglect, to learn what signs to watch for, and to help other kids who can't speak up for themselves."

While growing up, MaRita was often sick and experienced frequent visits to the doctor. She had an emergency appendectomy at age 4, by which time she had also experienced sexual abuse. "My parents were divorced, and I spent equal time with both of them," she said. "My mom was unaware of what was going on at my dad's house. Mom had problems of her own... and if she knew, I don't think she cared."

MaRita emphasized that each of us has the potential to identify abuse—and then respond to it. She hopes a key component of The Initiative will be to educate people on recognizing behavioral

VOICE continued on page 4



Executive Director Bill Colson

As I'm sure you either know from experience, or can imagine from your connection to Children's Home Society, our days are often a mixture of happiness and sorrow. The same is certainly true for the children, women, and families we serve. Of course, our goal is for more frequent happy than sad days and that every day brings meaning and offers a stepping stone toward a brighter future. Unfortunately, it's often difficult to see that brighter future through the tears of any given day.

Take August of 2014 as an example. Early August brought us the most successful Orion Classic in its 19-year history — without a doubt cause for joyous celebration. Just three weeks later, on August 25th, we lost the event founder and a wonderful friend, Mark Amundson. How do we celebrate the joy of the first when followed by the tragedy of the second?

I am confident that, before his untimely passing, Mark was contemplating what he could do in concert with others to further our work in the service of those who need us. No doubt he had plans for the future that would continue his history of improving lives through selfless endeavor. It's impossible to know the details of his plans, but our history with Mark gives us a pretty clear idea about the outcomes he'd be hoping for.

Those closest to Mark that I've spoken with have said that his legacy of great work can best be honored by pressing on. Mark certainly didn't anticipate that his vision would end on that unfortunate day — so those of us that remain shouldn't allow it to happen. I'm certain that's what Mark would ask of us.

Children's Home Society has a long history. In our 121 years, many wonderful people have come and gone. We've learned valuable lessons from each of them, and their collective gifts of time, talent, and resources define us and protect those whom we are privileged to serve.

Thank you, Mark, for all that you did toward defining us. You are appreciated and will not be forgotten.

19th Annual Orion Classic Tops Record



The 19th Annual Orion Classic topped all records this year, netting over \$450,000 at the event held August 3 & 4. Five hundred guests attended the **Evening for the Kids** banquet and were treated to a "Starfish on the Beach" casual theme. One of the evening's highlights was spirited bidding over the live auction package for the dinner with Governor Dennis and Linda Daugaard, along with an overnight stay at the Governor's mansion. This was followed by a surprise announcement that an anonymous donor would double all gifts on the Wish Wall (a \$10,000 gift!). Thanks to our many sponsors and friends for helping to make the event such a success!

Aaron Oestmann of Dakota Dunes held the lucky raffle ticket winning number for the 2014 Toyota Camry LE. The raffle ticket was purchased by his dad, Dave Hagel of Rapid City, who has been buying them for years to support the mission of CHS. Dave



An excited winner of the Toyota Camry LE raffle, Aaron Oestmann drove away in his first new car.

gives the tickets away to family and friends—and he said his 25-year-old son "really needed a different car." Dave believes in the mission of CHS because his father lived in an orphanage as a child before he was adopted.

The win was timely indeed. While CHS began paperwork for the car title, Aaron's car broke down...got fixed...and broke down again.

A friend had to drive him to Sioux Falls to pick up his new car at Billion Toyota. Aaron got the car just in time to drive out to Rapid City to attend a family wedding the next day!



Morris Hatafsky and Graham Marsh demonstrate the finer points of golf at the Orion Classic youth golf clinic sponsored by Graham Tire.

Mark Amundson:

His Legacy as a 'Friend Raiser' and Fund Raiser

"To live. To love. To learn. To leave a legacy." Business leader Stephen Covey wrote that all people have these basic needs.

Mark Amundson lived those words to the fullest, and he has left a lasting legacy to Children's Home Society as founder of the Orion Classic, the annual golf event that has raised almost \$5 million in 19 years.

Mark died in an ATV accident at Sutton Bay on August 25. An avid championship golfer and visionary, he used his passion for golf and a desire to give back to the community for the benefit of children at CHS.

Mark was first introduced to the mission of CHS as a young boy in the 1960s. Mark's parents, Loren and Mavis Amundson, would stop in at the old Children's Home landmark "orphanage" every Christmas season and bring several CHS kids home with them to spend the holidays with their family. Alongside his sister Carolynn, Mark had vivid memories of playing with many of these children, and would often wonder how their lives have turned out and where they are at today.

It was also during a Christmas season—many years later, during a family dinner in December of 1995—where another story begins, that of the Orion Classic.

Mark (then a CHS Board Member) had been a physical therapist on the Champions PGA Tour and would often caddie for Graham Marsh at PGA tournaments. Over time, Mark had become acquainted with many players on the Champions PGA Tour, and he also noticed that many of them played golf in charity events. An idea formed in his mind, and he posed the question, "Why not ask some of these guys if they would come to Sioux Falls and play in a benefit event for Children's Home Society?"

He discussed this idea with CHS staff and the wheels started to turn. From the early stages of thinking through all the components of running a charity golf event—creating levels of sponsorships, enlisting volunteers, finding a host golf course—to planning a Pro Am and making travel arrangements and accommodations for the professionals, Mark was the principal planner and key contributor to the growth of the Orion Classic.

Over its 19-year history, Mark brought 44 PGA professional golfers to the Orion Classic. His insight and wisdom guided and shaped the event, helping to keep it fresh each year for so many returning sponsors and guests.

Mark also looked for ways to help event participants learn about the mission of CHS in a meaningful way. One of his goals was to enlist new friends to the cause and make the Orion Classic just as much a "friend raiser" as a fund raiser.

So what began as an idea over Christmas dinner in 1995, with an inaugural event in August of 1996, has now evolved

into a 19-year run that has netted almost \$5 million for CHS! Equally important, it has helped to both introduce and endear the CHS mission to many hundreds of new friends.

And always—always—at the forefront of Mark's mind was, "How can we raise the most money to help our kids?" The same heart and concern he had for the CHS kids he played with as a boy, carried into his adulthood. How fortunate for all CHS kids!

Mark was only 55 years old, but his legacy will live on.

*Thank you
to our friend,
Mark Amundson
1958-2014*





Development Director **Rick Weber**

I've always enjoyed getting the mail. As a boy growing up on a farm, seeing the dust from the mailman's car coming down the gravel road was a welcome sight. With the mailbox at the end of a long, quarter mile driveway, it seemed even more intriguing.

At Children's Home Society, I have the privilege of finding hundreds of gifts show up in my mailbox each year. As part of the Foundation team, I get to help receive these gifts and direct them in many different ways to support our mission and children. It's a fun job and an honor to get to do it.

The feeling isn't quite the same, though, when memorial gifts arrive. It's always a good feeling to use the gifts to make a difference in the lives of young children, but it's sad to know of the loss for family and friends. We're honored when family members name Children's Home Society to receive memorial gifts, which usually means multiple gifts will arrive.

When our dear friend Mark Amundson passed away and Children's Home Society was named for the memorials, we were astounded by what seemed to be a never-ending flow of gifts—over 400 were sent. The scope and genuine nature of the relationships and friendships connected to Mark from around the state, region and country was amazing. The outpouring of kindness and generosity was a tribute to the impact Mark had on others, and it was such a demonstration of love and support for Mark's family.

Mark always championed the perspective that the Children's Home kids needed and deserved help, and he led by example, always thinking, "How can we do more?"

We are creating a special endowment fund in Mark's name with a plan for annual distributions to continue what Mark had been doing for many years: protecting and supporting young children and helping them have the kind of life we would want for our own children and grandchildren. Mark's connection and legacy with Children's Home Society will endure, and Mark will always be an inspiration as we carry the mission forward.

Giving a Voice *continued from page 1*

changes in children such as extreme withdrawal, and how to acknowledge these concerns. "I would pay particular attention to younger children because they often do not have a voice outside of the home before they enter school," she said.

MaRita has been asked why she didn't tell another adult—someone she trusted—about what was happening at home. "Honestly, I thought how we lived was normal. Friends never came over, so I didn't know any different."

"It was generations of fault," she says. MaRita's mother was shunned by her own parents, whose religious beliefs clashed with their daughter's behavior. They severed all family ties.

"They told her that she was never going to be a good Mom, and that was a prediction that drove her to alcoholism," said MaRita. "It played into how she dealt with her own kids and how she dealt with life in general."

MaRita believes that if outreach services had been available to provide a strong support system for her mother, it may have made a difference. She imagines a counselor encouraging her mother with positive reinforcement, "You know—you can make good choices. You're a good person; now let's help you to be a good mom." When the family network disintegrated, there was no one for her to turn to for help.

MaRita's own story demonstrates that the cycle can be broken, and her success is a tribute to her resiliency and intelligence. She earned a degree in criminal justice, got married and is a mother to 8-year-old Zoe.

"It is because somebody was my advocate," she remembers. "One of our neighbors recognized the fact that we were left alone and not being fed or cared for," said MaRita. "One time she let it go—but the next time she called to get help."

When she first arrived at CHS, MaRita wanted to be alone all the time. "It was my way of being invisible," she said. "If you're present; you can be victimized. I was also incredibly sad, and I spent a lot of time being angry. I didn't think it was fair—and it's not—but (CHS taught me) it didn't have anything to do with me; it was other people's choices."

The support and therapy of CHS staff changed her life, says MaRita. "They were so loving and so kind. The best thing I learned from Children's Home was how to be a kid again. When I was nine years old, I was worried about food, where our dinner was coming from, or who was going to pay the bills..."

"And I never wanted to get dirty because I had been dirty for so long. I didn't want to play in the dirt. I had a need for everything to be in its place and be clean—and that's where it stayed—because dirty was bad."

One day a staff member pulled her aside and said, "You know MaRita, you're nine. Go play in the dirt...go on the playground and have some fun."

"They believed in me," she said. "They gave me back my childhood."

www.chssd.org/foundation

Board of Directors

At the statewide annual meeting for Children's Home Society and Children's Home Foundation, the following were elected officers and board members for 2014–2015.

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY 2014–2015

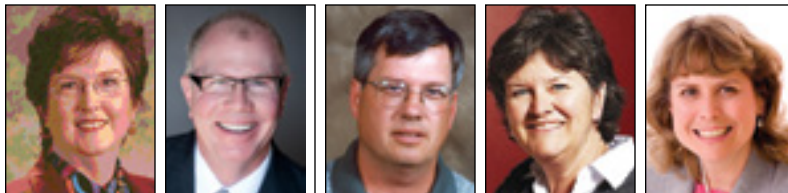


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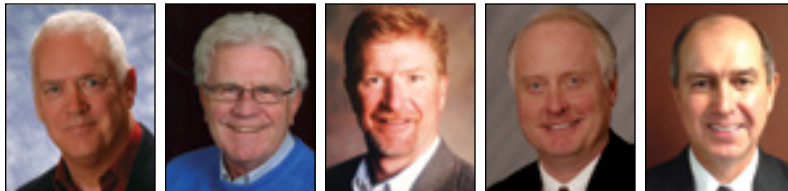
Sally Anderson
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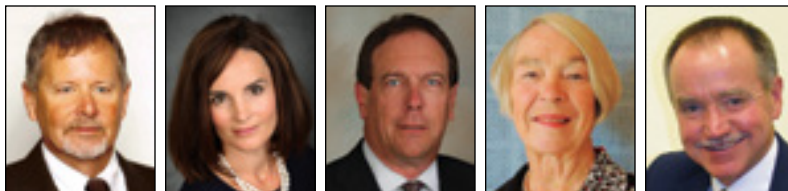
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Brandon



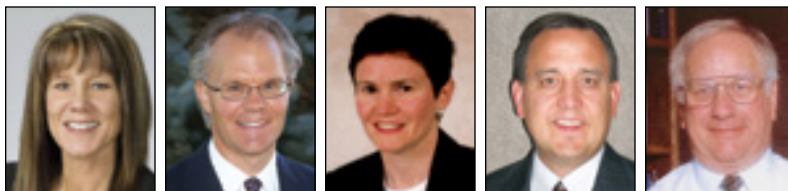
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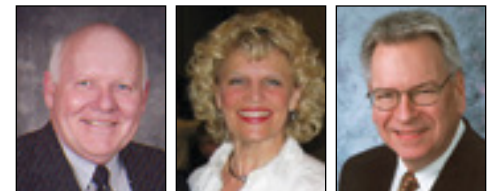


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DIRECTORS EMERITUS

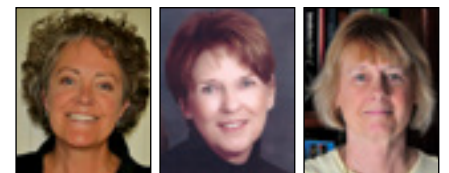
Have served six or more years as a CHS Board Member, and have served six or more years as a CHF Board Member, and have served as President of either Board.

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*Current board member

WITH OUR THANKS...

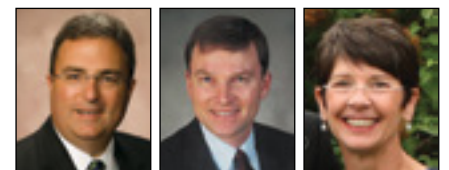
We recognize and thank our outgoing board members for their dedicated and committed service to the CHS mission!



Jana Bastian
Belle Fourche

Jan Brewer
Rapid City

Monica Burgess
Rapid City



Robert Foubert
Aberdeen

Rob Mudge
Rapid City

Maureen Suga
Sioux Falls

Guardians of the Children

GUARDIANS OF THE CHILDREN is a legacy program established to recognize and honor those people whose vision, philanthropy, and love of children has been demonstrated by a planned gift to Children's Home Foundation.

Funds from the Foundation support services of Children's Home Society at Black Hills Children's Home, Sioux Falls Children's Home, Children's Inn, Bright Start, Child's Voice, Child Advocacy Center of the Black Hills, and Foster Care and Adoption programs.

Longtime friends **Joe and Jennifer Kirby** join over 125 other friends who are recognized as Guardians of the Children, having made provisions for CHS in their estates. In addition to sharing their financial resources, Joe and Jennifer continue to advocate for CHS. Jennifer serves on the Children's Home Foundation Board and, together, they are encouraging others to support the current Legacy of Love & Hope endowment campaign. The Kirbys share why helping Children's Home Society will be part of their legacy...

"We believe in the mission of CHS and have chosen to include the organization in our estates. We have seen firsthand the importance of meeting children's needs.

"Ten years ago, we decided to adopt another girl to live with us and our 9-year old daughter. We went through a long application process to join the Foster-Adopt program. Because we were looking for an older child, there were many potential candidates available. We looked through thick books full of pictures and biographies. After a couple false starts, we almost gave up. But then we got a call from our case worker asking if we would consider taking

two good kids who were biological sisters. They had been taken away from their mother a couple years earlier and had been in the foster care system since then. We said yes, and soon had a house full of girls.

"Today our girls are 20, 21 and 22 years old and each is on her way with a unique journey. So many children are living in unfortunate situations. CHS provides a necessary public service that we wholeheartedly support."

The first bequests to Children's Home Society came in the late 1800s, and the impact of these gifts cannot be overstated. During the Depression and other

turbulent times, these estate gifts helped keep the doors of the orphanage open. In recent years, estate gifts filled the gaps in funding as a result of economic downturns and ensuing decreases in government funding.

The future will likely be no different. Legacy gifts will be critical to insure CHS can expand its prevention efforts while continuing to care for the children and families through its existing programs.

Joe and Jennifer—we thank you for your willingness to share your time, talent, and treasure!



Joe and Jennifer Kirby

Endowment Goal Set at \$10 Million

September marked the official launch of the **Legacy of Love & Hope Campaign** with kick-off events in Sioux Falls and Rapid City. Children's Home Foundation's (CHF) goal is to raise an additional \$10 million for the endowment toward the long-term strategy of having an endowment fund that can support 25% of the Children's Home Society's operating budget (through a 5% annual distribution from endowment investments).

The launch event featured Hollie Strand, CHS Education and Public Awareness Specialist, who spoke about the new CHS Prevention Initiative. "It will provide much needed training and education, and could have a profound impact toward recognizing and reducing child abuse," she said.

The CHS endowment funds are used for services provided at Sioux Falls Children's Home, Black Hills Children's Home, Children's Inn, Bright Start, Child's Voice, Child Advocacy Center of the Black Hills, and Foster Care and Adoption programs.

CHALLENGE DONORS:

Anonymous Donor (for General Endowment)	\$1,000,000
Anonymous Donor (for Prevention Initiative)	\$500,000
Anonymous Donor (for General Endowment)	\$250,000
Rushmore Rotary Club of Rapid City (for Child Advocacy Center of the Black Hills)	\$250,000
Dr. Loren & Mavis Amundson (for Children's Inn)	\$200,000

GOAL: \$5 Million
in Challenge Gifts

GOAL: Raise \$5 Million
To Earn Challenge Gifts

CHALLENGE TO-DATE: \$2.2 Million

GIFTS & PLEDGES TO-DATE: \$1.1 Million

Thanks to many CHS friends, a total of \$3.3 million in gifts and pledges have been received toward the \$10 million goal.

Legacy of Love & Hope

CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

Honorary Chair:

Linda Mickelson Graham

Campaign Chairpersons:

Miles & Lisa Beacom, Sioux Falls
Robert & Erin Fouberg, Aberdeen
Rob & Debbie Mudge, Rapid City

*A
New Book
for
2014...*

*Celebrate
Christmas
Memories.*

*100%
Goes to Help
Kids at
CHS!*



***Celebrate Christmas memories of the farm with
this latest story by South Dakota author, Tom Roberts!***

Inspired by his own experience as a farm boy, Tom takes the reader on a sentimental journey to a time and place that so many still consider home. Like a family scrapbook, this tale warms the heart as it touches upon all the senses with vivid description and imagery that is beautifully depicted by father and son illustrators, Jim and Zack Brummond. A great gift for anyone with a rural heritage!



***A great thank you gift for
clients, employees or friends!***

Discounts are available for bulk sales of 25 or more books. Call to purchase your copies:

Tammy Roberts (605) 965-3183

Visit our website for a complete list of book signings, story-telling events, retailers, or to purchase a copy of ***Return to the Farm – A Christmas Journey*** or one of Tom's other books (***Santa's Prayer***, ***The Little Lost Sock*** or ***The Home Collection*** CD):

www.chssd.org/books

100% of book sales support the programs and services that CHS provides to over 2,000 children each year!

BHCH = Black Hills Children's Home
SFCH = Sioux Falls Children's Home

"Give us this day

Since 1893, grassroots support for Children's Home Society has been the constant supply for



Rosewood Miracle Home to Benefit CHS

ROSEWOOD HOMES of Sioux Falls has selected CHS as the 2015 recipient for their project, "Building Miracles for Kids."



Building Miracles for Kids is a nonprofit organization established to "help the most important people in our community and future, the children," according to Larry and Rachael Weissenburger, the owners of Rosewood Homes.

"A Miracle Home gives our entire community the opportunity to participate in something that touches many lives," they explained.

The home is constructed with partnerships and donations from the local building industry and community sponsorships. Proceeds from the sale of the home are donated to a local nonprofit organization that is selected each year to help care for the needs of local children.

Thank you to Rosewood Homes for "making miracles happen." The future looks brighter for many more children at CHS because of your generosity!

Prairie Club Hosts Inaugural Golf Event; Annual Poker Runs Benefit CHS

CHS became the designated charity of a new golf event with the addition of the **PS TECHNOLOGY DAKOTAS TOUR PRO AM** at **THE PRAIRIE CLUB**, located south of Valentine, NE. Jason Walsh, Travis Steever, Jeremy Lynde and Joe Vanderbeke beat out their Team Cholla brothers to take top amateur honors, while Tim Ailes of Lewis Center, Ohio, captured first among the professionals.

In addition to receiving a check for \$4,000, CHS shared information about its new Prevention Initiative with 38 tour professionals and 124 amateur players. While most of the people served by CHS are from South Dakota, it also serves children and families from neighboring states.

Special thanks goes to Ted Osuniga of PS Technology for sponsoring the event and to Kyle Schock and the staff at The Prairie Club for organizing and hosting the two-day tournament August 5-6. Next year, plans are under way to add a second 18 hole course and double the field of participants. Visit www.theprairieclub.com to register in 2015!

The inaugural **KIEFFER SANITATION TRASH CAN OPEN** golf event took place on September 17 at Red Rock Golf Club. Proceeds of approximately \$7,500 will support the Child Advocacy Center of the Black Hills and will be matched by a



Nikki Rasmussen, Pat Larson and Korrie Robbins presented school supplies to CHS on behalf of First Dakota National Bank employees.

Bank Delivers Packs for Back-to-School

FIRST DAKOTA NATIONAL BANK of Sioux Falls cruised to CHS in a van loaded with school supplies on August 18—appropriately it was also the first day of the school year here!

This is the second year the Pride Group at First Dakota has sponsored "Pack For Back To School," a month-long drive encouraging bank customers and employees to donate school supplies.

"If you're not a friend before you take a tour of CHS, you certainly become one after you see this place and what they do..." said Pat Larson.

challenge donor! This generous company will also continue their Christmas tradition of helping Santa provide a bike and helmet to each child living at Black Hills Children's Home.

Annual poker run benefits continue to be a tradition for three organizations sponsoring fundraisers for CHS:

The Spearfish community and area bikers roared into action on Father's Day for a tour of the Black Hills and a community block party during the annual **DAKOTA V-TWIN RHEA TREVINO MEMORIAL POKER RUN** to benefit CHS. Nick Cramer, owner of Dakota V-Twin and one of the main organizers, said the poker run, which raised \$2,400, is held each year to honor the late Rhea Trevino, who Cramer said, "always wanted to help out children's organizations."

"THOSE GUYS ABATE" POKER RUN was held on July 20. Thanks to event planner Dave Brende and the loyal riders who raised \$8,000. A highlight was a "stop" along their route at SFCH so the kids could check out the cycles.

Despite the rainy day, 100 riders showed up in support of CHS kids for the **BORROWED BUCKS ROADHOUSE POKER RUN** on July 26. Special thanks to Kirk Keupp, who organized the event and presented a \$3,000 check to CHS.

our daily bread.”

Matthew 6:11

“our daily bread.” We are so grateful to friends who find special ways to support the CHS mission.

Jon Crane CHS Benefit Auction Features Regional Artists

The **8TH ANNUAL JON CRANE CHILDREN’S HOME SOCIETY BENEFIT AUCTION** in Rapid City featured works from renowned regional artists, and raised a record-breaking \$44,924 for the CHS Prevention Initiative.

A highlight at the October 10 event included photography of children’s art creations with the Dream Teams on display near the artists’ originals. Eight artists volunteered as Dream Team mentors and worked with small groups of kids from Black Hills Children’s Home to teach, encourage and guide the children in creating their own art. Art can give our children a healthy, positive outlet to deal with their emotions and past trauma while they heal.

A special thanks to this year’s Dream Team mentors: JK Dooley, Mike Wolforth, Linda Swan, Sonja Taylor, Kristi Goodell, Jerry Green, Shawn DeGroot, and Sandra Newman.



Ryleigh’s prize-winning exhibit.

Ryleigh Beers: A Grand Champion for Children!

RYLEIGH BEERS had never heard of Children’s Home Society before she began planning her 4-H Youth Leadership exhibit for the fair. A Google search that led to a phone call at CHS quickly changed that.

The 16-year-old from Luverne, Minn., was researching ideas for her 4-H project that is designed to teach youth how to build relationships, develop communication techniques, and strengthen organizational skills. The fair handbook description for Youth Leadership reads: *In this project, find the leader within you and make a positive impact in your club, home, school or community.*

“I thought that maybe I could do something for a homeless shelter, an animal shelter, or cancer patients...but none of those seemed right,” Ryleigh said. “I Googled random things until CHS came up as a top result. I looked around on the website, and knew instantly that I wanted to do something for the kids.”

Her next step was to contact Lisa Compton at the Foundation office to learn about specific items needed at CHS. “Lisa suggested art supplies, because they are used so frequently,” said Ryleigh. “I loved the idea and went with it.”

She distributed flyers, presented her project at her church, FFA chapter, and local businesses, and set out a collection box at the local library to collect the donations. She purchased even more art supplies through the generosity of individual and business contributions. Ryleigh and her mom, Jane, delivered 10 boxes of art and school supplies valued over \$600 to SFCH.

In addition, she earned Grand Champion award at the Rock County Fair, and the project advanced to the Minnesota State Fair where it earned another purple ribbon.

Ryleigh, you are a Grand Champion at CHS, too! Thank you for your gift of service and leadership.



Ryleigh delivered 10 boxes of art and school supplies to SFCH art teacher, Lisa Compton.



The BEST day to remember... forever!

The children living on the Black Hills Children's Home (BHCH) campus attend school year around, so they would typically be in class on a warm, summer Wednesday morning. However, August 20 was a VERY exciting day for the children living at BHCH and kids cared for by Therapeutic Foster Families associated with CHS. For the third year in a row, the **BLACK HILLS STOCK SHOW FOUNDATION** and **CARNIVAL AMERICANA** sponsored an outing to the Central States Fair.

The excitement began with a private presentation and feeding at the tiger exhibit as well as getting to witness how much the elephants enjoy their baths (or shall we say power washing!) Then the children, staff and families were off to experience all the carnival rides their tummies could take for two hours — the Sky Master, Drop Tower, Cliff Hanger, Tornado, Bumper Cars or Dizzy Dragons! Amazingly, each child also won a giant stuffed animal at the carnival game booth. For most of the kids, this is the opportunity of a lifetime. The fair opens early **exclusively for them**, so there is no

waiting in line or having to choose just one or two carnival rides! For some kids, it is their first trip to a fair or carnival.

Lynn Husman, President of the BH Stock Show Foundation Board, says, "Our organization strongly believes in the programs offered by Children's Home Society. The Board Members think kids should get to have some fun, so it is our pleasure to host this outing. Hopefully, these children can forget about their past for a few hours and come away with some joyful memories."

The BH Stock Show Foundation has been a long-time friend of CHS. In addition to this project, they also treat groups of children to "good behavior reward outings" such as grandstand entertainment at the Central States Fair and rodeo events during the Black Hills Stock Show.

This organization is also a sponsor for the new book written by Tom Roberts, **Return to the Farm, a Christmas Journey**, with 100% of the sales proceeds benefiting CHS. In the words of one of our 11-year-olds: "Thank you BH Stock Show Foundation for giving us the BEST day to remember... forever!"

'Touchdowns for Ty' Scores Big for CHS

JAMES TERRY had two goals. He wanted to honor the memory of 2-year-old Tyrese Ruffin and help raise awareness for child abuse and neglect. Together with the **STORM**, he found a way to do both and kicked off a new fundraiser named for Tyrese: **Touchdowns for Ty**.

Terry, who plays wide receiver for the SF Storm, is in his 9th season with the team. He found numerous donors and sponsors to pledge money for every touchdown he scored. Megan Lickteig organized and ran a volunteer staff who sold "TD's for Ty" t-shirts, bracelets, and miniature footballs. At the season opener alone, they raised \$1,700 for CHS!

The Storm won their 8th title in 10 years by defeating the Nebraska Danger 63-46 in the final game on June 28. We shared in their victorious season as \$6,500 was raised for CHS! Thank you to the Sioux Falls Storm, James Terry, and to Megan and all the volunteers!



BACK ROW: Nick Lickteig, James Terry, Chris Dixon, Donovan Dixon. **FRONT ROW:** Katie West, Nadine Doogan, Megan Lickteig.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2014-2015

Pick your favorite,
and enjoy supporting CHS!

CHILDREN'S INN

GIFT WRAPPING BOOTH

November 28–December 24

The Empire Mall, Sioux Falls

Contact: Staci Kropuenske (605) 338-0116

KORY and the THE FIREFLIES NEW YEAR'S EVE CHAMPAGNE BALL

Benefit for CHS, Sioux Falls

Wed., December 31

Icon Lounge, Sioux Falls

Tickets available online:

koryandthefireflies.com

26th ANNUAL MEDIA ONE FUN SKI Benefit for Children's Inn, Sioux Falls

Fri.–Sat., January 23–24, 2015

Great Bear Ski Resort, Brandon

Contact: Staci Kropuenske (605) 338-0116

www.funski.org

GALA AT MOUNT RUSHMORE

Benefit for BHCH, Rapid City

Sat., March 21, 2015

Contact: Ella Shafer (605) 343-2811

or ella.shafer@chssd.org

Feeding the 5,000 and Raising Lazarus

Sunday School came to life—along with Lazarus—when SFCH children reenacted two Bible stories this summer.

On June 29, under the direction of Glenn Fiechtner, the kids went outdoors to our hillside to perform the parable of Jesus feeding the 5000. The kids, who were dressed in shepherd's costumes, sat on blankets in the grass and ate the bread and fishes as portrayed in Matthew 14:13-21.

When they were finished eating, the remaining food was collected into 12 baskets.

Lazarus was raised from the dead on September 14 as the Sunday School kids again role-played a story from John 11:1-44. The performance featured a tomb created out of a table, cloth and wooden stone.

The kids enjoyed displaying their acting ability during these special Sunday School programs. Thank you to a special donor for providing our costumes.

CHS is able to provide spiritual guidance for SFCH kids under the direction of Glenn, Jackie and Emily, who volunteer on Sundays to lead and teach our children.

CHS is proud of its Christian heritage and, as a private nonprofit agency, we are able to integrate Christian principles into the structure of the day.



Above: A student carries The Loaves and The Fishes to the hillside to "feed the 5,000."



Glenn Fiechtner led SFCH children in their reenactment of Jesus feeding the 5,000 (Matthew 14:13-21) and raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44).

Hot Weather, Cold Ice Cream Makes for a Fun Day!



A water slide, jumping inflatable games, sunny 82 degree weather, and ice cream treats all combined to make Fun Day on July 23 even more fun than usual at SFCH. The grounds were filled with laughter and energy as kids challenged SFCH staff to take a turn on the rotating arm of the jumping inflatable!

HY-VEE OF SIOUX FALLS treated the kids and staff to a lunch menu of BBQ pork sandwiches, carrots/celery, chips, cookies.

Thanks to our Fun Day sponsors, **GENE AND BRIGITTE UHER** and **BELL STATE BANK & TRUST**, for making this day come true!

We hope you enjoy receiving **The Children's Friend** newsletter. It is our way to keep you informed about CHS news, and about the work we are doing with children and families.

We also hope that you will consider making a gift to support our mission. As long as the kids continue to come, we will continue to ask for your help.

Can you please send a gift today?

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Gift of \$ _____ enclosed

PLEASE USE MY GIFT:

____ Where Needed Most

____ For General Endowment

____ For Prevention Initiative Endowment



CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY

To give online:
www.chssd.org/foundation

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Champagne Ball

TICKETS ON SALE AT koryandthefireflies.com

TO BENEFIT CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY AND INCLUDE:
Kory and the Fireflies Concert, Live DJ, Heavy Appetizers,
Champagne at Midnight, Party Favors, Photo Booth, Chance to
Win a Custom Guitar designed by Kory, PLUS lots of Dancing,
Mingling and New Year's Eve Fun!

WIN ME



SUBARU
OF SIOUX FALLS
888-285-0512

5 CAR GIVEAWAY

**Purchase a ticket for your chance to
WIN 1 of 5 2014 Subaru BRZs!**

Ticket sale proceeds will benefit Children's Home Society.

You can purchase tickets at 4 Sioux Falls Locations:
Subaru of Sioux Falls, The Empire Mall, Sioux Falls Morning
Optimist and Children's Home Society.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Pat.Rasmussen@chssd.org - or - Phone 605.965.3114

**Tickets cost \$100 Each. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold
from October 14 through December 24.**

All 5 cars will be given away! Need not be present to win.

THE EMPIRE MALL
A SIMON MALL



SUBARU
Confidence in Motion

SIOUX FALLS MORNING
OPTIMIST CLUB



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

IF THE 2,500 TICKETS ARE NOT ALL SOLD BY DECEMBER 24th WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EXTEND THE PROMOTION AN ADDITIONAL 90 DAYS,
REGARDLESS OF TICKET SALES. ALL 5 CARS WILL BE GIVEN AWAY ON MARCH 24th 2015.

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF SOUTH DAKOTA provides services for children through residential treatment, education, emergency shelter, foster care & adoption services, forensic interview & examination centers, and prevention services. The majority of these children are victims of severe abuse or neglect.

- Accredited by the Joint Commission
- Certified by South Dakota Department of Education
- Licensed by South Dakota Department of Social Services
- CHS services are provided regardless of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

SERVICES ARE PROVIDED AT:

Children's Inn Sioux Falls
Child Advocacy Center of the Black Hills ... Rapid City
Child's Voice Sioux Falls
Black Hills Children's Home Rapid City
Sioux Falls Children's Home Sioux Falls
Messengers Children's Center Rapid City

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To protect the privacy of the children and families we serve, it is our practice (unless otherwise noted) to use names and photos that represent our stories, but respect confidentiality.