

Reaching the

PINNACLE

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS OF KETCH

SPRING 2010

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Pinnacle

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KETCH works to create affordable housing options for persons served

KETCH is breaking ground on a new residential campaign to provide affordable housing to persons served. The affordable housing project is a three-part process that began with the reconstruction of Country Acres, a two building, 20 unit apartment complex in Wichita.

Residents of Country Acres 351 building moved into their temporary residences in late January in order for construction to begin the first week of February. The 351 building is the first building to be renovated. Several individuals were moved into the 355 building while others moved to Aspen Park and a new KETCH home. An additional complex with 10 units will be built on the Country Acres site as well.

Maintenance staff was able to salvage existing apartment appliances, cabinets, and doors to be used for other projects. The kitchen items will be used to build a kitchen for the PACE program, along with a donation received from the CJ Memorial Golf Tournament.

Future plans for another affordable housing project includes reorganizing the Choices residential program. The Choices program serves individuals with challenging behaviors. A new apartment complex will be built behind the existing structure on the Choices property. The complex will house 10 units to still be used by Choices. The current structure will possibly be used to support a day program.

"The people we serve are very low income. On their own, they cannot afford quality housing," said Pasmore, "KETCH typically has to subsidize their housing costs."

In these new settings the utility efficiency will be



The Country Acres apartment complex before construction began earlier this year.

\$5,200 per year. That will significantly lower operation costs which will allow KETCH to focus on services to individuals served in the Community Living program. By providing consumers access to housing they can afford, KETCH is able to focus more resources on their client needs.

"KETCH will be able to more efficiently provide residential services in these new settings," said Ron Pasmore, President/CEO.

The third and final phase is not yet underway. KETCH Community Living is working to eventually own all of the residential homes rather than renting. One home has already been purchased and is expected to reduce expenses by nearly 50% per month.

Through this campaign "individuals will benefit by having access to a home setting that is attractive, designed to meet their needs, yet affordable," said Pasmore.

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An update from our president



Dear Friends of KETCH:

KETCH was recently notified by CARF, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, that we were awarded a 3-year accreditation, which is the highest level of accreditation offered. I am extremely proud of the high level of commendation given to our staff which was indicative of their commitment to provide a highest level of quality to the people we serve. CARF is an accreditor of human service providers, currently accrediting more than 5,900 organizations at more than 19,000 locations on four continents. KETCH is one a very few organizations in Kansas who seek to improve its service quality through national accreditation.

Last month over 400 persons met at Exploration Place to express their frustration at the cuts in community services for persons with developmental disabilities. The event gave persons served and their families an opportunity to organize an effort to educate their legislators about the importance of their community services. Family members spoke to the group, including a parent of a child with autism who requires constant supervision at home and another of an adult child who lost funding for his services.

Faced with the prospect of deep cuts to the Medicaid funded Home and Community Based Waiver program, the legislature tried to help by voting to use state only funded services to match Medicaid funded developmental disability services. While acknowledging that they were presented with bad choices, the decision to take away the state only funded services resulted in the complete loss of services to 30 persons served at KETCH.

I would rather we could continue our focus on building upon our mission of providing excellence in service quality. Our current reality, though, is that we have to fight for the mere existence of services for the most vulnerable people in our community.

Sincerely,

Ron Pasmore
President & CEO

Invisible Kansans fight back against budget cuts

Over 400 people, 100 of them from KETCH, attended the Enough is Enough press conference at Exploration Place on February 12. The press conference, sponsored by ACT of South Central Kansas, was held to amplify the voices and outrage of Invisible Kansans.

The topic of choice was the recent budget cuts handed down by the state. With the 10% cut to Medicaid services, KETCH stands to lose \$800,000 the first year. Other agencies and families have also been equally affected by the drastic reduction in state funds. This was made apparent as several families who have lost or could potentially lose services spoke out and roars from the crowd cheered them on.

Several local media outlets were present for the event. Coverage ran on local news channels KAKE-10, KWCH-12, KSN-3 as well as in the Wichita Business Journal and Wichita Eagle.

This event would not have been possible without the cooperation and eagerness of KETCH staff, clients, and families to raise awareness of the unjust. Thank you to everyone who played a hand in making something as simple as a press conference a memorable event for disability advocates. There is no doubt our voices were heard.

For more information on advocacy contact Ashley Ruckman, 316.383.8889 or aruckman@ketch.org.



Clients from the KETCH Encore program hold signs signifying the risk budget cuts may put them in.



Ron Pasmore, President/CEO, encourages the crowd to advocate for the well-being of persons with disabilities.

PACE to install kitchen with funds from CJ Memorial

KETCH was one of four organizations to benefit from the CJ Memorial Golf Tournament held in September. The KETCH Program for Adaptive Care and Environment (PACE), was recently awarded \$3,000 from the fundraiser.

This is the third year PACE has been awarded funds from the tournament. This year PACE will use the funds towards the installation of a kitchen. The kitchen will be used to teach daily skills such as washing dishes and cleaning off the table. Staff and clients will also be able to prepare better lunches.

“It is going to teach them more life skills and help them grow in that aspect,” said Bily Curless, PACE Program Coordinator. “Something so simple to you and I is an accomplishment to them.”

Construction on the kitchen is set to begin in the next month. The kitchen will feature polished concrete floors, natural duct work, stove, sink and refrigerator. To honor CJ, the kitchen has been named “CJ’s Kitchen” and will be recognized on a plaque.

“CJ will always be a part of PACE,” said Curless, “my



Kim Roskam, Director of Development and Community Relations (third from right), accepts the \$3,000 donation on behalf of KETCH.

clients benefit from him to this day.”

The golf tournament is a fundraiser held by Frank Seitz in memory of his son, CJ Seitz, who attended the PACE program prior to his passing three years ago. The funds raised are awarded to organizations that were dear to CJ. Other award recipients include the Derby Free Sprints, Rainbows United, and the ARC of Sedgwick County.

KETCH 'demonstrates exemplary conformance to standards'

After months of anticipation the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) survey results have been received. CARF surveys facilities that provide rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities at the organization's request.

In keeping with decades of tradition, KETCH was once again awarded a three-year accreditation, the highest level an organization may receive. The accreditation indicates KETCH demonstrates exemplary conformance to the CARF Accreditation Standards.

"The results of our CARF survey validate the quality of our programs and services," said Ron Pasmore, President/CEO. "KETCH is one of a very select few community service programs in Kansas that seek to validate the quality of its services through such a rigorous accreditation process."

Some areas KETCH has strengths in are:

- Strong, positive relationships with referral and funding sources.
- Persons served are treated with respect and dignity.
- Leadership team possesses excellent problem solving skills.
- Clean and organized facilities.
- Staff genuinely cares for health and well-being of persons served.

Areas of exemplary conformance are:

- Communication of performance information.
- Development and consistent use of checklists to ensure completion of financial activities.

These results could not be achieved without the teamwork of KETCH staff, a pattern of dedication KETCH has maintained since 1971.

KETCH purchases transition home with Memorial Trust funds

A difficult barrier to overcome when serving individuals with disabilities is properly assessing what supports are needed. The KETCH Community Living program has long wished for a home dedicated to doing just that.

"By transitioning them it would give us an opportunity to get to know individuals prior to moving them to a more permanent setting," said Laura Roberds, Vice President of Community Services.

In December that wish was granted by the KETCH Memorial Trust. The Kansas Elks Association setup the trust to remember departed members and to honor members for any occasion. The board of the trust authorized a gift of \$40,000 towards the purchase of

a transition home. Of this, \$30,000 went towards the down payment and \$5,000 will be used towards improvements. The remaining cash will be returned to the trust.

The home, located around Harry and Rock Road, is a five-bedroom, three-bath ranch-style home. The purchase of the home is expected to save KETCH over \$700/month.

The contract was finalized on the home just in time for the Country Acres project to begin. Some displaced residents of Country Acres temporarily live in the home. The home will be used for its original purpose after renovations are complete.

Volunteers needed to help with 'Spring Spruce Up'

Those warm sunny days may seem far away but before we know it spring will soon be in full bloom. With spring comes bountiful flowers, the smell of fresh-cut-grass, and of course spring cleaning.

Starting in April KETCH will start "Spring Spruce Up". Throughout the spring months KETCH staff are encouraged to take a look around their area and do any clean-up, dusting, or organizing that needs done. Free jeans days will be awarded to those who help.

Volunteers are also needed to help with clean-up, landscaping, and overall upkeep of KETCH. See the "wish list" to the right for more information.

KETCH Wish List

Volunteer Needs:

- Landscaping around the 206 Ida building.
- Clean-up of grounds around the 1006 Waterman building.
- Landscaping and other yard work for Community Living properties.
- Client Satisfaction Surveyor

Donation Needs:

- Small trampoline for physical therapy
- Two stationary bikes for Community Connections
- Prizes for the Golf Tournament

S n a p s h o t s

Your glimpse at what clients
are up to around KETCH.



Top row: Clients visit Topeka to distribute information to their legislators.

Center & bottom right: Clients party it up at the Annual Valentine's Day Party.

Center left: PACE decorates recipe boxes to be used as part of the High Five for Fun Foods grant.



COMMUNITY STRENGTH

Engaging persons with disabilities in work skills, community living skills, and daily living skills are some of the most important factors leading to a future full of opportunities and independence. At KETCH, we do just that. Through our Employment Services programs, Community Living Services, and Adult Life Skills programs, KETCH is successful at developing comprehensive programs that teach adults with disabilities how to work and live more independently.

Donors: 11/01/2009 to 1/31/2010

Loyd & Helen Arbuckle	Robert E Hamilton	Jim Marbourg	Mr & Mrs Byrne Vickers
Robert H. Bagby	Amil & Berniece Hanson	Milt Martin	Marty Viney
Wes Bainter	Gordon Harkness	Jim McQuillan	James Wells
Gerald E. Batchelder	Jane Helsel	Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Parry	W. Lynn Wickizer
Carl Billings	Mary Hiner	Ron Pasmore	Abilene Elks Duplicate Bridge Club
Bill & Sue Bloedel	Robert D. Hirsch	Theresa Patry	Air Capital Equipment, Inc.
Norman Bloom	Rosalind P. Hirsch	Harold & Olivia Peck	CHS - Protein Food Group
Paul & Donita Boerger	Rick & Susan Hoppe	Virgil L Plute	DeVore Family Fund
Hampel Oil Distributors	Carol Houdyshell	Clayton & Marjorie Powers	Galichia Foundation, Inc.
Helen Brooks	Mr & Mrs Benny Hurlock	Richard Roberds	Iola Elks Lodge #569
Gloria Calhoun	Madeline Hynes	Edward & Mary Roembach	Kansas Elks Association
Conrad Colahan-Sederstro	Stan & Judy Ingram,	Hal & Ann Sankey	Knights of Columbus
Nellie Collins	in honor of Scott &	Ken & Glenda Schaffer	Mitchell Media Services
John & Cindy Cramer	Tiffany Ingram & family	Ray Seidl	Parsons Elks Lodge #527
Steve & Alisa Dinneen	Alice Johnson	Chris Shank	Prairie Vistas Gallery
Margie Doan	Bernice Johnston	Stephen Sheldon	Principle Business Enterprises
Janet Dreher	Larry Kibler	Cary Smith	Repairman Jack
Barbara Eberle	Gary Kipp	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Soerries	Salina Bridge Club
Loretta Fernandez	Morris F. Krug	Peg Sondergard	Salina Elks Ladies Duplicate Bridge Club
Charles & Evalean Forward	William D. Krug	Dennis Strecker	Steamatic of Wichita, Kansas
John & Lulu Foster	Robert & Donna Lancaster	Lewis Taylor	Three D, Inc.
Howard Gray	Michael W. Larson	Jed G. Tennison	Vintage Construction
Doyle & Dawn Hamilton,	Robert & Lou Ann LeRoy	Everett & Marylin Thayer	Weigand-Omega Management
in honor of Stan & Judy	Sharon Lewis	Michael & Kim Thomas	
Ingram	Jean A. Lytle	Margaret Tritsch	

Tributes: 11/01/2009 to 1/31/2010

Richard Bournonville	Dale & Kay Mitchell	Leola Doyen	Robert Trautwein
Pittsburg Elks Lodge	Wade & Lola Needham	Milton (Fil) Henderson	Jane Gingles
Gerald "Swede" Bowers	Brent Palen	Fred & Nancy Badders	John W Zook
Sandy Abeldt	Sharlyn Reynolds	Paul Hujing	Charles Lester
Mary Amess	Jolene M Robson	Chuck & Karlene Buechman	Don & Natalie Zook
Steve & Shirley Anguiano	Paul & Iris Schmitt	Doris Jones	
Bob & Evelyn Bissell	Dr. Steven & Mary Schwarting	Ron & Sandy Larson	
Daniel & Cynda Britt	Marilyn Smalley	Charles Lester	
Chuck & Karlene Buechman	Casey & Maria West	Carl & Sheri Lindsey	
Clarke & Mary Carroll	Carol Williams	Lynn & Carol Wickizer	
John & Cindy Cramer	Jean Clarkson-Frisbie	Jean Kaiser	
Karyl L Ford	Fred & Nancy Badders	Carl & Sheri Lindsey	
Tony Haug	Mary Lou Deffenbaugh	William W Lassley	
Tim & Brenda Holm	Dolores Earnest	Kay Fowler	
Everett & Audrey Larson	Ron & Sandy Larson	John Lassley	
Charles Lester	Carl & Sheri Lindsey	Charles Lester	
Carl & Sheri Lindsey	LeRoy Gingles	Zella Middleton	
James & Jamie Malone	Lynn & Carol Wickizer	William R. Roberts, Jr.	
Larry & Sharon Miller	Edwena Guist	Chanute Elks Lodge	

Creative options for donors to give during a recession

In these tough economic times, donors are struggling to find creative ways to continue giving to their favorite charities. Here are some ideas that may help you change the way you have been giving to keep up with today's times.

- **Charitable Gift Annuities:** When donors set up charitable gift annuities, they receive a fixed income for the rest of the annuity's existence, while the charity receives the principal upon the donor's death.
- **IRA Rollover:** Another option is the charitable

IRA rollover, which allows donors who are age 70 or older to transfer money from their IRAs to charities tax-free.

- **Donations of Stock:** Donors who have lost money in stocks can sell them, give the proceeds to a nonprofit of their choice, and get a substantial tax benefit.

This material is intended for educational purposes only. For more information, consult with a designated financial advisor or attorney.

KETCH tees off for Seventh Annual Golf Tournament

The Seventh Annual KETCH Champions' Golf Tournament is off to a great start. The tournament is scheduled for Monday, May 24 at the Tallgrass Country Club in Wichita.

The committee, comprised of community members, parents/guardians, and staff, started meeting in late January. This year's tournament will be a little different with new inclusions such as having a celebrity team and incorporating client entertainment during the dinner. A great lunch will again be donated by Carrabba's Italian Grill.

Last year the event brought in around \$18,000 towards programs and services. Though the economy has been down, KETCH has already been able to secure several sponsorships and prize/auction donations including a round of golf for four in Phoenix, Arizona.

If you would like to join the committee or have suggestions on sponsorships, teams, or prize donations contact Ashley Ruckman at 316.383.8889 or Kim Roskam at 316.383.8884.



SAVE THE DATE

WHAT:

KETCH Annual Meeting & Client Awards Luncheon

DATE:

Friday, May 7, 2010

TIME:

12:00p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

Wichita Airport Hilton | Salons 2-3
2098 S. Airport Rd.

Come witness the joy of achievements made in the lives of individuals served by KETCH, as we share their excitement in being recognized for the great strides they have made at home, at work, and in the community.

Lunch will be served at a cost of \$15 per person. Please contact Paula Hanna by Monday, April 19 @ 316.383.8880, or phanna@ketch.org to reserve your seat(s). Tickets to this event will be mailed as soon as payment is received.

Become a fan of KETCH on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/supportketch

Our Mission:

To promote independence for persons with disabilities through innovative learning experiences that support individuals' choices for working, living, and playing in the community.

KETCH, The Kansas Elks Training Center for the Handicapped Inc., is a private, not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

KETCH is licensed by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services and accredited by CARF, the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission.

Pinnacle is the official publication of KETCH
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Registration...

Enter now! Field is limited. Registration deadline is May 14, 2010.



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Yes, I have a foursome. No, I do not have a foursome.

Name (Team Captain) _____

Title _____

Company (as it should appear on sponsorship materials) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name (2) _____

To enter, complete registration form, enclose payment and mail to: KETCH Champions' Golf Tournament, 1006 E. Waterman, Wichita, KS 67211. Phone: 316-383-8700 Fax: 316-383-8883. For questions, please contact: Ashley Ruckman at 316-383-8889 or aruckman@ketch.org or Kim Roskam at 316-383-8884 or kroskam@ketch.org.

Address _____ City/Zip _____

Name (3) _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

Name (4) _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

Sponsorship Levels...

Team HERO Sponsor \$560 _____

Hole Sponsor \$200 _____

Individual HERO Sponsor \$140 _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

I cannot participate, but enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

Donated prize item _____

Method of payment: Check Visa MasterCard

Credit card number _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____ Date _____