



Breaking the cycle of addiction within families

www.sch-mt.org



family

compassion

HELPING HAND

HOPE

kindness

support

love



Breaking the cycle of addiction within families.

Making the Dream a Reality: The Creation of Second Chance Homes

In 2004, Billings' community members began noticing the need for housing for those with substance abuse and/or mental health disorders. Early that year, Becky Bey of the Family Drug Court, and Kristin Lundgren of Roots of Promise, hosted a community meeting for anyone interested in addressing unmet housing need.

The Second Chance Homes Leadership Team was formed out of this first community meeting and the team began meeting on a regular basis in mid-2004. In summer 2005, Roots of Promise was awarded an AmeriCorps VISTA to develop the housing plan for Second Chance Homes.

In late 2006, the Leadership Team applied for a federal grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In September 2007, the SCH program was awarded the five-year federal grant totaling \$2.5 million dollars! Just before SCH

learned about the grant award, very generous community partners helped obtain what is now the sober housing unit (on Billings' south side).

Many subsequent hours were spent building a Board of Directors and hiring staff. After lots of hard work by the newly hired staff, Leadership Team, Board of Directors, and numerous volunteers from the community, coupled with countless donations from the community and grant money, the doors to SCH were open for women in recovery and their children on March 19, 2008.

The umbrella organization for SCH at the onset of the grant was The Family Tree Center. In September 2008, SCH was granted its own 501(c)(3) status as a non-profit organization. — Contributed by Juli Pierce

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- First Interstate Bank
- Breakfast Exchange Club
- Allegra
- Knife River Corporation
- FiServe



- Top 5 Kids' Quotables:**
(Mustangs game):
1. This is the latest we've EVER gotten to stay up!
 2. I bet I could run faster than him!
 3. Why do the players have black stuff on their faces?
 4. He is going to hurt himself by stretching backwards with his bat!
 5. That grass is REALLY green!

Havin' a Ball

"Buy me some peanuts and cracker jack, I don't care if I never get back..." Jack Norworth's age-old tune resonated through the Mustangs' crowd one hot July night at Billings' Cobb Field. A voice boomed over loud speaker, welcoming Second Chance Homes' families to the field. The children bounded from popcorn to snow

cone lines; nacho bars to inflatable bouncy toys. "At one point, I looked down the row of residents and children, and all of them were intently watching the game and all were enjoying popcorn," says Sheryl Smart, SCH Family Program Manager. "A couple of the moms and the kids," she continues, "were interested in trying to catch fly ball. No one

caught one, but they had fun trying!" Thanks to John Beaudry, Public Affairs Manager at Stillwater Mining for the free tickets! Parents and children alike had a great time at the game.



A Word from Our Director

We are grateful for the time and labor spent on our project during United Way Day of Caring! Our volunteers worked hard [beautifying the boulevard at the Sober Housing unit] and made such a difference on our project! We are thankful for their involvement with our community project on so many levels. Their generous donation of time and energy completed a project that was nearly impossible for our small organization to do on its own. And, their selfless giving was such an excellent example for our families, too! When troubled families see that others take time out

of their day to give of their time and energy to help them... those families are encouraged and feel they have worth. Not only that, but our families also see the joy the volunteers experienced in giving of themselves. It makes families start to think about ways they can give back to their community, too. project has made a positive impact on our organization not only by completing the work but also by inspiring our families to do for others, as well! So, thank you First Interstate team! We are so grateful!

- Donna Huston,
Executive Director



- Thank you, Board Members:*
- President:** Juli Pierce
 - Vice President:** Kristin Lundgren
 - Treasurer:** Amy Leader
 - Secretary:** Megan Irion
 - Brenda Dockery
 - Richard Pulley
 - Merry Richmond

Join our online NEWSLETTER!

TRULY... A SECOND CHANCE