

## From the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Abbott House,

Since entering the profession of helping others I have often heard comments about having too positive of an outlook. I have heard comments like "Why waste your time?", "What difference can you make", and one of my favorites "You can't save them all."

Generally about the time I hear that is when it is really time to roll up your sleeves, dig your heels in and "make it work". We recently had a clinical meeting and one of the staff members commented "I just don't know if we are the right place for Sara." At this, the program director responded "Tell me where there is a better place and we will send her, otherwise we will take responsibility for this one and find a way."

This type of commitment, attitude and hope is what makes an agency great for kids.

I once heard a story about a man that was full of energy and HOPE. So much so that all those around him were generally in awe of his wonderful attitude. One day a co-worker asked "How do you do it?" He replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it."

So when you take away all excuses and things that we sometimes tell ourselves it really boils down to one thing. "It is your choice how you live life." No person is responsible for what happens to them but we are all responsible for how we respond and what we CHOOSE to do about it.

I hope that as you read this you choose to contribute to our efforts in any way that you can. We will continue to provide hope and support for the young ladies and families that we have the privilege of serving, and we will make a difference.

Sincerely,



Eric Klooz, Executive Director



Eric Klooz

## Celebrating the Past and Looking to the Future

On August 14th, 2007 Abbott House celebrated Ernie Peter's Day, a day set aside each year to celebrate the life and the work of our former Executive Director, who passed away in 2004. The event was held in conjunction with a Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event.

Planning for the event started many months ago. One of many things done in advance of the event was a craft that the girls made for some of the guests. They spent many hours making various sizes of Dream Catchers. The first



The first annual Children's Champion Award was presented to Donna Bauer and family for their support of children everywhere.

fifty people received a keychain Dream Catcher made by the girls. Next the girls made some large Dream Catchers that were framed and given as door prizes. The girls were involved in many different ways throughout the day from greeting customers to releasing more than 200 balloons.

Abbott House Foundation Board

President Dennis Kaemingk spoke at the event and helped to remind us of the purpose of the event – to honor the past and to look to the future of Abbott House. Dennis shared some

words from the Bible with us. Romans 5 2-4, (Verse 2) Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (Verse 3) More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, (Verse 4) and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.



Abbott House Foundation Board President Dennis Kaemingk talks to the guests about Ernie Peters and his legacy.

A new annual award, the Children's Champion Award, was presented. This award is given to a business, family, or individual who has been a great supporter of children. Abbott House Board President Pam Boline presented the first annual Children's Champion Award to Donna Bauer of Mitchell and family. The Bauers have been extremely involved in the Mitchell community. The Bauer children grew up aware of Abbott House and its purpose and they all continue to be great assets to the Mitchell community and to Abbott House. Congratulations to the Bauers! We thank them for their dedication!

## Abbott House Re-designs Agency Website

In the first part of August, Abbott House launched its newly re-designed website.

One of the new features added is the ability to donate online. Abbott House has partnered with Network for Good, an organization that helps non-profits. In addition to being able to quickly and easily donate

online, visitors can also find out what items are needed by looking at our wish list. The site also has a new photo tour of Abbott House, where viewers are able to get a feel for the atmosphere at Abbott House. Readers can also learn about the history of Abbott House, as well as the past and present leaders. The main page features our new video, a

truly remarkable agency video. We invite you to watch this video and we're sure you'll be glad that you did! Also on the main page is a link to Abbott House's new blog. Our blog will be updated regularly and will feature articles, great quotes, and information about Abbott House happenings, so be sure to check back often.

Happy surfing, and we will see you on the information super highway.



## The Learn-A-Little Club Receive an Education on Abbott House

The month of June brought a very nice group of people to Abbott House for a tour. The Learn-A-Little Club from Redfield, SD was a great bunch of ladies that wanted to find out what we are all about. The tour started out with a small briefing on what goes on at Abbott House and the types of children that we help. Most of the residents were upstairs in the school rooms when we started the tour. I don't think I have ever seen so many hugs given at one time. This group of ladies truly cared for the girls and wanted to show their support by expressing their feelings. What a wonderful day it was, the girls

were very happy to know that people actually do care. Thank you ladies for giving our girls more hope.



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## Around the House

### The Busy Days of Summer



The girls took time out of their daily schedules to decorate the monthly activity board.



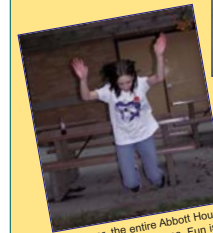
Encouragement of one's heritage is one thing that Abbott House works on with all of the girls.



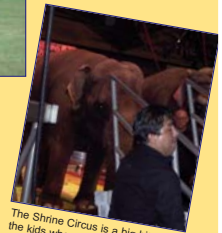
Learning about the bee's at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls, SD.



Road Trip! Ahh, enjoying a wagon ride on the way out to an old school house at the Laura Ingall's Homestead in Desmet, SD



Each summer, the entire Abbott House competes in Summer Games. Fun is had by all who are able to compete.



The Shrine Circus is a big hit with the kids when it makes its way to town, that includes the girls at Abbott House.

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## Memorials, Honorariums and Gifts in Kind April 7, 2007 to September 3, 2007

### Memorials

**In memory of Marjorie Allord**  
Ms. Elizabeth Hansen

**In memory of Martin D. Anderson**  
Les and Myranda Hildebrandt

**In memory of Susan Bender**  
Ms. Bob Smetana

**In memory of Arthur Bock**  
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hien

**In memory of Helen Bowser**  
Ms. Sylvia A. Locken

**In memory of Edith Boyd**  
Ms. Mary Hines

**In memory of Muriel J. Bristor**  
Harold and Donna Thompson

**In memory of R. Brown, M.D.**  
Ms. Corinne Larson

**In memory of Tom Callan**  
Mrs. Patsy Corrigan

**In memory of George Carlens, M.D.**  
Mr. Jack Morgan

**In memory of Blaise Ondrick**  
Ms. Shylpa Ondrick

**In memory of Virgil Clifford**  
Ms. Myrtle Siebert

**In memory of John C. Daly**  
Ms. Myrtle Daly and family

**In memory of Doris Daly**  
Ms. and Mrs. H. Paul Demmert

**In memory of Kathleen Davis**  
Mr. and Mrs. H. Paul Demmert

**In memory of Yvonne DeBoer**  
Mrs. Donna Bauer

**In memory of Lyleme Duck**  
Mrs. Irma Duck

**In memory of Hilma Bertha Erikson**  
Ms. Myrtle Siebert

**In memory of Jerry Farris**  
Rollie and Ella Loon

**In memory of Francis Freidel**  
Mrs. Francis Freidel

**In memory of Dorothy Gilchrist**  
Mrs. Myrtle Daly

**In memory of Vera Grant**  
Dale and Norma Hahn

**In memory of Duane Gurney**  
Ms. and Mrs. Richard Sykora

**In memory of Delmar Hanson**  
Mr. and Mrs. H. Paul Demmert

**In memory of Lorna Hanson**  
Dick and Carol Forster

**In memory of Mrs. Hogan**  
Mrs. Helen Brown

**In memory of Irene Johnson**  
Ms. Mary Hines

**In memory of Ailie Kallen**  
Joe and Corinne Bowser

**In memory of Carl Koch**  
Dick and Carol Forster

**In memory of Virginia Koehler**  
The Family of Virginia Koehler

**In memory of Kurt Korhonen**  
Ray and Ann Korhonen

**In memory of Doris Kredit**  
Jack and Rita Withner

**In memory of Mary Ladna**  
Mrs. Myrtle Daly

**In memory of Florence Lahr**  
Ms. Myrtle Siebert

**In memory of Barbetta Lindholm**  
Bob and Roma Halverson

**In memory of Agnes Mack**  
Mrs. Myrtle Daly

**In memory of Virginia McFarlane**  
Ms. Mary Hines

**In memory of George Moo**  
Ms. Catherine Corning

**In memory of Clifford Padley**  
Mrs. Myrtle Daly

**In memory of Cliff Padley**  
Mr. and Mrs. H. Paul Demmert

**In memory of Cliff Padley**  
Ms. Myrtle Siebert

**In memory of Joann Paul**  
Mrs. Lorraine Gordon

**In memory of Leona Pederson**  
Ms. Mary Hines

**In memory of Perry Pickering**  
Marylyn and Gerry Muehlenberg

**In memory of Joyce Poppe**  
Marylyn and Gerry Muehlenberg

**In memory of Maehve Raymond**  
Ms. Roma Halverson

**In memory of Leonard Rowley**  
Mr. Robert Pickering

**In memory of Milo Rypkema**  
Ms. Catherine Corning

**In memory of Mark T. Scarff**  
Mr. David Scarff

**In memory of Bonnie Schlund**  
Mr. Bill Schlund and family

**In memory of Pat Schroeder**  
Les and Myranda Hildebrandt

**In memory of Pauline Shaver**  
Ms. Jean Keeler

**In memory of Lorraine Staum**  
Ms. Myrtle Siebert

**In memory of Dorothea Stone**  
Ms. Elizabeth Hansen

**In memory of David Toomsend**  
Mrs. Helen Uvstad

**In memory of Helen Warner**  
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Uvstad

### Honorariums

**In honor of Dr. Heather Christensen**  
Noah and Sidney Malde

**In honor of Tom Desalick**  
Rev. Dale R. Salanta

**In honor of Josef Diamond**  
Ms. Joyce Robbins

**In honor of Nancy Elvehin**  
Ms. Doug Elvehin

**In honor of John Holm**  
Rev. and Mrs. Ronald Gustafson

**In honor of Dr. Michael Krause**  
Mrs. Stacy Malde

**In honor of Ebel Liban**  
Mrs. Joyce Robbins

**In honor of Mitchell Surgical Physicians**  
Mrs. Stacy Malde

**In honor of Mark T. Scarff**  
Mr. David Scarff

**In honor of Sandra Steinberg**  
The Martin Anderson Family

**In honor of Sus and Sam Winett**  
Ms. Joyce Robbins

### Gifts in Kind

Bethel Lutheran Women's Fellowship  
Corn Palace Stampede Rodeo Committee  
Dakota Discovery Museum  
James Valley Community Center  
Life Light Counseling  
Mittrock Colony  
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Thomsen  
Ms. and Mrs. Harold Wilson  
Ms. and Mrs. Joe Wall  
Ms. and Mrs. Scott Bender  
Mr. John I. Harris  
Mr. Kenneth Ellingson  
Ms. Leslie Ross  
Mr. Richard Grant  
Mrs. Donna Bauer  
Mrs. Luella Shuler  
Ms. Amy Barr  
Ms. Kristi Anderson  
Ms. Lanell White Eagle  
Ms. Laura Anderson  
The Turnbevent United Methodist Women of McClusky, ND

### Remembrance Program *Honor Them with the Laughter of Children*

Memorial Gifts may be given in memory of departed loved ones at the time of death or on the anniversary of their death. You may encourage others to support your memorial interest by asking the funeral director to insert the wish for memorial gifts to go to Abbott House in the obituary notice.

Honor Gifts may be given to celebrate a holiday, birthday, anniversary or other special event in honor of a family member, boss, friend or respected community leader.

Memorial Gifts and Honoring Contributors continue as ongoing gifts. Your gift enriches the lives of countless children - children who need to know that they are worth being loved and because of your help become valued and contributing members of their communities.

For Memorial or Honor envelopes, contact Abbott House at (605) 936-2486 ext. 120 or by email: [alepke@abbotthouse.org](mailto:alepke@abbotthouse.org)

*Remember your loved ones with laughter!*

- Shoes
- Crafts
- Bikes
- Playground equipment
- Books

- ### Wish List
- Sleds
  - New Computers
  - New Desks for school
  - Exercise equipment
  - Security System

- Dolls for birthdays
- New Copy Machine
- Videos or DVD's
- Kitchen utensils
- Commercial Ice Machine

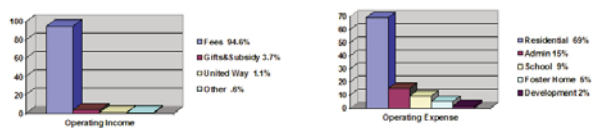


Abbott House  
P.O. Box 700  
Mitchell, SD 57301-0700

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## Fiscal Year 2007 Annual Report

FY 2007 ANNUAL REPORT  
Where the dollars come from and how they are used



Budgeted Income: \$4,145,580  
Budgeted Expenses: \$4,160,011

(Note: FY 2007 is an 18 month period due to changing fiscal year end. Jan 2006-June 2007)



Fall 2007



A Publication of Abbott House

## Celebrating the Past and Looking to the Future

**ABBOTT HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Pam Boline, *President*  
Noel Hamiel, *Vice President*  
Nancy Elvehin, *Secretary*  
Ron Buschelman, *Treasurer*  
Tim Bottom  
Lori Essig  
Amanda Fay  
Jared Hader  
Joan Koehler  
Billie Kelly  
Lynsien Overweg  
Yvonne Palla  
Randy Stotz

**ABBOTT HOUSE FOUNDATION BOARD**

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Gopal Vyas, *Vice President*  
Bob Smetana, *Secretary/Treasurer*  
Boyd Blumer  
Jack Buschelman  
Rod Colvin  
Gene Juffer  
Tona Rozum

Abbott House is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services.

Abbott House is licensed by the South Dakota Department of Social Services.

Abbott House is approved by the South Dakota Department of Education and Cultural Affairs.

Abbott House is a Member of the National Fellowship of Child Care Executives and the American Association of Children's Residential Centers.



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