

# Outcomes

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## Brightening Smiles of Area Youth



Ronald McDonald House  
Mobile Dental Care . . .



in collaboration with  
Youth First  
Community  
of Promise

The first preventative and restorative mobile dental care clinic was held last November in the parking lot of the Ramsey Neighborhood Center. Ronald McDonald House provided the mobile clinic, a dentist, and several hygienists. Youth First staff coordinated transportation and dental care appointments for uninsured youth through age 21. Pregnant women with no insurance can also receive services via this easily accessible collaboration.

The dentist and hygienists on board for that first clinic served twelve middle and high school youth. More than \$7,000 worth of dental work was provided free of charge. For many of the youth, this was their first time seeing a dentist.

Subsequent clinics in December 2009 and January 2010 each served twelve youth as well, ranging from elementary age through high school. Youth First and Ronald McDonald House will continue to offer mobile dental care clinic days throughout 2010.

Root canals, oral surgery, orthodontia, and the like, that can't be treated in the mobile unit are provided by local dentists in partnership with Youth First.

Apple Tree Dental in Coon Rapids, for example, is providing care for one particular youth whose needs were so profound that Ronald McDonald House has offered to pay for senior pictures so they can feature the "before and after" smile!

**Brighter smiles . . .  
better health for our youth!**



## Outcomes of the 2009 Holiday Programs

As is tradition here in Human Services, gifts were gathered and given this past holiday season to county residents involved with our Social Services and Community Health Departments.

Granny's Closet matched 149 seniors with gifts. Adopt-a-Family responded to 251 family requests, and Giving Tree served 207 adults. Of the 1,381 gift recipients, 667 were children, 523 were adults age 55 and under, and 191 were adults over age 55.

The monetary value of the gifts was estimated to exceed \$67,500.

### In summary . . . .



And thank you for all these clothes and pajamas! The Minnesota Gophers shirt looks so good on me!

And thank you for the presents that my parents have!

Sincerely,

## For all you do, this day's for you!

The Anoka County Senior Caregiver Network sets aside a day each year during National Caregivers Month to celebrate and honor family caregivers . . . those who provide ongoing quality care and support to elderly family members so they can remain in their homes.



Fifty-two caregivers attended the most recent event at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka, and were:

- Inspired with a keynote presentation on *Finding Balance and Building Your Core*.
- Encouraged to find balance in their lives while juggling the many demands of their caregiver roles.
- Humored with touching stories.
- Pampered with chair massages, music therapy, relaxation yoga, and more.
- Provided with a great opportunity to visit and connect with other family caregivers!

## Transportation Assistance added to Emergency Assistance

With federal stimulus money, Anoka County Income Maintenance added transportation assistance to the emergency assistance program that traditionally has helped people with rent and utility emergencies for families under 200% of poverty.

A partnership was developed among Free 2 Be! (a community-based transportation program), Community Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP),



and Income Maintenance staff to assist Anoka County residents by giving them donated cars, making repairs, and helping with insurance costs.

Qualifying families in need of the transportation assistance to begin or maintain employment have benefited from this program. From July 1, 2009, through January 31 of this year, 156 families were helped with car donations and repairs, and 191 had help paying their car insurance through this program expansion.



### Anoka County Human Services

Jerry Soma, Division Manager

- ◆ Community Corrections
- ◆ Community Health and Environmental Services
- ◆ Community Social Services and Mental Health
- ◆ Income Maintenance
- ◆ Job Training Center
- ◆ Medical Examiner's Office