

# TRANSITIONS

*Black Hills Workshop & Training Center*

P.O. Box 2104, Rapid City, SD 57709

## Homes from the Heart

As we continue our capital campaign to build/buy five homes in order to reduce our waiting list, we are fortunate to have many friends who understand the need people with disabilities have for a safe, affordable, and accessible place to live.

Suzy and Rich Gabrielson and Suzy's parents Chuck and Barbara Lien have shown their support of the campaign by making a substantial gift. Suzy and Rich's son Jake has received services from Black Hills Workshop since 2005. Suzy says, "Given the right environment, anyone can achieve greatness." With support from our compassionate and creative staff, greatness can be achieved for each of the people we serve. But a safe and accessible home in which to live, learn, and assume new responsibilities is essential.

This major gift from the Gabrielsons and Liens is a great beginning on the journey to build or buy five homes. Each home will be shared by five individuals who will begin new lives of increased independence and growth. You can help by contacting Dennis Popp at (605) 718-7466 or mailing your contribution to Dennis at Black Hills Workshop, PO Box 2104, Rapid City, SD 57709.

## A Parents and Grandparent's view of Homes from the Heart

Our most important consideration for Jake has always been for him to feel like he belongs, is accepted, and adds tremendous value to the family and community. The Homes for the Heart campaign builds on the foundation of my parents, my husband Rich and me by offering love, security, and safety to those with disabilities.

Jake has participated in Black Hills Workshop since he graduated from Stevens High School in 2005. Their team is compassionate, listens, and always finds creative ways for Jake to learn, grow, and experience independence. Given the right environment, anyone can achieve greatness. That's why my family truly supports Homes from the Heart.

*Suzy and Rich Gabrielson, Chuck and Barbara Lien*



*Chuck and Barbara Lien, Suzy and Rich Gabrielson, Jake Lien front.*

## Thank a DSP!

ANCOR announces its second annual Direct Support Professional Recognition Week September 13-19, 2009. ANCOR, the American Network of Community Options and Resources, is a nonprofit trade association representing and advocating on behalf of the more than 800 private providers of services and supports for nearly 500,000 Americans with disabilities. Black Hills Workshop is one of these providers. Together the group employs over 400,000 direct support staff in 49 states and Washington, D.C. Direct Support Professional Recognition Week honors these employees and the tremendous difference they make each day in the lives of millions of Americans with disabilities.

### *Meet some of our wonderful Direct Support Professionals:*



**Heather Winter** is a community living instructor at Quincy Apartments. "I have many duties. I am a teacher, caregiver, financial advisor, cook,

cleaner, taxi driver and problem solver. I have been with the Black Hills Workshop going on 10 years. In that time I have had many job titles: associate instructor, home manager, service coordinator and now community living instructor. Over the years I have enjoyed watching people grow. I enjoy seeing their faces when they reach their goal or try something new for the first time. The people are the main reason I continue to do what I do.

**Amy Jobgen** is a pre-vocational instructor at Concourse Enterprises. She is responsible for the assessment and



development of people in vocational and life skills as well as for the production related aspects of the products provided at Concourse.

"I love my job!

Every day is a new day. There are endless opportunities everyday to teach someone something new, and for me to learn something new. Not many jobs can say that. Everyone that I work with is compassionate, understanding, and patient. They're happy to see you everyday and have a true, deep, passion for what they do. This REALLY IS an extended family. Some days I don't know what I would do without them. This is more than a job, it's a life.



**Sandy Huckaby** is a pre-vocational instructor in manufacturing. "When I first took the job with the Workshop, I was thinking of it as a "job" where I

could help people. Not long after that, it occurred to me that I had found a career and that all along these people were helping me. I learned more about compassion, laughter, respect, honesty, and integrity in the first few months here than I had anywhere else in my life. I get to have fun and I make a difference all while hanging out with some of the coolest people in town. I like the fact that I get to teach new things to people. I like the fact that we get out into the community and build relationships between people that have similar interests. That never used to occur and I think it is about time that it did. I like seeing the people we support do things that some people have said that they would never do. It's amazing!

**Become a Fan!**  
**Black Hills Workshop**  
**Foundation**  
**is now on Facebook!**

The Foundation's new Facebook page keeps Facebook users up to date on Workshop events. Become a fan and help introduce the Black Hills Workshop to your Facebook friends.

## *Living Together is an Art*

Presented by artists from  
 the Black Hills Workshop's  
 Suzie Cappa Center  
 for Art Expression and Enjoyment  
 August 12-September 20

**Artist's Reception Friday, August 14, 5-7 p.m.**

Artists from the Black Hills Workshop's Suzie Cappa Center for Art Expression and Enjoyment will show their work at the Dahl Arts Center from August 12-September 20 with an Artist's Reception Friday, August 14 from 5-7. The title of this show, "Living Together is an Art," is a quotation from William Pickens chosen because this year's show is about community and how the people with disabilities who are supported by Black Hills Workshop are an important part of the Rapid City community.

Central to the show are six murals featuring downtown businesses which were created by artists from the center for the 2008 Chamber of Commerce annual meeting. For the show, they expanded on the theme by taking photographs of other people served by the Workshop visiting these businesses in many examples of community participation.

*Congratulations to the following artists whose art will appear in the*

*show:*

### **Mural Artists**

Barbara Patterson – Volunteer  
 Joan Cox – Volunteer  
 Shawn Bifulco  
 Sara Mellegard  
 Lisa Crow  
 Nancy Weiss  
 Connie Whitley  
 Russell Steinback  
 Patty Elliott  
 Mike Leithauser  
 Erica Johnson - Volunteer  
 Heather Winter - Staff  
 Robin Murner - Staff  
 Brad A Winter - Art Instructor

### **Photographers**

Carisa Headid  
 Loren Engesser  
 AJ Nordbye  
 Shawn Stratton  
 Mike Leithauser  
 Michelle Aman-Staff  
 Heather Pickering-Volunteer  
 Brad A. Winter-Instructor



## **Ghost stories**

*More than 35 employees and people supported participated in the six-week Ghost Towns of the Black Hills class hosted by Black Hills Workshop and taught by Bill Swanson pictured here*



# Equestrians excel at more than horsemanship

Twelve equestrians from Black Hills Workshop attended the State Special Olympics Equestrian Event in Huron July 13-14. Sherry Lytle-Brady who accompanied the group said they returned very tired but happy. There were “medals all over the place,” said Sherry.

Sherry said everyone in the group did well, and not just at the event. She said a waitress in Murdo complimented them by saying “this was nicest group I have ever waited on.”

Sherry and the riders were accompanied by volunteers Brian Benson and Leslee Wallis.



*In front is Blaze Johnson riding Z with Linda Smedshammer on the lead. Garret Alickson riding Dakota in the back with Jerry Smedshammer on the lead.*



*Volunteer Leslee Wallis poses with Melvin Herra, a rider, during the State Special Olympics Equestrian Event in Huron July 13-14.*

# Gala Winners selected

Congratulations **Anthony Capra, Brian Essex, Keven Moulton, and Luke Utecht** who have been selected to receive our Outstanding Achievement Awards at our annual Recognition Gala on Saturday, November 7 at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center.

The Gala is our chance to recognize those who have made outstanding progress in our programs as well as businesses and individuals who have supported us. Evelyne Villines will be honored with an Outstanding Advocate Award and Dr. Richard Renka will be honored with our first Medical Support Award.

For ticket information contact JoAnne Schriver at 605-718-6204.



# Check your label!

Send your address changes or corrections to: Sheila Muehlberg, Black Hills Workshop, P.O. Box 2104, Rapid City, SD 57709. Or e-mail your changes to [smuehlberg@bhws.com](mailto:smuehlberg@bhws.com) or call 605-718-6208.

## E-newsletter available

To receive this newsletter via e-mail, contact [drosby@bhws.com](mailto:drosby@bhws.com).

# BH Services honored



American Legion Commander James J. Huls, National Executive Council member Paul Evenson, BH Services Vice President of Operations Marty Krause, and BH Services Commissary Contract Manager John Antar pose at the Annual Department Convention of the South Dakota American Legion in Huron in June. BH Services was honored at the convention by the American Legion National Economics Commission as the 2009 recipient of the American Legion's National Employer of the Year for Hiring the Disabled. They had been nominated and selected to receive the award by the South Dakota American Legion Employment Committee. The nomination was then passed onto the national level where they took top honors again. BH Services will also be recognized at the National Convention of the American Legion in Louisville, Kentucky in August 25.

BLACK HILLS WORKSHOP AND TRAINING CENTER, INC.  
P.O. Box 2104  
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## Golf Classic held July 20

The annual Black Hills Workshop Benefit Golf Classic was held Monday, July 20 at the Meadowbrook Golf Course with dinner following at the Canyon Lake Resort. Thirty-seven four-member teams competed in the Classic with proceeds going toward our Homes from the Heart Capital Campaign. Money is being raised to help purchase or build five homes which will help reduce our waiting list.

Our thanks to the Black Hills Golf Classic Committee:

**Chairman Scott Seifert, Sue McCormick, Julie Anniccharico, Donita Haley, and Aaron and Niki Studer.**

Thanks also to our sponsors:

**Platinum Sponsor: FCE Benefits Administrators**

**Gold Sponsors: Rapid Chevrolet; BH Gold by Coleman**

**Silver Sponsors: Black Hills Corporation; Clayborne, Loos, Strommen, & Sabers LLP; BankWest**

**Bronze Sponsors: LZS Consulting; First Gold Hotel and Gaming; RBC Wealth Management; Rogers & Miller Wealth Consultants at UBS; Toyota of the Black Hills**



*Jeff Barrett tries his hand at the "Happy Gilmore" style putting contest sponsored by Rapid City Rush Hockey.*

Transitions is published bimonthly by the Black Hills Workshop Foundation. The Black Hills Workshop Foundation is dedicated to supporting comprehensive, quality services for people with disabilities. The Foundation is committed to ensuring those services now and in the future. Comments and questions are encouraged and may be addressed to Dorothy Rosby, Editor, Box 2104, Rapid City, SD 57709, or call (605) 343-4550. You can also e-mail [drosby@bhws.com](mailto:drosby@bhws.com). Visit us at our web site at [bhws.com](http://bhws.com).

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## ***In Honor***

### **Michael Braden**

Braden, Ann

### **Jake Lien**

Gabrielson, Suzie & Rich  
Lien, Chuck & Barbara

## ***In Memory***

### **Harriet Blossmo**

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***Jim Morcom (left) and Rick Messer (right), both Senior Vice Presidents with Pioneer Bank, present Black Hills Workshop Development Director Dennis Popp (center) with a check for \$10,000 from the Clarkson Foundation through Pioneer Bank. The gift is designated to assist with the purchase or building costs of five homes for people supported by Black Hills Workshop.***

# BHW wins Corporate Cup Challenge at Vickie Powers Park

Black Hills Workshop and Training Center won the Corporate Cup Challenge during the building of the Vickie Powers Memorial Playground. The award was based on the number of volunteers from participating businesses, as well as the cash donations they brought in and the meals they provided during the building of the park.

Approximately 120 staff and people served by Black Hills Workshop waded through the mud Thursday, June 18 to help. Many worked more than one shift and others helped provide breakfasts, made donations, and provided tools. Van Lindquist who is Chairman of the Parks Advisory Committee and also serves on the Black Hills Workshop Operating Board said, "A lot of people volunteered, but one of the groups I was most proud of was the Black Hills Workshop. Regardless of their ability, they found a way to help, whether it was directing people, welcoming people, or doing actual construction."

The playground is the centerpiece of Vickie Powers Memorial Park, the first city park to be built north of Interstate 90. The park is named for Vickie Powers, a former North Rapid resident who served on the City Council and Planning Commission before her death in 1995.

The prize for the Corporate Cup Challenge is a Corporate Fun Day at the Roosevelt Swim Center and Ice Arena. Plans are still being made, but the day will include a barbecue, games, and full access to both facilities for all Black Hills Workshop staff, people we serve, and their the entire staff and their families.

# BHW participates in Relay for Life

Eleven employees teamed up to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life June 12. They were joined for the walk by several people we support. The team raised \$2,113, making them the 19th highest money raiser out of the 52 teams participating. Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature activity. Teams of people have fun while raising funds to fight cancer and raise awareness of cancer prevention and treatment.



*Pictured right: Jenna Gortmaker, Richard Harrington, Danette Schille, David Tanner, Colleen Allen, Jennifer and Todd Molitor, Diane Flahave-Neu and Eli Lehmann. Also pictured are Kimberly Tollman and Danette Schille's young daughters.*



*Left: Eugene Leroy and Mike Turner take a break from working on the Vickie Powers Memorial Park Playground.*

*Below: Becky Jandahl at works on the playground.*



# Indiana hosts open house

Indiana Home hosted about 50 guests for an open house on Saturday, June 20. Along with refreshments and decorations, there were Mardi Gras beads for everyone. Pictured are Stephanie Wagner and Jill Holien.

