



Kinship Connections

Volume 18, Issue 1

June 2011 Mentors

Kinship Swim Party

Tues, July 19, 5:30 - 7:30

Dave & Amy Andersen's
on Fish Hook Lake

14206 Eagle Point Drive, PR

Bring: Swim Suit, Towel, Lawn chair

Enjoy: Dinner, Lawn Games

& Swimming! The kids love this one!

Expect to have a great time!

Evening at Itasca State Park

Tuesday, June 28, 5:30-7:00 PM

**4:30 Carpool from Dr Andersen's Dentistry Office:
19033 US 71**

What to Expect:

5:30 Grab some trail mix and your name tag,

Welcome and Introductions

5:40 Split into 3 groups for 20 min sessions:

Campfire building (How to build a safe campfire)

Campfire Cooking (Pie Iron Supper)

Park scene Investigation (PSI)

6:40-7:00 Campfire Songs, Stories, S'mores

**7:00 Head for home or stay a bit longer to
explore park on your own**

All Swings for Kinship!

*The Mini-Golf Tournament
For All Ages!*

Monday, June 20

Evergreen Gifts & Fun Park

Starting at 5 PM & every 45 min after

\$30/Team up to 4 persons

Wacky holes, surprise challenges,

PRIZES for individuals & teams!

A Great Family Event—invite Grandpa!

Food stand will be open

Raffle for small Hummer Power Wheels

Register: 732-0058, www.kinshiparkrapids.org

Kamp Kinship

Sunday, August 28 2-5 pm

Spruce Hill Campground

**(East 34 to 169th St, south to first left:
17404 Driftwood Lane, by the lake)**

Plan for FUN:

**Swim, Fish, Canoe, Paddleboat, Campfire Dinner,
Tetherball, Frisbee Golf**

**Bring: Swim Suit, Towel, Sports Equipment, Lawn
Chairs, Life Jacket (provided), Appetite**

Kinship is growing! Raeann Mayer, Community Health Director, is serving as case manager for more Kinship matches and Candy Weinzierl is now working part-time in the Kinship office as an assistant. Candy is Kasarra's mentor and a long-time Kinship volunteer. Welcome Candy!

Character Challenge Course

Are you ready for some high adventure?

Kinship received a grant from Itasca Mantrap Operation RoundUp that will fund 30 Kinship kids and youth to the Character Challenge Course north of Park Rapids. Mentors can participate (and we hope you will!) for \$25.

New in 2010, this challenge course provides opportunities for personal growth, leadership and team-building. Check it out at:
www.characterchallengecourse.com

Just imagine speeding along a 370' zipline, overcoming fears, viewing awesome red pines while over-



looking two lakes, learning to trust, problem-solve and laugh hysterically on one of 14 low ropes elements.

The date is yet to be determined. By you!

How about Saturday, September 10? Or do you want to try to find a day in July? They are pretty booked for August. Lots of our older youth have summer jobs, so perhaps the September 10th date would work best for them. Watch for an email vote—or call the office with your suggestion!

Whenever, the schedule will likely be: 10:30-12:30 Low Ropes initiatives for middle and high school Kinship youth and mentors; 12:30 picnic lunch; 1:00-3:00 Challenge Course with its 4 elements for ALL Kinship kids (grades 1-12). Conclude with a 370' zip line ride. That alone must be worth \$25!

So, if your Kinship Kid just completed up to grade 4, bring them for 1-3pm. All older kids should plan to spend the day with you at the course (10:30-3:00).

The cute **Kinship clubhouse** that was smashed in the tornado is replaced with an Amish built, 6'x8' playhouse/storage unit that will look great in anyone's backyard! Thanks to Rich and Mary Frahm for helping to find it, picking it up and delivering it around to various businesses for display! If you would like to help sell the \$5 raffle tickets this summer, please tell Jennifer. This project generates 10% of Kinship's income.



Welcome new mentor, Frank Forsberg!

Frank and his wife Sara live on Sweitzer Lake off County 81 where Frank enjoys hunting, fishing and woodworking. Frank will be matched with a boy after completing his orientation and training. If you would like to sit in on the session as a refresher, let Jennifer know.

Pizza Hut Coupons ~ if you didn't get one at the Fish Fry, it should be enclosed with this newsletter. If you decide you will not use it, kindly return it to Kinship for a new mentor. Thank you!

CLIMB Theater coming to Town for Kinship!

Plan to attend Legends & Logging Festival on Saturday, August 13 and visit the Kinship booth to see CLIMB Theater in action! The acting troupe will roll into town with a decorated truck which contains props and equipment and serves as their stage. Using old-fashioned circus techniques, they will move among the crowd, striking up conversations and attracting attention.

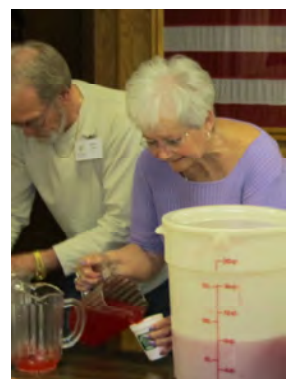
They will perform 6-9 times during the day, doing three different short plays. Kinship volunteers will be selling raffle tickets for the clubhouse until the 5pm drawing. The Legends & Logging Festival will be held at the Antique Tractor grounds east of 34 on County Road 6. See you there!

Rummage Sale at St Peter's

The Foresters, a service organization at St Peter's Catholic Church in Park Rapids, is having a huge rummage sale on July 27, 28 & 29. The proceeds from the sale will be shared between Kinship and the Meals on Wheels program. You can help boost the benefit by donating items and/or purchasing items at the sale. Donations can be dropped at the church Parish Center (corner of 5th St & Pleasant Ave in PR) 8-5 Monday-Thursday. Thank you!



Kinship Mentors and Kids did a great job selling tickets, setting tables for the record crowd, breading, frying and serving fish, drinks and desserts, bussing dishes, and cleaning up! THANKS to event chair, Lezli Zimmerman and the great team of volunteers!



Thank you to ALL of the Kinship Volunteers who helped with the 2011 Fish Fry! Your service was fabulous! Your smiles infectious! Your enthusiasm contagious! Your hard work paid off—you helped raise more than \$3,000 for Kinship! Bravo!!!

Kinship Youth News

for MENTORS matched with youth who have completed 5th grade and beyond

Youth Trip to Iron Range & Ely



Kinship Youth and their mentors are invited to go on an overnight trip to the Iron Range and Ely in northeast-

Minnesota the first weekend in August. This trip is funded by Operation RoundUp of Itasca Mantrap Electric Coop and a gift in memory of Chuck Hawkins.

When: Friday/Saturday, August 5 and 6
Depart Park Rapids Friday 8 am,
Return by 6 pm on Saturday



What: We'll stop in Hibbing to see the world's largest open pit iron ore mine, then visit the MN Discovery Center. We'll explore Ely, the North American Bear Center, the International Wolf Center, and Bois Forte Heritage Center & Cultural Museum. It celebrates the history, life and ways of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe and includes a wigwam, fur trading post and school re-creations. If time allows, we may visit beautiful Bear Head State Park or MN Mining Museum. All admission fees will be covered.

Evergreen Gifts & Fun Park

Is offering Free Admission for Kinship Youth and their Mentors again this year! (youth have completed 5th grade)

Wednesday, July 13 5:30—7:00 pm

Thursday, July 14 rain date

Does your youth have a job? Encourage them to ask for the evening off so they can go! It'll be too fun to miss! Make sure you save the date, too!



Go Carts, Mini Golf, Bumper Boats, Batting Cage, Super Bounce, Water Wars, Laser Maze, Extreme Jump, Outdoor Maze, Evergreen Mountain (climbing wall). Wristband will let you do it all!

Meals: Friday Breakfast at home; picnic lunch, dinner in Ely or at basecamp, Saturday breakfast at camp, and lunch provided; we should be home in time for dinner on Saturday.

Overnight: We'll stay at Camp Ko-Wa-Kan, a United Methodist base camp for groups heading into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness located about 15 miles east of Ely. Platform tents with carpeted floors (to help keep mosquitoes out), canvas walls, and bunk beds will be our home for the night. Following a campfire, of course. We'll make our own breakfast in the morning, then head back to Ely. Check it out at www.nstaradventures.com



What to bring: Sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries, pjs, flashlight, bug spray, change of clothes, towel and washcloth.

Reservations required soon: In order to reserve sufficient lodging, admission tickets and plan for covering costs, we NEED RESERVATIONS BY JULY 8TH. Be sure to talk with your Kinship youth about this trip—two days packed full of fun & adventure! Don't miss it!

And the rest is up to YOU!

Interested in tubing, canoeing, biking or something else fun with other Kinship mentors and their youth?

Use the Reply All tab from a group email sent out from the Kinship office, OR work with the new directory at www.kinshiparkrapids.org and let others know what you would like to do, invite them to join you, and go for it!

Call Jennifer if you need some help.

Enjoy these precious months of summer with your precious Kinship kid!