

Northern Black Hills Association of REALTORS®

REALTORS® for Kids

2006 Year in Review

Special points of interest:

- Bicycle Auction in Sturgis nets funds for RFK
- RFK T-Shirts are still available
- Sturgis Chili Feed brings in donations
- RFK Board is learning about new fundraising programs
- RFK logo has been graphically enriched.
- RFK Benefit Auction April 13th, 2007 at Deadwood Gulch Resort

What a year 2006 was for the REALTORS® for Kids organization. It all began in early February as we gathered for a night of sharing stories with the children and families that have been impacted by RFK. It turned out to be a wonderful opportunity to introduce the mission and vision of RFK to all of the Association members.

In late April, the 4th Annual RFK Benefit Auction was held at the Deadwood Gulch Resort. Thanks to the awesome efforts of Shelby Cihak, Kari Engen and their team of volunteers, the Auction raised over \$26,000 for the RFK fund.

Several new events this year also provided exciting fundraising opportunities, including BH Choppers "Ride for the Children" Poker

Run held in June and the Sturgis Bike Auction this fall.

With all of the fundraising success that we had this year, the amount of funds available to help children were substantial this year. So we went on a campaign to seek out more children that needed assistance. We also expanded the Board of Directors by two members to provide additional support and direction to the organization.

In 2006, RFK helped over 45 children through individual financial contributions of over \$14,000 and additionally impacted hundreds of children through contributions to Suncatcher's Therapeutic Riding Academy, NH CASA, and community Angel Tree programs to which RFK contributed over



Trevor shortly after surgery (see his story on page 2)

\$11,000 this past year.

REALTORS® for Kids, Inc. is growing ... it's growing in its reach - helping more children, it's growing in its support base - more volunteers are becoming involved each day and it's growing in its impact - providing for better communities by caring for the children.

Catch a ride ... Take a vacation

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Keep your eyes peeled for some great opportunities associated with the 2007 REALTORS® for Kids Benefit Auction. This year we will be offering an opportunity to arrive



at the RFK Benefit Auction in style. You and your guests can win a limo ride to and from the Deadwood Gulch Resort.

Raffle tickets will be on sale during February and March with the winner announced at the April General Meeting.

Have you ever wanted to bask in the sun on Waikiki Beach on the island of Oahu? The RFK Auction Committee has arranged for a 5 day vacation in paradise at the Outrigger Reef on Waikiki Beach.

The trip includes



airfare for 2 and 5 nights hotel. A limit of 300 raffle tickets will be sold at \$25 each. The winning Hawaii Vacation raffle ticket will be drawn at the 2007 RFK Benefit Auction on April 13th. The vacation raffle tickets will be available beginning in January.



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.

Trevor's Story

"We are happy to say that all is well in the Stacey household."

In a recent update from Trevor's mom, Rita, we learned the search for the right treatment for Trevor has finally been found. Rita recounted that on August 19th the family boarded a plane for Pittsburgh, where Trevor would undergo Deep Brain Stimulation surgery. The surgery which involved the Doctors placing two batteries in Trevor's chest and then connecting two wires that are under his skin and provide messages to his brain that tell the brain to be calm and stop the dystonia.

Rita recalled that Trevor experienced severe pain immediately following the surgical procedure but thankfully the pain began to subside after several days. At about the third day after the surgery, Trevor was able to get around by himself and he was starting to be able to hold his head upright on his own.

School started the Wednesday, following surgery and at the open house where he met his teachers and saw his classrooms, everyone stared at Trevor in absolute amazement. You could hear them whisper look at Trevor he can hold his head up.

It seemed like forever for to him to feel "more normal" again but after all the pain and suffering it was worth the wait.

In January, Trevor will be playing basketball for the middle school and that's all he can talk about. He is done with physical and occupational therapy and will only have to go back to the doctor when the batteries need replacing.

For Christmas Eve service, Trevor was the candle lighter and as the choir sang Silent Night, Rita finally felt a sense of relief and peace knowing that life as they know it now can carry on.

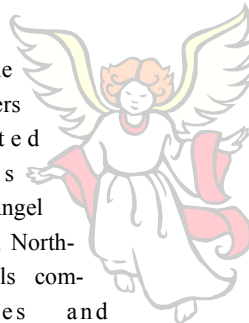


REALTORS® for Kids donated \$2500 to the Northern Hills CASA program to assist 22 children placed in residence facilities during the holidays.

Many children throughout the Northern Hills received a little something from extra during the holiday season. Volunteers from Sturgis, Belle Fourche, Newell, Lead/Deadwood and Spearfish were on a mission to spread some Christmas cheer in homes throughout the Northern Hills.

Angels Everywhere

This year the volunteers selected names from Angel Trees in Northern Hills communities and



worked with social work agencies to provide gifts for over 200 children.

Special thanks go out to those that volunteered their time to gather the names and shop for the gifts that made the Christmas holiday better for so many.



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

What we've Heard

A letter that one of our Holiday gifting volunteers received from a grateful Grandmother:

I just wanted to thank the Board for the Christmas gifts you gave to my baby grandchildren this year. My granddaughter loved the doll and her outfits and my grandson LOVES his lego blocks; the clothes I love, they really needed them.

I know that sometimes people

wonder if their donations and help have really been put to good use or gone to a worthy place. Well, this year, you helped my grandbabies for Christmas and they really needed it. I've had a previous stroke and the last thing I ever expected, was to end up raising my grandchildren—especially, such little ones!! But, the good Lord has his reasons for everything—so here I am, living on disability

and raising babies, (no child support). This all boils down to "little or no Christmas", but thanks to the Board, my grandbabies had a really great Christmas and they've got some really nice clothes to keep them warm. Thank you again for giving them the "magic of Christmas" at our home.

Sincerely,