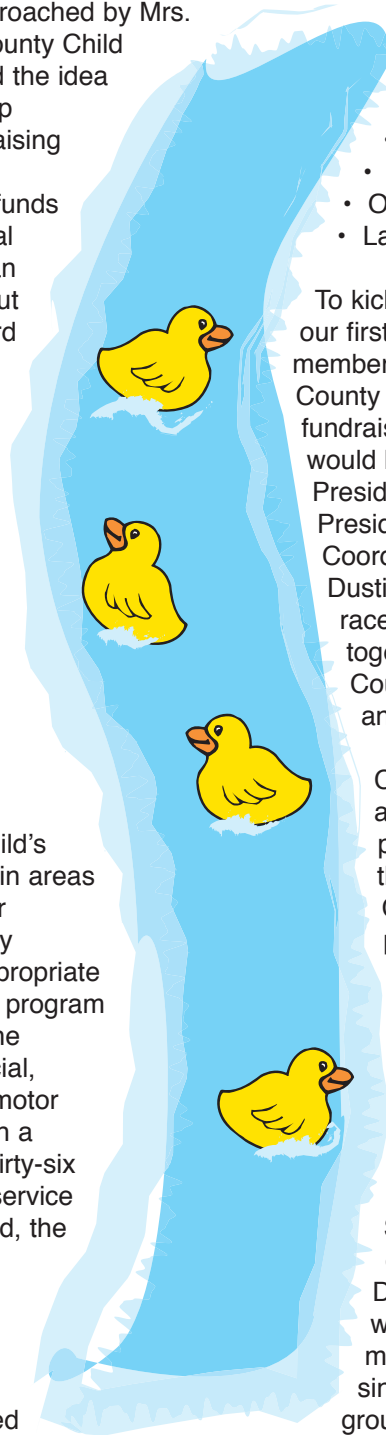


Big Hands Helping Little Hands

Richland HOSA is always on the lookout for community service projects. So needless to say, we were more than delighted when approached by Mrs. Patti Clifton, Director of the Giles County Child Development Center. She presented the idea of partnering with RHS HOSA to help promote the CDC's upcoming fundraising event, "The Little Ducky Race." This fundraiser was set up to add to the funds currently given through governmental assistance. While we were more than eager to help, we knew nothing about the CDC. In fact, we had never heard of it, let alone what or whom they served. That's when it was decided that we would approach this as a two-fold project. First, we would help with fundraising. Second, and possibly most important, we would help to promote the CDC and increase community awareness about the center.

The purpose of the Giles County CDC is to provide educational intervention services to children identified as having developmental delays or a specific disability. Early intervention includes assessing a child's development, identifying and acting in areas enabling the child to reach his or her potential. Play-based interdisciplinary instruction is then provided in an appropriate and natural setting. The educational program includes developmental training in the following areas: communication, social, emotional, adaptive, cognitive, fine motor and gross motor skills. Any child with a developmental delay from birth to thirty-six months is eligible for admission as service designs permit. Operating year round, the CDC provides:

- Two half-day center-based programs in an inclusive environment
- Home based and community based instruction
- One instructor for every three children
- Parental training



- Van transportation in most areas
- Child Find
- Social services coordination
- Transition and follow-along services
- Vision evaluations
- Public Awareness
- Typical Developing Program
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Language and Communication Therapy

To kick off our joint project, Mrs. Clifton came to our first HOSA meeting, which had over sixty members present. Richland HOSA and the Giles County CDC collaborated together to form a fundraiser. We thought "The Little Ducky Race" would be fun and beneficial. Sarah Perry, RHS President; Hannah Woodard, Senior Vice-President; Abby Hagan, Community Service Coordinator; and members Marcia Frazier and Dusti Harris went to the CDC to pre-plan the race. The CDC and Richland HOSA worked together to spread the word around Giles County by creating posters, fliers, and even announcements on the radio.

Contestants bought plastic ducks for \$5.00 apiece with a corresponding number printed on the bottom. The ducks were then sent to float down Pleasant Run Creek, and the first to reach the finishing point was declared the winner. In addition to The Little Ducky Race, there were other contests and events held throughout day. One activity featured a jar full of corn in which the winner was determined by the person who guessed closest to the actual number of corn kernels in the jar. There was also a poster contest involving the Giles County Schools. A few people even dressed as ducks to entertain and carry out The Little Ducky Race theme. One of these ducks was Misty Jones, R.N., a HOSA alumni member. Local church youth groups, singers, tumblers, and performing arts groups entertained those who chose not to participate in the activities. Overall, The Little Ducky Race was a complete success for both Richland HOSA and, more importantly, the Giles County CDC.

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TENNESSEE

Big Hands Helping Little Hands



Mrs. Patty Clifton said The Little Ducky Race was so successful that they plan to host another one next year. The duck race raised \$7,000 for the Giles County CDC, \$500 of which was raised by Richland HOSA alone.

Richland HOSA had become a very good friend to the Child Development Center, so around Christmas we decided to help the CDC with their annual Christmas party. We got a list of the names of the children who attend the CDC, which included eight children and their brothers and sisters. The Christmas party provided an opportunity for us to experience one-on-one interaction with the kids and get to know them. We made personalized stockings for the kids and filled them with candies and toys, as well as fruit donated by RHS's FFA. We played games like Pin the Nose on Rudolph, which the children enjoyed tremendously and we made sure the kids had a special treat of Christmas cookies. Santa even stopped by for a visit and brought books to each child. Ms. Patty Clifton says that they now have a bunch of bookworms on their hands, and we believe it! It was truly touching to see the children exchange gifts with one another; the thrill in their eyes as they ripped off the

wrapping paper was priceless. We received a thank-you note from Ms. Clifton for all that we had done over the last few months. She was thankful for our help with The Little Ducky Race and made sure to tell us how much the children enjoyed the Christmas party. It was a lot of work to get everything planned, but it was worth it. We would do it all over again in a heartbeat just to see one child's face light up.

We are pleased to report that 25 RHS HOSA students worked at The Little Ducky Race, and another 25 students helped with the Christmas party. We have plans to coordinate the CDC Valentine and Easter parties for the 2005 year. As a result of our work, all 130 RHS HOSA students are now aware of the CDC's mission. The Giles County CDC now has the funds to proceed with their goal of helping the children.

Submitted by:
Abby Hagan, RHS Community Service Coordinator
RHS Community Awareness Team:

Treva Locke
Casi Blade
Amea Rose Motter

NEBRASKA

Chapter News

Nebraska HOSA continues to strive for excellence. As a growing state association, Nebraska state officers have worked hard to spread awareness about HOSA. We have sent numerous letters to schools to invite them to start a HOSA chapter, and for the first time, Nebraska HOSA had a Pre-State Conference. This conference was a huge success, due in large part to our Millard West Chapter. We had students from across the state compete at Pre-State. Nebraska HOSA is busy preparing for our State Conference. We are planning to have several guest speakers, corporate sponsorships and representatives from local colleges. We are excited and looking forward to Nationals!

By: Kelly Schulz, Nebraska HOSA Secretary



CHAPTER NEWS