

Northern Black Hills Association of REALTORS®

REALTORS® for Kids

Annual Benefit Auction to be Spring Highlight

Special points of interest:

- RFK selected to be benefactor for the Black Hills Choppers "Ride for the Children" Poker Run this summer
- New RFK Website site provides Referral Request form and more
- "Tee it Up for the Kids" Golf Outing and Social to move to September in 2007
- Board of Directors working on preparing an Operating Manual
- RFK Auction Committee prepares for April 13th Auction at the Deadwood Gulch Convention Center

The 2007 REALTORS for Kids Annual Benefit Auction will offer some great items again this year. Auction Committee Co-Chairpersons, Kari Engen and Brandy Purcell and their team of volunteers have collected over 150 items to be available for this year's Auction. The combination of live and silent auction items will include artwork, dinner and getaway packages, collector's items, concert tickets, outdoor furniture and much more.

As has been the case in the past, our own Auctioneers will be calling the event. Their dedication to help raise funds for the children of our communities is truly appreciated. This year, they have selected 5 items to be designated as key items. The highest bidder on the selected items will receive a

chance to be the recipient of a beautiful framed Jon Crane print of the Alpine Inn.

2007's Auction will also feature an opportunity to "lease" the RFK Bear for display in your office. The RFK Bear has been on the road for almost 2 years, making appearances in Real Estate offices and Affiliate offices throughout the area. It even traveled to Pierre last year. One month's lease is only \$50, so bring your business card and toss it in for a turn.

Did you buy your raffle tickets for the Hawaii trip? There were a few left as of this writing. We'll be drawing the winning ticket that night ... it might just be YOU.

This year's event will be held on Friday, April 13th, beginning at 6:00 pm with a social hour and



RFK 2006 Benefit Auction raised over \$26,000 for the children of the Northern Black Hills

finger food. The live Auction will begin at 7:00.

The REALTORS for Kids Board of Directors would like to thank each of you that committed your time, effort and heart to making this event possible. To those of you that contributed items to be auctioned and those that will be bidding on items at the auction, a great big thank you for your support.

RealtorsForKids.org

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REALTORS for Kids is on the web. In mid-March, the RFK website went live. In order to provide more information and easier access for the public, we embarked on a project to develop a website for the

REALTORS for Kids organization. With the help of Northern Hills Technology's Web Designer, Karen Chau, a website was created that offers access to things like the Referral Request Form, newsletters, financial info, our mission and much more.

With the use of bright colors and unique font styles, the site captures what RFK is all about ... the kids.

The site also contains information regarding upcoming events, news stories, information for volunteers and supporters and a special section dedicated to thank you notes from those that have been touched by RFK.

Check it out at:

RealtorsForKids.org



Our commitment to our communities in the Northern Black Hills starts with our commitment to the children. The opportunities afforded them is our responsibility. Each and everyone of us has the responsibility to spread the message that the REALTORS® for Kids fund is available for those children in need of financial assistance.

RFK Board of Directors

Denny McKay - President
 Rich Krogstad - Vice President
 Dixie Olson - Secretary
 Bill Bomberg - Treasurer
 Kari Engen - Director
 Alexa Elwood - Director
 Brandy Purcell - Director

RFK Committees

Referral Request Committee
 Chair - Dixie Olson

Public Relations Committee
 Chair - Denny McKay

Auction Committee Co-Chairs -
 Kari Engen & Brandy Purcell

Administrative Committee
 Chair - Bill Bomberg

Who We Assist

Last year was an amazing year ... we were able to see first hand the impact of our continuing support of children and their families in our communities. Our support went to help pay for expensive travel to medical specialists in Rochester, Omaha and Denver for special diagnosis and treatment. Funding also went out to assist with preschool expenses for some children where there was a financial need.

We provided funds for more than 20 children that had specific medical needs, we assisted over 20 other children that participated in preschool and after school pro-

grams, and we were there to help several children that school counselors identified as needing the staples, clothes, shoes, coats, etc.

REALTORS for Kids funding also touches our community's children through other organizations, for example, in December, we provided funds for the Northern Hills CASA organization to use for the purchase of gifts for 22 children in their program that have been placed in residential facilities. These children have been abused and abandoned by their families, These children found a glimmer of hope when

the CASA volunteer arrived with an armful of gifts and a big hug just for them.

It's not always the big things that make the difference, sometimes it is as simple as providing some funds so that a shy young child can ride a bus to and from school. That daily bus trip resulted in a whole new outlook for that child because the senior citizens that also rode that bus befriended him.

Or how about the child that was removed from their home, placed in a foster home and wasn't able to take their clarinet with them. A few dollars in support brought a huge smile to her face.

I want to be a part of RFK

Often, we hear from you that you want to be part of the RFK organization, but you are not sure how to become involved. Well, let me assure you, RFK wants you to be involved. There are many opportunities for Realtors and Affiliate members to be active volunteers for the organization. As you are

aware, RFK is a charitable organization administered by a volunteer board of seven members. The organization is comprised of four committees that serve as the engine for the organization. The Referral Request Committee which reviews, evaluates and processes the funding requests; the Public Relations Committee which

handles the communications to the members and public: the Auction Committee which plans and organizes the Annual Benefit Auction; and the Administrative Committee which provides the basic accounting and administrative services for the corporation. Contact any of the RFK board members to volunteer.

What We've Heard



REALTORS® for Kids, Inc.
 It's all about
 HEART

Recently, we provided funds for a child in the Lead Deadwood Middle School that needed funds for a physical. A school counselor sent us this note of thanks:

Dear REALTORS for Kids,

Thank you for your support of our area youth. We are so fortunate to have such a caring group of people behind us.

LDMS Counselor

Earlier this year we assisted a child that was in need of a special light that to help combat depression that sets in during the winter months. We received this note from the family:

Hi,

I wanted to say thank you for helping us get a therapy light. It seems to be having a positive effect. I wake up my son @ 5:30 and make him tea & he reads or does homework. Or I sit behind him and we talk, it has been good that way too.

Also, thank you for the Christmas gifts, they really needed new socks and the jeans were a nice surprise. My daughter says the jeans are the "perfect fit".

Thanks again!

Finally this note arrived from the mother of a child that needed some funds to register for a summer baseball program:

Dear Realtors for kids,

I am writing this letter to thank you for providing funding so that my son can participate in baseball this summer. Without your generous support he never would have been able to participate. Thank you sooooo much. When he found out that you funded him the smile on his face was priceless. Thank You all so much. God bless you all.

Thank You