

BIG PARTNER LITTLE PARTNER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2007

Holiday Extravaganza 2006

This years Holiday event was by and large our best so far. The partners participated in a great number of holiday traditions from all over the world. Some of these included Origami and Calligraphy, traditional Hmong dance, and Chopstick contests. There was also snowflake making and a "create your own snowman" contest. Thanks for everyone who made one, they helped decorate the Community Service Center and can be seen by the bulletin board. If you have any suggestions on how we can make a better holiday party feel free to let us know.



January Interim BOWLING!!!

Since there are not a ton of big partners on campus during January Interim we decided to go bowling as our event. Big Partners were able to take their little partners to Bowlero in St. Peter for a FREE game of bowling, and teach them all they know and show them their skill. (Although, I can say that some of the little partners definitely showed up some of their big partners☺).



Be sure to check out pictures from these events at www.gac.edu/communityservice/blplp

FEBRUARY EVENT... Ice Skating and Swimming!!!

Come enjoy a fun afternoon of swimming in the pool or ice skating at the rink in Lund Center. Don't worry if you don't have skates feel free to bring your boots/shoes to use on the ice instead. Also, bring any hockey sticks for the ice rink or any toys for the pool if you want! If you have any questions about this event feel free to contact manders3@gac.edu .

Sunday, February 11th

1:30-4:00pm in the Lund Center on campus.

Mid-Year Check-Ins

Every year, we as coordinators feel that it is very important to meet mid-year with all the big partners. We do this so that we can make sure that the relationships between the Big Partner and Little Partner are going well, and to make sure there are no problems/concerns in hopes that the rest of the year will go smoothly. These check-ins began during January Interim, and will continue into the beginning of spring semester. If you have any questions/comments about these feel free to contact kmcglenn@gac.edu or at 933-6776.



BPLP PAIRS for January and February!

From an overwhelming amount of nominations we have two BPLP pairs this month/newsletter.

The first pair is **Keelie Halloran and Leah Harm**. Shelia Harm had this to say about the pair, "Keenie has been a GREAT Big Partner for Leah! She is in contact with her by phone each week. They also meet each week to play games, do art projects, or whatever! Keenie has been great with scheduling around Leah's play and dance practices. She has shown Leah her support by attending her play last weekend and this week she plans to attend her school music concert and her dance recital!! Leah's birthday is Friday and Keenie ordered her a cake from GAC- what a thoughtful person!! I am so pleased with Keenie and I try to tell her how grateful we are and how much Leah enjoys spending time with her."

The second pair is **Ruth Monson and Rebecca Farve**. They were nominated by Rebecca's mom, Cynthia. This is what she had to say. "1. They have met every week since they were paired. Before that Ruth sent a note and called Rebecca. 2. They have participated in the planned programs: Halloween/Crafts Night/International Xmas 3. Rebecca has visited Ruth's room - where there is a wall dedicated to Rebecca's artwork and Rebecca is a destination on Ruth's message board. 4. Ruth has visited Rebecca's house, met Rebecca's brother, mom and dad. 5. Ruth has attended Rebecca's church youth group to help make candy. 6. They have explored the St. Peter community - going bowling and hanging out at Waldo's. 7. Ruth will be gone in January but has already discussed writing to Rebecca and making a couple of trips to St. Peter to stay in contact with her. In other words - Ruth has done a great job of staying connected with Rebecca, working with mom/dad to schedule time with Rebecca, and is really working at getting to know Rebecca."

Remember to contact a coordinator if you have any questions or concerns.

Students – Rachel Tuil at rtuil@gac.edu or 933-8431

Parents – Kristine at kmcglenn@gac.edu or 933-6776