



Summer 2017 Newsletter

Kids 'n Kinship is celebrating 45 years of serving youth
in our community!

Summer Outing at Camp Streefland

Monday, July 31

5:30 – 8:30 pm

YMCA Camp Streefland

11490 Klamath Trail

Lakeville, MN 55044

952-435-2859

To be admitted, you MUST pre-
register by
Wednesday, July 26th at this
link:

[Camp Registration on
Eventbrite](#)

**Join us for hiking, canoeing,
swimming, archery, wall
climbing and supper
together!**



Who can attend? Volunteers/children who are matched and their families, waiting list children and their parent and sibling in their household.

Bring: Swimsuits, Towels, Life jackets, etc. (no cutoffs or floatation devices allowed in the pool, life jackets are okay.) Wear tennis shoes or sturdy sandals, no flip flops. *Children must be with an adult.*

Parents please note: at our outings, we take photos for use in our newsletter, website and possibly other venues. Please inform us if you do not want your child's photo and first name used. We will also be filming for our Gala Video.

All youth will have a chance to choose from a variety of products generously donated to us by a great volunteer at our camp store!



Save the Date!!

Kids 'n Kinship

Gala

Sunday, Sept. 17th

Brackett's Crossing
Country Club, Lakeville

4:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Raise Your Community Support to New Heights and Make An Impact!

Sunday September 17, 2017 - You are invited to the Kids 'n Kinship Gala Fundraiser to support youth mentoring! Come out to Brackett's Crossing Country Club in Lakeville for an evening of dinner prepared by an award winning chef, our very popular silent auction, wine pull and craft beer pull. You won't want to miss the mentee testimonial and entertainment. The event, from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, is hosted by our own James Backstrom, Dakota County Attorney. All proceeds from the event, organized by the volunteer Gala Committee, go to matching youth with mentors. Make this the year you attend and help us celebrate 45 years of serving youth. Buy your tickets here: www.2017kidsnkinshipgala.eventbrite.com

For sponsor opportunities, or to donate to the auction, please contact Rita at rykinship@aol.com.

Thank you to our sponsors, \$1000 and above as of the early sponsor deadline:

AAA, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, Burnsville Rotary Club, Kris and Joel Carberry, Hess & Hess Inc, Home Federal, Lakeville Behavioral Health, Dale and Bette Schenian, Think Mutual Bank

Match Highlight

"When we first met almost two years ago, I was taller, I really was. He has grown several inches - he is now 5'10", says Marty. Truth adds with a laugh "actually I am 6 feet". Truth's mom signed him up for a mentor when he was in elementary school. He was on the wait list for a while and then met Marty, a pharmacist, who also teaches motorcycle safety.



When they first got together, they each made a 'bucket' list and then merged them. They had a lot of similar items and many things that cost no money and a few they would work toward. They also discovered they had a lot in common such as their birthdays are two days apart and they are left handed. This interviewer would add, and they laugh the same and a lot!

Marty says "Mentoring is a really fun way to give back - I get to do fun things and see how much my mentee enjoys it. And I look forward to picking him up every week. He is also the most polite kid I have ever met. He opens the door for people, he thanks me every time we are together. He amazes me." The match enjoys cooking, skiing, going to the mall (actually Truth likes that and Marty goes along), the History Center and going out to eat. Truth says his grades in school have improved and he is all around happier since being in a mentor match. Truth's mom adds "Marty is a really good role model, they have similar interests and Truth really enjoys his time with Marty." Watch for these two as our 'highlighted match' at the Kids 'n Kinship Gala this fall!



Rick's Bike Sale was a Record-Breaker!!

Rick's Bike Sale had a record breaking sale of 366 bikes generating \$34,961 for Kids 'n Kinship. Through the past nine sales Rick's sale has provided \$130,304 to Kids 'n Kinship effectively recycling over 1500 bikes back to people to enjoy. Kids 'n Kinship thanks Rick Anderson and Randy Bailey for all of their work for the sale and all the many volunteers who assisted. A special thanks to Dan Sjolseth of Superior Service Center-Goodyear in Apple Valley for the use of their space for the sale.

Backpacks for School

Simon Says Give is offering backpacks for school this year.

Kids 'n Kinship will not be distributing backpacks.

If your child is in need of a backpack, please go to:

<http://www.simonsaysgive.org/what-we-do/high-five-for-supplies>

Note: In the comments section state that you need a backpack.

Welcome New Mentor Matches!

Hayden Family and Quentin
Cassie Cselovszki and Nevaeh

We have over 40 youth waiting for a mentor - youth like Nathaniel - who likes basketball, soccer, football and chess and checkers. He will be in 4th grade this fall and lives with his mom and older brothers. Nathaniel is talkative, kind, caring and interested. He could benefit from a mentor or a mentor couple who could help him develop positive self esteem, and enjoy activities safely. His favorite thing about school is math and there is nothing he does not like about school! And he likes pets. Nathaniel would like a mentor to help him get out of the house and enjoy activities - he could teach a mentor how to play chess! Find out more at an upcoming Information Session:

- Thurs, July 13 from 5-5:45 pm at the Galaxie Library in Apple Valley
- Wed, July 26 from 6-6:45 pm at the Wescott Library in Eagan
- Mon, August 14 from 6-6:45 pm at the Burnhaven Library in Burnsville

Contact Rita at: rykinship@aol.com or 651-686-0990

CEM a Whopping Success! 12th Annual Christian Elder Memorial!



John Elder, his growing team of cyclists and support staff had a fantastic ride on 3 different trails in Minnesota. Together they raised over \$44,000 for Kids 'n Kinship! Many thanks to the riders, drivers and all the Christian Elder Memorial donors! Special thanks to Merchants Bank of Apple Valley, the primary title sponsor, who hosted the welcome home party, and to Media Relations for media coverage. Kids 'n Kinship is very grateful to be the recipient of the hard work and dedication of the Christian Elder Memorial team!

Bowlathon Fun!

We had another successful Bowlathon! Our 18th Annual Bowlathon raised \$6,908. Families matched mentees, and mentors bowled alongside our community teams. There was lots of laughter and friendly competition! Thanks to all sponsors, bowlers and in-kind donors!



Thank You Donors!

Thank you to all of our fabulous donors!

You can [click here](#) to see a listing.

United Way Donor Choice

Watch your employee news for the United Way Pledge Drive. Kids 'n Kinship is eligible to be written in as a "Donor or Designated Choice." Please be sure to write "Kids 'n Kinship", not just Kinship, on your donation card. Thanks!!



Greater Twin Cities
United Way

Thrivent Choice Dollars and Action Teams

Are you a Thrivent member? Do you know you're eligible to apply for \$250 Action Team seed money to support Kids 'n Kinship? Consider using one of your Action Teams to support one of our fundraisers, or other needs we have. For details on Action Teams, visit: www.thrivent.com/actionteam



Farmington Family Fresh Receipts Fundraiser



One of our amazing Kids 'n Kinship mentor-mentee matches is collecting receipts to help fund recruiting more mentors. Deena Mahowald and Talia's goal is to collect \$150,000 in Family Fresh - Spartan Nash receipts this summer and Spartan Nash will donate \$1,000 to Kids 'n Kinship. Please mail your receipts to:

Kids 'n Kinship
14870 Granada Ave., Suite 127
Apple Valley, MN 55124

For a list of Spartan Nash stores [click here](#).

The mentor-mentee are grateful for anyone who can help them out!

Volunteer Mentors are Needed!!

Kids 'n Kinship's School-based Program:

Are you ready to go back to 3rd grade? If so, learn about our school based mentor program! Volunteer mentors are needed to work with one student and help them with reading, writing or math for 30 minutes each week at an elementary school in Eagan, Apple Valley or Rosemount. Have fun and help a student!

Contact Rita at rykinship@aol.com

Contact us:

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"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future."

- John F. Kennedy



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