

Spring
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ISSUE 4
VOLUME I



UCP of Nebraska Bridges the Gaps with Expanded Programming

Collaboration with the Children's Respite Care Center made possible by funding from the Enrichment Foundation.

UCP of Nebraska's Bridging the Gaps grant from the Enrichment Foundation will meet gaping holes in programs for older children and young adults with disabilities in Douglas and Sarpy Counties. UCP of NE is collaborating extensively with the Children's Respite Care Center to operate both the Family Focus program and the Tech Tool Lending Library, while UCP of NE will continue to facilitate the Client Assistant Grant on a larger scale. This three-fold project directly addresses the challenges people with a disability and their families face.

Family Focus

Family Focus, will bring families facing similar challenges together and provide an opportunity to draw strength and knowledge, as well as a chance to relax and socialize six times a year. Each event, held at the Children's Respite Care Center, will offer a family meal, speaker or family entertainment, a group activity and child care. Family Focus is offered free of charge to the family.

Tech Tools Lending Library

This library of sophisticated augmentative technology and devices will enable older children and young adults with disabilities to explore the world and become more independent. The Tech Tools Lending Library will be located at the Children's Respite Care Center in Omaha at 2010 N 88th St. (88th & Blondo) The new Tech Tools Lending Library expands on the successful, statewide Tech Tots Lending Library program.

Client Assistance Grants

UCP of NE's Client Assistance Grant Program provides limited grants up to \$1,000 to qualified families and individuals with disabilities to promote independence and encourage empowerment. These grants bridge the gap by helping fund items that may not be covered by other funding sources such as Medicare or Medicaid. These grants help with things such

as purchasing adaptive equipment, removing barriers in the home and providing scholarships for special programs or conferences.

Application forms are available on our website www.ucpnebraska.org or call Anne Brodin 402.502.3572 or 1.800.729.2556

That Internet Still Around?

YES! UCP of NE is now on the web. Check out our website for updated news, events and calendar!

www.ucpnebraska.org

Although UCP of NE serves many people with cerebral palsy, more than 65% of people served by the organization have disabilities other than cerebral palsy. UCP of NE is committed to advancing the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities.

Children's Respite Care Center provides care to medically fragile, developmentally delayed, physically challenged and behaviorally disordered children through comprehensive day services, behavioral health and overnight weekend respite programs. Their website is www.crccomaha.org.

upcoming events

- April 4-5 ARC of Nebraska Conference
- April 15 "Hit the Links" Golf Tournament Committee Meeting
- May 13 "Hit the Links" Golf Tournament Committee Meeting
- May 20 Board of Directors Meeting
- June 10 "Hit the Links" Golf Tournament Committee Meeting

www.ucpnebraska.org

“My hand may shake but my heart does not”
- Stephen Hopkins, who had “palsy” while signing the Declaration of Independence.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Emotional Support

I write this message today with great emotion. I have great joy and hope because its Easter and my son Gabriel turned five on the first day of spring. But I also write with profound sadness and sorrow because one of my dearest friends was diagnosed with cancer and another close friend lost his mother due to complications from the same dreadful disease.

Days like these, where emotions swing so dramatically are rare, but I know many people go through this emotional rollercoaster everyday.

How do they do it? What allows them to say “I’m not defeated; I’ll be back again tomorrow”?



My guess is they are strong individuals leaning on faith, family, friends and community support systems.

UCP of Nebraska strives to be another one of these support systems individuals can lean on.

I encourage you to look at the many ways our existing programs and services offer this kind of community support and see how a new program, in cooperation with the Children’s Respite Center, will be adding to the support systems we already offer.

Blessings,
Kenneth Broman

DID YOU KNOW?

Let’s Go Camping!

Children with illnesses and disabilities wanting to attend their first special needs camp can apply for funding to cover the cost thanks to the Scott Bradford Turner Memorial Fund. Applicants must reside in Lancaster County. For other qualification guidelines and information on the application process, please call the UCP of NE office at 402.502.3572.

Believable Hope

Create real HOPE during the Believable Hope Conference, sponsored by United Cerebral Palsy, June 18-21, 2008, in Washington, D.C.

Members of the Disability Community; Business & Community Leaders; Healthcare Professionals; and Families will join forces with UCP to create Believable Hope today for a life without limits for people with disabilities in the future. For more information, go to: www.ucpnebraska.org.

Adaptive Clothing

Dressing ones self is something most people take for granted, but can be challenging, if not impossible for those with physical disabilities. Fortunately, there are a number of companies specializing in “adaptive clothing” that aim to bypass the restrictive nature of traditional clothing. For a list of companies, go to our website: www.ucpnebraska.org.

Golf Cart? No, Thank You

D. J. Gregory’s parents were told by doctors he would never walk. Now at the age of 30, Gregory is not only walking with the help of a cane, but is planning on walking every PGA Tour event during the 2008 regular season. His blog on the PGA website chronicles not only his daily experiences but also tracks his mileage, beverage intake and falls. Follow D.J.’s journey and blog at www.pgatour.com.

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2008 BARSTOOL OPEN

1,400+ Golfers raise over \$60,000 for UCP of NE!

On two seasonably cold February weekends, hundreds of barstool golfers converged on Omaha and Lincoln to quench their thirst and show off their putting skills.

Despite the chilly weather, the 2008 UCP of Nebraska Barstool Open drew over 1,400 golfers who helped raise a record-shattering \$60,000. Braving the bone chilling weather, golfers traveled from bar to bar playing a miniature golf hole at each location and kept the bartenders at 42 locations busy.



COME SEE HOW GOOD WE LOOK: Ryan Meeks, Amy Knowlton, Eric Jeanneret and Bret Czaplowski show off their fashion at Barry O's.

While the temperatures were low, spirits were high throughout both Omaha and Lincoln events.

This was the 9th year for the Lincoln event and the 8th year in Omaha. Miller Lite, 104.1 the Blaze in Lincoln, and Q 98.5 in Omaha sponsored the event that has netted over \$185,000 over the years.

Participating establishments designed and built their own miniature golf hole and provided complimentary appetizers for the golfers.

Thank you to all the bars and restaurants, Miller Beer and both radio sponsors for making this event possible!



TEE BAGS: Jill Berkenpas, Ginny Collins, Nichoel Thompson and Sandra Wylie pose at J.D. Tucker's.



RUNNING A TIGHT SHIP: Sara O'Connor and Jenny Hoefener keep everyone on the up and up at O'Connors



PUTT PIRATES: Luke Shook, Jason Ferris, Dan Frederick and Ryan Buttorff prepare to pillage and plunder between putts at Old Chicago.



PINK PAPAYAS: Susan Warwick, Judy Harrington, Julie Carper and Nicole Koubek take a well deserved break at T. Henery's.

Check out more photos on our website!

www.ucpnebraska.org



Life without limits for people with disabilities™

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“Hit the Links” & Drive Against Disabilities

Golf Tournament moves to the Players Club at Deer Creek on June 19th

The “Hit the Links” & Drive Against Disabilities 11th Annual Golf Tournament will be June 19th, 2008 at the Players Club at Deer Creek. This year’s Honorary Chairperson is Steve Ritzman, President of American National Bank.

Celebrating the 11th anniversary of the “Hit the Links” golf tournament, UCP of Nebraska aims to make this the best year yet.

American National Bank has teamed up with UCP of Nebraska as a signature sponsor to host this popular tournament.

Featuring even more complimentary food from some of Omaha’s favorite eateries, the four person scramble will please the hungriest of golfers while offering terrific prizes and the excitement of a live and silent auction.

UCP of Nebraska’s largest fund raiser of the year has generated over \$400,000 which has funded programs and services for people with cerebral palsy and other significant disabilities.

Foursomes are limited with registration closing June 15th. Volunteers are still needed. For sponsorship opportunities, prize donations, or to volunteer; contact Carol Hahn at 402.502.3572.



David Scott Foundation



www.ucpnebraska.org