

THE EXCHANGE

*Published for parents, family members, and guardians
of individuals served by Black Hills Workshop*

September/October 2011

Speak out for Medicaid

The Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction (a.k.a. the “Super Committee”) has been charged with cutting \$1.2 to \$1.5 trillion from the deficit over 10 years and must propose specific federal spending cuts by November 23. Entitlements, especially Medicaid, and other disability discretionary spending are marked with targets for the Super Committee to slash. Following the November 23 proposal, Congress must take a vote by December 23 on whether to implement the Super Committee’s recommendations.

It is up to us to show that Medicaid is not just a number on a ledger to be slashed, but is an essential part of the lives of people in every community across America. We must challenge our elected leaders to respond not to the “prize” of billions cut from a budget, but to the human stories we know all too well.

How? Send a letter to Senators Johnson and Thune and Representative Noem (addresses below) telling how Medicaid makes a difference in the lives of your loved one. Members of Congress need to know what cuts would mean to real people with disabilities and their access to services. They need to know that Medicaid is a lifeline for millions of individuals with disabilities, and cuts would result in less jobs and spending in our state.

Medicaid funds make possible vital, life-transforming supports and services to people with disabilities. Cutting these funds will have devastating effects on individuals with disabilities, their families, and our local economy. We need your help to save them.

Senator Tim Johnson, SH-136 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator John Thune, SR-493 Russell Senate Building,
Washington, DC 20510

Congresswoman Kristi Noem, 226 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515-4101

Threads!

Annual Suzie Cappa Show at the Dahl starts

The Suzie Cappa Center will have its annual show at the Dahl Arts Center from November 15 through the end of January. There will be an artist’s reception November 18 from 4-6 p.m. The show, titled *Threads* will feature fabric art.

Bowling begins

Special Olympics bowling begins October 13 and will run through February 23. Once again, we will have THREE sessions, all on Thursdays: 10:30 a.m. at Robbinsdale, 3:30 p.m. at Robbinsdale, or 3:30 p.m. at Meadowood. There will be no bowling on Thanksgiving or on December 22. Cost for Meadowood Bowlers is \$53.80 and for Robbinsdale Bowlers is \$48.40. This covers all 18 weeks of bowling, as well as costs for the bowling banquet, which will be held on Tuesday March 6. If you have any questions, call Joe Burmeister at 593-1144.

Workshop teams win at state



The State Special Olympics softball tourney was in Brookings on September 17-18. The Workshop teams had a great showing again this year. The Wildcats slow pitch team split their games and went 2-2 for the silver medal. The Cougars tee-ball team won all 5 of their games and claimed the gold medal. A big thanks goes out to all the team members and volunteers for taking the trip across the state!!

The Exchange is published bimonthly by the Black Hills Workshop for parents, family members, and guardians of the individuals we serve. Comments and questions are encouraged and may be addressed to Dorothy Rosby, Editor, Black Hills Workshop, Box 2104, Rapid City, SD 57709; call (605) 718-6205; or email drosby@bhws.com. We also appreciate your keeping us up to date on your address changes, corrections, or duplicate mailings.

Gala tickets on sale

Jorgia Steenberg, Heather Therkildsen, Mike Turner, and Nancy Weiss will be honored with Outstanding Achievement Awards at the Gala Saturday, November 5 at the Civic Center. **Ken Tritsch**, former contracting officer at Ellsworth Air Force Base, and optometrist **Dr. Bill Holec** will also be honored. Tickets are \$70 and can be purchased by calling Brian Munsell at 605-718-6207! Thanks to Black Hills Corporation for sponsoring this year's "Black and Light Gala."



If you would prefer to receive the Exchange via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to drosby@bhws.com. Your information will not be shared with other organizations.

Black Hills Workshop Haunted House October 28 & 29 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Admission is one can of food which will be donated to the food bank.

