

SUMMER
2008
ISSUE 4
VOLUME I



Tech Tots/Tech Tools Program Continues to Grow and Improve

The Tech Tots & Tech Tools Toy Lending Libraries provide adapted toys and devices to children with developmental and physical disabilities, at no cost to families. Tech Tots services the youngest children developmentally and Tech Tools offers more sophisticated adaptations.

Parents and children can visit the library together to explore and decide which toy suits the child best. Toys can then be checked out on a short-term basis. Toy Lending Libraries are

conveniently located in Omaha, Grand Island, Norfolk, and Lincoln.

Play is an essential component of growing up and is the most important work explored by children. As children engage in play, they practice and master specific physical, emotional and creative skills necessary for interacting in the world around them.

For specific locations call 1-800-729-2556 or look on our website: www.ucpnebraska.org



Technology Categories

- Adapted Plush Toys
- Adapted Toys
- Communication Devices
- Busy Boxes
- Constructive Play
- Dramatic Play
- Fine Motor
- Gross Motor
- Musical Toys
- Recreation
- Sensory
- Switches/Environmental Control
- Infant/Preschool
- Computer Hardware/ Software

Come visit our newest location
**Children's Respite
Care Center**

located at 2010 N 88th St,
Omaha, NE 68134

Ask for Barbara!

upcoming events

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Oct 23 | Family Focus Halloween Party |
| Nov 11 | "Hit the Links" Golf Tournament Committee Meeting |
| Nov 18 | Family Focus Night |
| Dec 16 | Family Focus Night |
| Jun 18 | 2009 "Hit the Links" Golf Tournament at the Players' Club |

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A LOOK BACK AT OUR FISCAL YEAR

by Ken Broman

As our fiscal year comes to a close at the end of September, I reflect on what a banner year this has been for UCP of Nebraska. Our major fundraisers: Barstool Open and "Hit the Links" & Drive Against Disabilities raised more than \$110,000 to support our programs and services.

New programs, Family Focus and Tech Tools were begun as the result of a grant from The Enrichment Foundation and a new partnership with Children's Respite Care Center (CRCC). Six family centered events and a library of sophisticated technology has been hugely successful and is benefitting the entire community.

This year also marked the fourth year of The David Scott Foundation grant for our Computer Kids program. We continue to provide computers and technology to children for their homes. This year's grant also included funds to upgrade toys and technology in our existing Tech Tots/Tech Tools Libraries.

Benefiting from these upgrades Tech Tots/Tech Tools Libraries will see

a new location at The Children's Rehab Center in Grand Island and new toys/technology at our existing locations.

Our Client Assistant Grants program continues to provide funds to individuals and families for things that are not covered by insurance or Medicare/Medicaid. The Enrichment Foundation provided us means to expand assistance to residents of Douglas and Sarpy County.

And we have launched our interactive website. Sign up for our newsletter, apply for assistance or learn about what is available in the community. We've expanded our staff with the hiring of Jenny Hoefener as our Community Outreach Coordinator and have updated our new Program and Services Brochure.

As you can see the past year has been spectacular. We have set our goals for next year and hope you will continue to read our newsletter, visit our website, or call our office at 800-729-2556 to learn what we provide to the disabilities community.



DID YOU KNOW?

Funding Still Available

UCP of Nebraska is pleased to announce funding is still available to benefit individuals with a disability. To qualify, individuals must reside in Douglas or Sarpy County, have a major physical disability and have fully utilized relevant available funding options. For more information or to receive an application, please contact Anne Brodin at 1-800-729-7556.

Scholarship Competition

disABLEdperson Inc. announces its Fall 2008 Nationally Based College Scholarship Competition for college students with a disability. Students may submit applications until Oct. 10th

2008 for up to \$750. Get more information online at: <http://www.disabled-person.com/articles/fall08.asp>.

Cerebral Palsy Magazine Available

Finally a magazine dedicated just to the 700,000 people with various degrees of cerebral palsy. The magazine specializes in pediatric and parent education. You will find articles on the most up to date technology and therapies, as well as tips from a network of people who live life to its fullest potential with a motor disability. Please visit www.cerebralpalsymagazine.com for subscription costs and details.

“HIT THE LINKS” AND SWING AGAINST DISABILITIES

Golf Tournament a Big Hit!

11TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES OVER \$51,000

Thanks to everyone who made the 11th annual “Hit the Links” golf tournament a success. This year’s tournament, held for the first time at The Player’s Club at Deer Creek, netted over \$51,000. Over the past 11 years more than \$450,000 has been raised to fund programs and services for those with cerebral palsy and other significant disabilities.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, American National Bank, and bank President, Steve Ritzman, for acting as our honorary chair. The complimentary food court, challenge holes and auction led by Scott Moore provided full stomachs, challenge, great prizes, and lots of fun for all.

Our golf committee met for a final wrap-up and thank you luncheon on Aug, 19th at Happy Hollow Country Club. The Committee begins meeting again in November and is looking towards to 2009, again at the Player’s Club on Thursday, June 18th. So save the date to be part of the fun. If you are interested in joining our committee, volunteering or organizing a four-some, please contact Carol Hahn at 402-729-2556.



DAVID SCOTT FOUNDATION



From top to bottom: UCP Intern Katy Fiscus? collects donations, Tournament Volunteers Suzie Knapp and ??? hold down the food court, Bellevue East? golfer ??? McKernan challenges golfers, Shelley ??? and Connie Carroll on the other side of the camera.

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Donate Your Vehicle Today

...and change a life

UCP of Nebraska has joined with UCP National and Melwood Organization to offer a vehicle donation program. Melwood is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit created in 1963 to serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. From the beginning Melwood has provided job

training and employment for over 2,000 individuals with disabilities. You can donate your used car, van, truck, boat with a trailer, or recreational vehicle. Melwood will then auction your vehicle and you will be able to take the entire amount as a tax deduction.

When you donate you know your donation is directly supporting our programs and services such as Computer Kids, Tech Tots/Tech Tool, and housing modifications for individuals with disabilities. Please let your family and friends know about this great opportunity!

To donate, download and complete a form online at www.ucpnebraska.org or call 1-877-UCP-CAR1

THANKS CHUCK!

UCP of Nebraska thanks Chuck Strehl for his more than 8 years of service. Chuck first joined the "Hit the Links" and Drive Against Disabilities Golf Committee as a representative of Miller Brands of Omaha. He then became a member of the Board of Directors serving as Secretary. We wish Chuck all the best as he retires to Florida and works on his golf game.



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