

Queen City Area Best Friends Program

March/April 2001

Vol. 1 Issue 1

Match Spotlight: 'It will make you happy'

This month's featured match is Senior Friend Megan Frankl and her Junior Friend, Katrina. Megan and Katrina have been matched since October and enjoy hanging out at the mall, going to movies, grabbing a bite to eat together and sippin' on espressos! They also talk on the phone and Megan has attended some of Katrina's band concerts and helped with her homework. Megan, a senior at Dickinson High School, said she made time in her busy schedule for the Best Friends Program because she likes children and it's a good experience.

"It's good to give back to the community," Megan, 18, said. "It's very rewarding. It makes the kids feel good."

She remembers how it felt to be almost a teenager, and said that her mentors made a difference in her life. She wants Katrina to have those same opportunities.

Katrina, 11, is the oldest of three children who live with their mom. She said that Megan is like a big sister and that she feels special having someone to confide in and help her make better choices. Best of all, she says, it's FUN! Katrina wants more people to get involved with the Best Friends Program because "It will make you happy!"

Megan says the Senior Friends get just as much out of the relationship as the junior friends. Megan and Katrina are just one of the Best Friends Program's successful matches and a great example of the potential difference it can make in a child's life.

The Best Friends Program: Making a difference for kids

Do you have an extra hour per week? Do you enjoy spending time with children? The Queen City Area Best Friends Program is looking for adults who can provide time and friendship to a child in the community. To become a Senior Friend, you must:

- ◆ Be 18 years of age or older.
- ◆ Be able to spend an hour each week with your Junior Friend.
- ◆ Be able to devote at least nine months to the program.

Junior Friends are ages 6 to 16 who need positive adult interaction, attention and friendship. A part of the Western Wellness Foundation, the Best Friends Program recently hired an executive director, Kris Fehr, and a case manager, Regina Murray. The program operates from donated office space at 135 West Villard St., in the Westwind Consulting Center building. For information about the program, or to become a Junior or Senior Friend, call Kris or Regina at 483-8615.

Aluminum recycling program gains partners

Several businesses have joined the Best Friends Program's aluminum can recycling project by collecting cans in the workplace. The project's proceeds - \$577 last year - go directly to the program.

Remember: you can collect your cans at home and drop off bagged cans at the outdoor bins, situated at the Dickinson Recreation Center parking lot and the east end of the Wal-Mart parking lot. Businesses can call **483-8615** to get involved. A big THANK YOU goes out to the following businesses for their support!

Steffes Corporation
MDU

Community Action
Southwest District Health Unit
Dickinson Press
Dickinson Charities Bingo
Pulver Hall
G & G Recycling

Pumpkin Patch Daycare
T-Rex Mall
City Center Plaza
Park Square Mall
Westwind Consulting Center
Badlands Human Service Center
K & D Motors
Wal-Mart
SW Community Service Program

KLTC Radio

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