



Mitch D. greeting runners near the finish line

2011 Reach Run for Independence

Trek and Run Events Enjoy Successful Year

The Trek to the Big Sky and Reach Run for Independence events both had a very successful year. The Run for Independence took place on July 4th over the trails of

north Bozeman. There was an increase in participants this year with 192 people running in either the 1K, 5K, or 10K distances. The Run also raised the most in the four years since it started, more than \$5,000.



Sharon J. encouraging runners near the finish line

The 17th Annual Trek to the Big Sky, Triumph Over Disabilities also had a very good year with nearly 300 people on the mountain. The weather was glorious and the event eclipsed last year's funds raised by more than \$1,000, raising just over \$17,000.

All proceeds from the two events go to help Reach, Inc. empower the people with developmental disabilities we serve.

Employee Spotlight



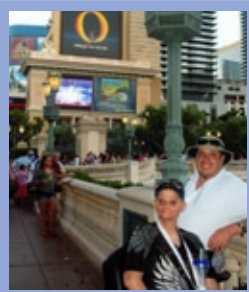
Jess Kristof began working for Reach as a relief staff at N. 3rd in 2003. Six months later she accepted a full time position as an Intensive Work Services Specialist at the Reach Work Center. During the next year and a half Jess worked as a Work Services Specialist on Team C, and also as a Transitional Living Instructor at N. Tracy. She ended that period of her employment when she took a position as a Work Services Specialist on Team B, where she has happily remained for nearly 6 years.

Jess shares her home with her 2 daughters, Devin and Kailin, and they are anxiously awaiting a new daughter, Haiden, that is soon to arrive. They also have a big black dog, Bear, that they all enjoy. Jess loves to spend time with her family doing activities around the community. She doesn't tolerate sitting in the house being bored and is an expert at finding inexpensive (FREE!!!) things to do with her girls. They can often be found floating the river, camping, ice skating, visiting parks and farmer's markets, and participating in activities at local businesses.

Jess is a calm, steady, and always respectful member of the Reach team. She is enjoyed and loved by coworkers and clients alike and is much valued for all the positive qualities she brings to her job.

Client Corner

Vegas Baby!



Mitch & Scott (on vacation)

The highlight of Mitch D. and Scott A.'s trip to Las Vegas was seeing magician David Copperfield. Of course gambling took place... "I have a sore elbow from pulling the levers on the machines," said Scott. Mitch said "We did lots of walking, swimming and eating - I ate coconut shrimp!"

Also Alex M., Theresa M., Martin B., and Theresa S. are spending time with family across the U.S.

A Big Move!

Jenny L. will be moving to Willow Group Home.

Farewell

We bid a fond farewell to Kim S. who moved to Nebraska to be closer to her family.

Who's New

We say hello to new clients Cory B., Amanda R., Milaina B., Alyssa N. and Nathan W.

Other News

Congratulations goes to Larry K. for acquiring a job at the Gallatin Valley Movie Theater where he helps with concessions and does light janitorial work. Team A acquired a job to put Hummus labels on Z's Old World Foods containers, **Great job Team A!**

More Vacation News

Other vacation trips include Shauna H. going to her sister's wedding in Lake Tahoe, Samantha A. working as counselor at the Optimist Camp in Red Lodge, a trip to Fairmount Hot Springs by the Valley Creek residents, Holly A. going to Chico Hot springs with her mom, and a "really hot" trip to Disney World by Lois C.

Have you seen our models in "Apostrophe" magazine?

Macy's took the photos of Flora O., Clint W., Kim S., Fred L., Tim K., Alice P., Amanda T., Mitch D., Charles W., Mike N., Suzan M., Lois E. and David S. for ads in four different issues. Our clients look great and had a fun day on the shoot. Check out the current Apostrophe issue at <http://apostrophe.journalgraphicsdigital.com/current/>



Amanda T. at photo shoot



Clint W. at photo shoot



Flora O. at photo shoot



Kim S. at photo shoot



Fred L. at photo shoot

Reach's Loss, Florida's Gain

After 25 plus great years with Reach Inc. and 30 plus not so great Montana winters, I am heading south. A friend once told me, "You never have to shovel sunshine". I'm going to try to find out if he spoke the truth. On September 15th I will be leaving my position as Community Relations and Development Director with Reach and will take on the role of freelance snowbird. My lovely wife Barbara and I will be dividing our time between Bozeman, in the summers, and Fort Myers Beach, Florida, in the winters.

**Leaving is not easy.
I began working for Reach in
my early 20's while still in college.
The fantastic staff, clients,
and Board members soon became
like family and I will miss
them all dearly.**

Many will always remain life-long friends. Reach has quietly been empowering Bozeman citizens with disabilities since 1974 and Bozeman has in turn been extremely supportive of those efforts. I encourage all my individual and business contacts to please continue your support for this wonderful organization. Of course, you are not rid of me for good, I hope to see all of you each summer. A clue, look for me on the golf course.

The new Community Relations & Development Director is no newcomer to Bozeman or to Reach, Inc. I am happy to say Dee Metrick will be taking my position. Dee is a good friend and has been with Reach for over 12 years and is currently our Staff Development Specialist. You will find Dee to be both pleasant and professional. She has a great grasp of Reach and our mission and is loved and respected by our staff and clients alike.

Jay Winchester



Jay Winchester and Dee Metrick

Fellow Reach Devotees,

After over 12 years of watching Jay work his way easily into the hearts of the people who support Reach and our mission, I am sad that he and his extraordinary sense of humor are going to fly south this winter.

**I am excited to begin
what I have declared
to my friends and family
as "my dream job".**

I believe in Reach, in our mission, in our leaders, and in the staff who put so much of their hearts and souls into providing high quality care to the people we serve. Today, I would like to thank each of you for any service or financial investment you have provided in the past. Because of backing from people like you, I have witnessed clients overcoming hardship, experiencing success in their employment and recreation, creating a space in their home that expresses their interests and desires, and feeling acceptance from their family and community. One of my goals in this new position is to share those stories, to help you to know what a difference your support makes, and to encourage you to continue your care for our boundless organization.

Please feel free to call me to set up an appointment and meet in person. I would like to thank each of you face to face.

Enthusiastically,
Dee Metrick



Empowering people with disabilities

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Reach, Inc. has a new van!

This past winter saw a number of vehicle breakdowns causing staff to make numerous adjustments in transportation schedules. The Cedarview clients have been using a vehicle not particularly well suited to their needs.

The new 2011 Gold Ford van is safe and comfortable for the clients. On the day the van arrived the excitement was heard as staff arrived. The clients let us know the new van was here and it would be for the Cedarview clients. Staff from the work center and the house who will be driving the van were trained on how to safely operate the lift.

The clients were excited about the air conditioning, the radio, and the smooth ride. Staff were excited that the lift works every time, and the van works well for the clients. The back of the van has room for two or three wheel chairs, along with four seats that can be put down in different configurations depending on the needs of our clients. Our newest vehicle has a number of safety features for the lift and has a built in step for the side door, making it easier and safer for clients and staff to enter and exit.

The van was secured through a grant from the Montana Department of Transportation.



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