

# A GLIMMER OF HOPE

## HOPE, Inc. Qtr. 4 Newsletter

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## Best Summer Ever

We made the absolute most of this Summer with fishing trips, ice cream socials, a Red Hawks game, art club events, wheelchair baseball and softball, a picnic, dates at the adaptive playground and so much more! We hope your Summer was filled with so much fun, and sunshine! As bummed as we are that Summer is coming to an end, we are looking forward to our Fall activities! We have wheelchair basketball, a track meet, wheelchair soccer, sled hockey, our annual Fashion Show, Adaptive Taekwondo, Adaptive Dance and much more on the schedule! Something for everyone!



# Fall Activities

## Adult Wheelchair Basketball

Wednesdays in September @ 6:30PM @ Roosevelt Elementary (Fargo)

First 2 Thursdays (10/5 & 10/12) in October @ 6:30PM @ Roosevelt Elementary (Fargo)

## Wheelchair Soccer - All ages!

Saturday - September 16 & 23 @ 10AM @ Roosevelt Elementary (Fargo)

## Adaptive Dance

Wednesdays @ 6:45PM-7:15PM @ Red River Dance & Performing Co. - beginning Sept. 6 and continues for 16 weeks, ending with a winter recital in December

## Adaptive Swimming Lessons

*\*Many inquiries regarding this activity! Adaptive Swimming Lessons will restart in January and opportunities will continue through the Spring!*

## Sled Hockey

Youth Sled Hockey - Saturdays @ Moorhead Youth Hockey - Cullen Center

Adult Sled Hockey - Saturdays @ Moorhead Youth Hockey - Cullen Center

*\*Practices will begin in mid-November and will held at @ 9AM or 11AM - alternating times*

Combined Youth & Adult Sled Hockey - Sundays @ 9-10:30AM @ Moorhead Youth Hockey

## Women's Group

Tuesday, September 26 @ 5PM @ Duane's Pizza (Moorhead)

## Track Meet

Saturday, September 30 @ 9:30-11AM @ Concordia College (Moorhead)

*\*Race categories for every age and mobility challenge!*

*\*Email [kelly@hopeinc.org](mailto:kelly@hopeinc.org) to sign-up*

## Fashion Show

Saturday, October 7 @ 11AM-1PM @ Horizon Middle School (Moorhead)

*\*Each participant receives a \$100 gift card to purchase an outfit to model at the Fashion Show*

*\*Email [kelly@hopeinc.org](mailto:kelly@hopeinc.org) to sign-up*

# Wheelchair Baseball and Softball



Youth Wheelchair Baseball and Adult Wheelchair Softball are a fan favorite during the Summer! This Summer did not disappoint! We got many great games in at Miracle Field in Moorhead as well as Riverside Park in Grand Forks!



**HOPE, Inc. would like to sincerely thank the  
following sponsors!**

**THANK YOU!**

**Dreammakers - \$10,000 +**

**Cullen Children's Foundation  
Grand Forks Subaru  
Scheels  
Sammons Financial  
TEAM Industries  
Otter Tail Corporation Foundation  
R.D. Offutt Company  
Hendrickson Foundation  
Linda & Duane Hendricks  
Virgil Siebold & Michael McAllister**

**Platinum \$5,000 - \$9,999**

**Alex Stern Foundation  
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Chad's Welding**

**Riley's Landscape & Irrigation  
State Farm Insurance, Jill Henning  
Kyle & Melissa Gagner**

**BCBSND Caring Foundation  
Teresa & Marlan Warne  
Glenn & Melissa Grommesh**

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**Brewtus Brickhouse  
Dakota Medical Found.  
Bell Bank**

**Adrian Griefff  
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**Farmers Union  
Cass County Electric Coop.  
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**Silver - \$1,000-\$2,499**

**River Cities Radon Inspection  
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Lisa & Mylo Erickson  
Keith C. Drake Trust  
Trail King**

**Leslie & Patricia Roos  
GrayBar  
MRL Company  
Center for Plastic Surgery  
Sertoma Club  
Sanford Health  
Jim & Connie Henning**



# Did you know?

- HOPE, Inc. serves nearly 250 families with children and adults living with mobility challenges
- HOPE, Inc. is the only organization of it's kind within a 200-mile radius of Fargo-Moorhead
- Schools, community education and city sports programs rarely offer adaptive opportunities - HOPE, Inc. is proud to fill that gap!
- HOPE, Inc. has grown in the number of families they serve for 17 consecutive years!

# Support HOPE, Inc.



You can support HOPE, Inc. today by making a donation on our website. Go to **hopeinc.org** and click the "Donate" button in the upper right-hand corner. Our website provides the option of making a one-time donation or donations can be selected to occur annually or monthly!

## Ice Cream Socials all Summer Long

Every month this Summer HOPE planned an ice cream social at the historic downtown Moorhead Dairy Queen and each one was well attended, delicious and so much fun! Thank you to all those that joined us!



# A Note From Our Director...

*We have so much going on at HOPE, Inc. I want to briefly touch base on three very exciting things.*

*HOPE, Inc. has made the decision to offer all of our activities at no cost to our participants. This went into effect as of September 1, 2023. We will have a one-year trial period. HOPE, Inc. has had great community support, as well as the support of the families we serve through volunteering and fundraising. We will continue to count on our community support as well as rely on ALL of our participants. We will need everyone on board so HOPE, Inc. can continue to provide services at no cost.*

*HOPE, Inc. has been selected as the "Charity of Choice" for this year's Caters Taters for Charity event put on by RDO. We are very honored to have been selected! It is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Last year's event raised over \$100,000. This will take place on November 21st at the Holiday Inn located in Fargo. We are hopeful a large number of our HOPE, Inc. families will help sell raffle tickets and volunteer at the event. This is such a great opportunity to promote what we do at HOPE, Inc. as well as raise an impactful amount of dollars. LET'S MAKE THIS THE BIGGEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL CATERS TATERS FOR CHARITY EVENT EVER.*

*HOPE, Inc. had 3 our women sled hockey players participate in the Women's Sled Hockey World Challenge event in Green Bay Wisconsin August 31-September 3rd. Women's sled hockey continues to work on growing the sport and having it part of the paralympic games. Chloe Kirkpatrick played on team USA. Congratulations on bringing home the gold. Lynsey Warne and Isabelle Hogness were selected to play on team world and took home 3rd place. We are very proud of each of you.*

**Bill Grommesh, Executive Director**



## HOPE Leads Adaptive P.E. Class

Bill was very busy this past school year, leading Adaptive P.E. class at our participants and community's schools! Adaptive P.E. Classes led by HOPE will be available again this Fall!

This is a great opportunity to encourage inclusion and awareness in your school or community!

Call (701) 866-9002 or email Bill at [bill@hopeinc.org](mailto:bill@hopeinc.org) to begin coordinating Adaptive P.E. at your school!





# A Note From Our Board President...

*It was fun to see many of you at our annual summer picnic in August. It was a beautiful day and so nice to catch up with everyone while taking in some amazing wheelchair softball action! It is so fun to watch and see the joy it brings all the participants, fans and especially Bill. His love of sports and passion to help those living with disabilities continues to motivate me to find time to volunteer and give back through HOPE, Inc. and other charities in our area I like to support.*

*Special thanks to the folks from RDO for playing softball that night and a heartfelt appreciation for being selected as their recipient of the annual Caters Taters for Charity event. Please join us if you can.*

*With fall approaching and back to school again for most of us, I like to take some time to reflect on my schedule. Getting back to a regular schedule versus a busy summer schedule is a good thing. We all can benefit from a restart, no matter your schedule. Be sure to set aside some time for you!*

*We also ask you to reach out to friends and family and invite them to a Hope event! We not only need participants, but also fans! We look forward to seeing you soon. Enjoy the fall season!*

**Craig Dummer, Board President**



## Let's Go Fishing!

HOPE took a fishing trip every month this Summer with the Detroit Lakes Chapter of Let's Go Fishing! Every trip caught a healthy share of fish and many of our young participants were taught how to bait their hook, cast, and take their catches off the hook!

A big thank you to all the hands on deck at Let's Go Fishing! Your kindness, humor, and helping hands were more than appreciated!



## ANNUAL REPORT...

***Please check your email for the results of our annual survey as well as a year-end report!***

# Sled Hockey



The Sled Hockey season is right around the corner! **HOPE will be hosting a Sled Hockey pre-season meeting on Tuesday - September 19 at the Dakota Medical Foundation. The youth team/parents will meet at 6PM and the adult team will meet at 7PM.** The Sled Hockey meeting will include discussions on practice times, tournaments, jerseys, fees and fundraising expectations as well as any other suggestions and concerns players or parents may have.



We are excited to share we are designing new jerseys for next season as well as purchasing Bauer hockey jackets for each player! We are hoping to receive the new gear by mid-November!

We would also like to congratulate HOPE Women's Players who recently participated in the 2023 Women's World Challenge Tournament. Chloe Kirkpatrick played on Team USA, Lynsey Warne and Isabelle Hogness played on Team World! You made HOPE, Inc. beyond proud!

## SAVE-THE-DATE! - November 21

**RDO**

*Caters  
Taters*

**RDO**  
R.D. OFFUTT COMPANY

HOPE, Inc. is beyond thrilled to share that our organization was selected as the charity of choice for the upcoming RDO Caters Taters for Charity Event! Caters for Taters began over 20 years ago as a way to give back to the community. The event is an annual luncheon where 100% of the proceeds are donated to a different charity each year.

***This year the event will be held on November 21 at the Holiday Inn located in Fargo!***

Along with Caters Taters comes a raffle opportunity with amazing prizes! Raffle ticket sales will begin in mid to late September!

We hope you will join us at Caters Taters and continue to stay tuned for many further exciting details!



# Meet Tom!

In late September 2003, I was involved in a motor vehicle accident, rolling my pickup and leaving me with a spinal cord injury. With my injuries, I became a paraplegic and needed to use a wheelchair as my legs. To me, it was like starting life over again. The things that were easy to do prior to my injury, had to be done in a new and different way. It was very mentally and physically challenging, but I was determined to do everything I could to have my independence again.

I live in Fargo with my wife, Teresa, and am an optometrist at Eye2Eye Vision. Teresa initially introduced me to HOPE Inc. She was a high school classmate with Bill (oh, the stories she tells of him). Teresa said that they started an adaptive sports program, and I should go and observe the sled hockey open skate.



I was always active in sports before my accident and loved the competition. I fell in love with the sport and the players/people involved with Hope. I am currently the goalie for the Hurricane Hockey team. It was either play goalie or be the mascot (sometimes I'm both). Along with hockey, I play softball, with a personal record of 11 base hits in a row and a professional model at the fashion show. I also love to golf and bow hunt in the fall. My true enjoyment is my family and especially my 3 grandkids! My oldest grandson says he is going to be a Hurricane and is definitely my biggest fan! The enjoyment, priceless memories, support and friendships are what make being involved with Hope mean so much. It truly is a family and I am thankful everyday to be a part of it. It has been life changing

## Swinging for HOPE

Our annual Swinging for HOPE Golf Tournament will be held next week on September 11 at the Moorhead Country Club. We would like to send a big thank you to Parsons Electric for partnering with HOPE, Inc. to make this event possible, as well as the many businesses that formed teams, sponsored tournament holes or games!

### *Sponsored By:*



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