



Home Builders Association of the Sioux Empire
6904 S. Lyncrest Pl.
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Ph: 605-361-8322
Fx: 605-361-8329

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Lisa Ottmar, Public Relations Director
605-361-8322 / lisa@hbasiouxempire.com

Ribbon Cutting, Open House at new Ronald McDonald House®

SIOUX FALLS, SD (December 30, 2009) -- The Home Builders Association of the Sioux Empire (HBASE) joins the Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Dakota (RMHC-SD) in inviting the public to the Ronald McDonald House® ribbon cutting on Thursday, January 7. Immediately following the 4:30pm Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting will be an Open House from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

The 20,000 square-foot, 18 bedroom home located near 17th Street and Lake Avenue (just north of the Sanford Health campus) was constructed by the helping hands of over 80 HBASE member companies. As the Association's largest community service project ever, the group takes great pride in giving back to the community through such a well-known and respected global charity.

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of South Dakota provides a home away from home for families as their seriously ill children receive medical treatment at facilities such as Sanford Children's Hospital. When the doors open for service in January, the charity will have two homes in Sioux Falls (a 9-bedroom home near Avera McKennan and the new 18-bedroom home near Sanford Children's Hospital). Over 6,000 families have utilized the charity's housing services in South Dakota since 1983.

"We've come a long way on this very large project and we are so proud of the end result," said Daryl Christensen, 2010 HBASE President-Elect. "We'd like everyone in the Sioux Empire community to take this rare opportunity to view the impressive, beautiful home at the open house. We're hoping that this will be the last time that you'll see the insides of this home and you won't ever have a need to stay overnight."

MJ Schmidt, Executive Director of RMHC-SD, believes the partnership between the two organizations has set a positive example of just how talented and kind-hearted Sioux Empire business owners and citizens truly are.

"The level of the HBASE's generosity speaks volumes about the character of the people in this industry in South Dakota," said Schmidt. "We are so grateful to have two beautiful homes within the city of Sioux Falls. Hundreds of families from all of the Midwest will lay their head down to rest at the homes."

The HBASE recently received the South Dakota Home Builders Association (SDHBA) 2009 Project of the Year Award for the construction of the Ronald McDonald House®. Since the construction of the home began in July of 2008, hundreds of HBASE members have donated cash, materials and long hours of labor to the project.

Dwight Neuharth, Executive Vice-President of the South Dakota Home Builders Association, remarked, "SDHBA is proud of the efforts of the Home Builders Association of the Sioux Empire for their work in building the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux Falls. The charity serves families from around the country and the volunteerism from the home builders helped make this dream happen."

For more information about the HBASE and their contribution to this major community service project, please call 605-361-8322 or visit www.hbasiouxempire.com.

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***Editors Note:** Representatives from both the HBASE and RMHC-SD will be available for interviews at the Open House on January 7.*