



The Best News

Queen City Area Best Friends Program

Fall 2003

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www.westernwellness.org

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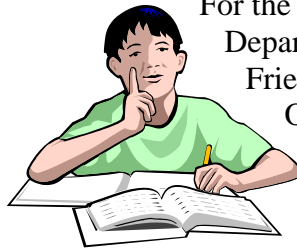
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**Queen City Area
Best Friends Program**
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Best Friends receives U.S. Education Dept. grant



For the second year in a row, the U.S. Education Department has awarded the Queen City Area Best Friends Program a grant for school-based mentoring.

Our goal is to provide 25 mentors this year to help children with homework, academic tutoring, or social skills. This will bring the total number of children receiving mentoring in school to 50.

School mentors most often eat lunch once each week with their Junior Friends, then spend the remainder of the of lunch break reading together, working on homework or other schoolwork, talking, or playing on the playground. Best Friends covers the lunch costs. Several Dickinson businesses (Wells Fargo, St. Joseph's Hospital, ND Attorney General's Office, Dakota Community Bank, Music Mart, Stark County Sheriff's Dept., & Westwind Consulting Center) contribute an hour of employee time each week for employees to mentor a student. For information call 483-8615 or visit us at www.westernwellness.org.

Friend Profile: Jr. Friend seeks sports enthusiast

Chris, a second grade student, loves Harry Potter books and anything having to do with sports, especially football, swimming, fishing, skateboarding, hunting, bowling, bike riding and race cars. He's looking for a male mentor who shares his sports interests. Chris' easy smile and friendly, outgoing personality make him a joy to know, but he needs the influence of a consistent role model.

Friend Profile: Senior Friend loves reading

Audrey Zins, marketing vice president at St. Joseph's Hospital and an avid reader, has a genuine concern for children and she wants to help them succeed. Audrey has a teaching background and she signed up to be a Senior Friend to a girl in junior high or high school who needs extra academic help. She enjoys reading and scrap booking, and will soon be matched with a Junior Friend, meeting once a week for lunch.


Intern joins Best Friends. The Best Friends Program welcomes

Catherine Quintane, a graduate student at the University of North Dakota who will be completing an internship with Best Friends during the 2003-04 school year. She will be conducting periodic, confidential surveys of Junior and Senior Friends, parents, mentors and teachers. An outside research firm will compile the survey results and prepare a report.

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Inside: Fall Family Celebration!

Upcoming Events

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- Oct. 11, 2-4 p.m.:** Family Fall Celebration
Lincoln Elementary School gym
Wear costumes, win prizes! Face painting, games, snacks.
- Oct. 11, 10 a.m.:** DSU homecoming parade, downtown Dickinson.
- Oct. 21, 6:30 p.m.:** Mentor training.
- Oct. 23-25:** Teachers' Convention; no school.
- Nov. 1, all day:** Best Friends holiday candy sale, Tupperware fundraiser & Jumper at Prairie Hills Mall. Bring homemade candy donations to 135 W. Villard or to the booth at the mall.
- Nov. 8, 6:30 pm.:** Best Friends Date Auction Fundraiser, Eagles Club. (Adults only.)
- Nov. 13, 7 p.m.:** Harlem Ambassadors basketball game fundraiser, DHS gym.
- Dec. 6, 9 a.m.:** Breakfast & story time with Santa & Mrs. Claus, Prairie Hills Mall Wellness Center. \$1 per child.

Contributors' Corner

- *Albertson's ** Arby's *
The Bush Foundation
*Field of Swings** Fisher Industries*
*G&G Recycling ** Pepsi*
*United Way ** US Education Dept.*

Family Fun Day sets record:

Family Fun Day, Best Friends' Signature Event held July 5, again set a record by raising a \$5,700 profit for our mentoring program! To see a photo gallery of the afternoon, log on to www.westernwellness.org and click on "view pictures from Family Fun Day."

Mentors make a difference; Best Friends' waiting list grows to 28

It takes only an hour each week to make a difference in the life of a child! Best Friends' waiting list includes 18 children; another 10 students are waiting for in-school mentors. Can you help? **Call 483-8615 or 1-877-877-8685 to volunteer or for information!** Training and on-going support is provided to mentors. YOU make a difference! **Best Friends match count: 77**