



SKY Continues to Grow Thanks to Community Support...

Fall/Winter 2014-15

BARAGA SCHOOL FOREST CHARITY CUT

What an innovation! On September 17th the Baraga School District harvested trees from the School Forest. Enthusiastic students shouted "Timber!" as John Stenvig's high tech



equipment made short work of cutting, stripping and sorting trees. The event was a win-win project for the school. Students had an opportunity to learn about forest industries, enjoy a "hands on" experience and give back to the community. The school benefited from the sale of the lumber and SKY was honored to be chosen to receive a donation from the Chari-

ty Cut. All donations to SKY are used to support student needs from the Baraga and other local school districts. A huge thank you goes out to John Stenvig, all the companies and volunteers who helped out, and the Baraga School District!

CHASSELL LIONS MEMBER HONORED

SKY Board members presented Pam Hiltunen, member of the Chassell Lions Club, with a certificate of appreciation for her efforts organizing a 'Fun Run for SKY' as part of the 2014 Strawberry Festi-



val. The Fun Run was a huge success, with 189 participants enjoying the scenic Chassell trail system and raising money for local youth at the same time.

2014 HEARTS AND HANDS AWARD

The Heart and Hands Award, from the estate of Martha and Floyd

Kinzel, is given to persons who have had a significant impact on the Keweenaw community -- giving of themselves in a caring, committed, or heartfelt way in the area of peace, justice, human needs and/or environmental stewardship. Recipients choose a non-profit organization to be the recipient of the cash reward. This year's youth award was presented to Rachel Chard, a 2014 Houghton High School graduate. Rachel chose SKY as her non-profit recipient. Rachel has been very involved in several student fundraising and awareness efforts for SKY, including the Reach for the SKY Talent Show and organizing non-profit informational sessions at the 2014 Student Leadership Conference.

SKY INCREASES GRANT SIZE

When SKY first started in 2010, grants were limited to \$50 per student per year. In 2011, that limit was increased to \$100. Thanks to the strong community support, we are announcing an increase in grant limits to \$150 per student for the 2014-15 school year.

SKY Mission Statement

The SKY mission is to help young people build and maintain their self-esteem by providing means to access basic needs, enable them to feel accepted by their peers and enable access to educational activities and community participation.

SKY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A Few Thank You Notes from Grant Recipients (Unedited)

"I wanted to thank you for your assistance in covering the costs of my group's transport to the S.T.O.M.P. [Students Training on Mentoring Peers] meeting this May...Thanks to the SKY program, I was able to make it there to give my final presentation to the eight graders of the area. Perhaps some of them will join S.T.O.M.P., just as I did and realize that there is *so much* that they could be capable of, if only they believe that they *can* make their lives better, that they *can* live on their own, and that they *can* accomplish brilliant things..."



"Thank you so much for the winter gear to keep me warm.



"Thank you for helping get my glasses"



"Thank you so much for paying for my book. Work would have been a lot more difficult without it. Thanks again. P.S. Thanks, thanks, thanks, and THANKS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"



"Thank you so much for your support of me pursuing my goal of going to the HOQA (Health Occupations Students of America) National leadership conference...My trip to Florida was an experience I will never forget...my experiences in this HOQA event has helped me to look at myself and others differently and realize that we each have our own things that hold us back and push us forward... I made many new friends and was able to do so many things I wouldn't have had the opportunity to do..."



"Thank you for the awesome times and for the help showing me the right path. I am more than grateful."



"Thank you SKY for the grant you gave us to go shopping and go to eat. It was lots of fun got lots of new clothes and such. Also this is a great program you have going so keep going. Thanks very much."



"Thank you for the \$100 for the talking switch for _____. She will be using it at home to communicate! We are all very excited!"



"Thank you very much for purchasing the coat and mittens for my student. What a great program to have in place! With much appreciation!"

HOW YOU CAN HELP If you are interested in supporting the mission of Simple Kindness for Youth, please see our website www.simplekindnessforyouth.org. Call 482-4250, ext 168, or send donations to:

Simple Kindness for Youth
809 Hecla Street
Hancock, MI 49930



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100% of all donations go to help local students. Your support is sincerely appreciated.