



# **CITY OF WILLMAR 2007 ANNUAL REPORT**



City Attorney  
City Clerk-Treasurer  
**Community Ed & Recreation**  
Cultural Liaison  
Finance  
Fire  
Planning & Development Services  
Police  
Public Works

Mayor Heitke and the Willmar City Council,

It is my pleasure to report on the opportunities offered by the CER department in 2007. It was another action packed year for program offerings and facility upgrades and additions. The staff of our department certainly appreciates the support and resources available due to the leadership of the City Council and School Board. With this support we are able to offer a plethora of opportunities to the whole community. We are truly a department that is able to say we have "SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE".

In 2008 we saw the completion of a couple of wonderful recreational facilities that the whole community can enjoy. Obviously at the top of the list is the completion of the Civic Center connection. This \$1.2 million addition to the community has been a big hit in the few months that it has been open. We had a great open house that was able to showcase the diversity that facility has to offer the community. The winter season has had an opportunity to realize the benefits of this addition and we are anxiously awaiting the dry floor season and how that changes the dynamics of the use during these large events such as the Sonshine Festival. We were able to complete the disc golf course facility at Robbins Island last summer and it had some real steady use during its first year. We held a grand opening for that facility that brought over 100 citizens to check out the newest recreational offering in the community. We were also able to offer our first disc golf tournament this past summer that, although smaller in participants than we would have liked, was a great showcase for this facility.

We recently submitted our annual report to the Minnesota Department of Education and the numbers are somewhat staggering when you look at the program offerings and participation this collaborative program has to offer the Willmar Community and surrounding area. Our public facilities were used by around 150 groups outside of city or school sponsored organizations. The number of participants using the facilities was around 22,000 and more when you include all the concerts and Sonshine Fest attendees with over 100,000 hours of participant use of facilities.

Our program participations numbers were also very good for 2008. We had over 10,000 participants take part in our 900+ program offerings this past year. These types of numbers speak volumes as to the effort needed to organize and operate all of the great opportunities the CER department is able to provide. This cannot be done by the staff alone, we have many partners in the community that work with us to provide the type of services you see in our catalog of offerings.

Our advisory council membership is a true link to the community as we try to create a community education and recreation program that attempts to meet the needs of a very diverse community. These volunteers are an invaluable resource that assists us in developing the type of program we all can be proud of.

In closing I would like to use the weekend of February 22-24 to highlight the opportunities that this community has to offer its citizenry. Keep in mind I am not saying that our department or the city or school was responsible for these programs and activities but many of them took place in our public facilities. 90+ team youth basketball tournament, Ridgewater College hosted a regional basketball tournament, the Diamonds Edge Figure Skating Club held two performances, the Celebration of . Cultures was attended by many people and the Minnesota Orchestra held a concert at WEAC. These activities were attended not only by residents of Willmar and the surrounding area but from many parts of the state. This is what a regional center is all about and you the policy makers should be proud of the services you assist in providing.

## **Jim Nicholson - ABE Co-Coordinator - Willmar & Surrounding Area**

This past October, our long time director, Janet Flick died. Janet led our program for more than twenty years. Her personal philosophy of meeting the needs of anyone who walked through our door continues. Janet is responsible for growing our program from servicing 200 students in a year to today's numbers of serving over 1,300 per year. Janet's compassion for our students and her passion for learning is a cornerstone of our program.

Willmar's Adult Basic Education program includes two separate sites in Willmar. Our main site is at Washington Learning Center and we have a site at the Kandiyohi County Jail. Both programs provide classes year round. The Washington Learning Center is open five days a week and offers day and evening classes. Kandiyohi Jail classes are offered one morning, two afternoons and two evening each week. The two sites are staffed by three full time and numerous part time employees.

Willmar's Adult Basic Education (ABE) is also a member of a larger consortium. Willmar is the fiscal agent for the consortium with sites at KMS, NLS, ACGC, Hutchinson, Litchfield, Dassel/Cokato and in the near future Paynesville. To qualify for state and federal funding, an ABE site must be a member of a state recognized consortium.

Our Funding comes from three sources: per capita monies based on the school district census and state and federal funds, which are based on the number of student hours generated at each site.

We have two main areas of focus in helping our students reach their educational goal. We provide English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction and we offer GED test preparation. We also help students with citizenship, driver's test preparation, basic computer, reading, writing and math skills.

We have a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program in which we partner with Ridgewater College to provide ESL instruction to nursing candidates who are non-native English speakers. We offer a Family Literacy program, where we partner with the Early Childhood program at WLC, to help families understand the importance of education and provide parenting skills. We have collaborated with the Work Force Center to provide instruction to their clients in both ESL and GED preparation. We are also in the planning stages of offering a transitional program to assist students going on to technical school or college.



**Hutchinson Adult Basic Education Program**  
**Ridgewater College – Room 145**  
**320-234-8507**  
**adult.basic\_education@ridgewater.edu**

**Report 2007**

The Hutchinson Community Adult Basic Education program is offered Monday through Thursday. Hours are 9 to 3 and 5 to 8. The A.B.E. classroom is in Room 145 at Ridgewater College. The program is available to students 12 months a year.

**2007 Special Events**

<u>January</u>	Satellite classroom in Waconia Medallion Cabinetry
<u>April</u>	Family Fun Night with Ridgewater with books to Head start children
<u>May</u>	Ended Satellite classroom with Medallion
<u>August</u>	GED Celebration with 16 GED participants and friends and families filling the Ridgewater Auditorium.

**358 Students Registered**

GED or basic educational needs:	221 students
English as a Second Language:	137 students
Total student hours:	9014 hours
Students spent 1 hour to 463 classroom hours.	
ESL countries served 22 nations this year	

**Student Demographics**

Males	175	Women	183
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Native American	2
Asian	23
Black/African American	44
Hispanic	113
White	176



**Ages of students**

16-18	(44)
19-24	(120)
25-44	(157)
45-59	(33)
60+	(4)

## 2006-07 GED TEST DATA

83 achieved GED

Men: 45                                  Women: 38

Average age of GED testers was 22.3 years of age ranging from 16 to 50 years old.

Minimum average is 450 and highest average 704 (out of a possible average of 800).

Five testers had perfect 800

One tester (one man) perfect Math score

Four testers (3 women and 1 man) had one perfect test all in the Arts and Literature test

First Language of testers taking the English GED: Chinese, Somalian, Spanish

### Countries of English as Second Language Students

Since 1998 home countries of Hutchinson ABE students are as listed

(#) designates 06-07 students number served

(\* new country in 2006-7)

#### N America

Cuba  
Honduras(2)  
Guatemala(4)  
Nicaragua  
Mexico (41)  
Puerto Rico  
Panama  
El Salvador(4)

#### S America

Brazil (4)  
Argentina  
Ecuador (2)  
Peru (1)  
Venezuela  
\*Chile (1)  
\*Columbia (1)

#### Africa

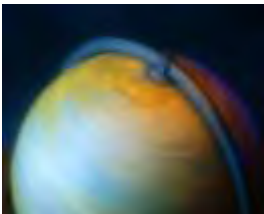
Cameroon (1)  
Ethiopia (1)  
Nigeria  
Kenya  
Somalia (33)  
Uganda (1)  
Djibouti  
Morocco

#### Europe

Poland  
Lithuania  
Ukraine  
Romania  
Siberia  
Finland  
Sweden  
Czech Republic

#### Asia

Israel  
China (6)  
Malaysia  
Turkey  
Thailand (1)  
Pakistan  
Russia (2)  
Laos (1)  
Japan (2)  
South Korea (4)  
Viet Nam (1)  
Philippines (1)  
Indonesia  
India (1)  
Bangladesh  
Taiwan  
Hong Kong



In 2006 we assisted 1 student to achieve their U.S. citizenship.

**Address of testers (All 2006-07 testers had taken practice GED tests)**

100 testers were participants in Hutchinson's ABE program

10 testers were participants in Litchfield's ABE program

11 testers were participants in Glencoe's ABE program

6 testers were participants in Dassel/Cokato's program

5 testers were participants in GFW's ABE program

2 testers were participant in Hector/Buffalo Lake program

1 tester was a participant in Arlington

These testers refreshed their skills and showed success on their GED pre-tests. We have found greater success and similar or higher final GED scoring because of the pre-test exposure and success.



GED Test consists of five sections. This is a test written to conform to the graduation standards test throughout the United States. It is an eight-hour test; we give two evening sessions of testing per month. There is a charge of \$60 to take the test.

Writing Skills: (a grammar test with an essay topic)

Social Studies: U.S. History, World History, Geography, Economics

Science: Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space

Arts and Literature: Literary Texts, Nonfiction Prose

Mathematics: Number Operations, Data Analysis/Statistics, Measurement/Geometry, Algebra

**GED Ceremony**

Each August there is a ceremony for those that successfully achieve their GED. This is held at the Ridgewater Auditorium. This year's speaker was Dawn Bjork, a counselor from Ridgewater College. The two student speakers were a current GED graduate and the other was a current Ridgewater student.

The GED graduates and their guests enjoy a reception served by the ABE instructors.

**ABE Worked closely with:**

Ridgewater College preparing potential students

County Social Services—Meeker and McLeod- teen mothers, others with specific program needs

Cokato Boys Ranch giving GED practice tests in a test setting

National Guard Recruiter to help recruits with the ASFAB and GED test

Area High School Counselors for students short to graduate

Headstart Programs assisting parents with homework help

HTI working with foreign employees and their family members to improve grammar and diction; also assisting employees to take and pass the ABE math test for job advancement

Hutchinson Workforce assisting laid-off workers with resume, interview skills, and preparation for GED testing

Medallion Cabinetry Waconia with a special ESL job skills class

**Goals for 2008:**

**\*new for 2008**

\*Begin a Transitions program assisting students to find success in college

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\* Begin pre-CNA classes to assist second language students to be successful in the CNA licensure

\*Begin Mindquest programming for ABE students to have an on-line option

\*Pretest and posttest students to successfully achieve MN ABE outcomes of 60% gain of at least one academic level.

\*Develop a basic computer to assist workers with skills to empower them at their jobs.

Continue to work with Headstart or ECFE on Family Literacy

Continue to have a minimum average of 500 on official GED tests

Attempt to encourage testers to complete all five tests in a timely manner

Reach out to community in need of our Adult Basic Education services

**ABE STAFF:** Susan Anderson

Kathy Eggimann

Nikki Mallak

Julie Mischke (lead instructor and consortium manager)

Dolf Moon (Hutchinson Community Education Director)

## **Rob Baumgarn - Youth Recreation Facilities Jr. High Athletics**

### **Softball-**

WCER joined together with the softball association. We helped with the administrative portion of the league. We were in charge of registration, field maintenance, finding ump's and schedules. Members of the league are NLS, Marshall, MACCRAY, Paynesville, BOLD and Willmar.

### **Baseball-**

Numbers continue to stay steady. We have seven 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade teams and we added a new Willmar team to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade baseball league, to make it six teams from Willmar. We play with towns from BBE, Atwater and NLS. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade league and the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade league stayed the same with 12 and 14 teams respectively.

T-Ball, for preschoolers, had over 100 participants for its first year as a stand-alone program.



### **Youth football-**

We added BBE to the league. We have teams from Morris, ACGC, MACCRAY and NLS to make up a 12 team league.

### **Youth Basketball-**

We partnered with Ridgewater College to do a drills and skills with grades 3-6. Turn out was good for its first year.

### **Youth Soccer-**

Numbers continue to grow. We are working together the Summer Soccer Association on fields and schedules. Soccer has become a very popular sport in Willmar.

## **LeAnne Freeman - Sr. Programming & Facilities, Intergenerational Programs, Park Development**

We need to do justice to our senior population by fulfilling the needs of the upcoming seniors and the needs of the existing seniors. To do this we have to acknowledge their differences.



Boomers lead a busy life and will primarily view retirement as the next stage in their lives to re-define. They also don't like to be called seniors, they are adults. Health club memberships for 55 years and over have increased over the past 12 years. Boomers will spend the vast majority of their assets on travel/leisure. These factors need to be addressed when programming for the boomer generation; demographics, attitudes, education and income levels.

One of the biggest challenges of Senior Centers nationwide will be to try to determine what the next generation of retirees is going to want in a Senior Center. Centers that don't plan for these numbers will only fail. Reaching out to boomers will be a challenge and we need to change the stereotype of Senior Center and be inclusive to several generations.

Are we as a Department or City boomer savvy and do we want to invest in our senior population? We expect to see another busy year in 2008, and we hope to reach out and invest in our senior population by continuing on a positive path for many years come.



**Willmar Area Senior Citizens Community Center Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Willmar Area Senior Citizens Community Center is to offer a broad range of services and activities to meet the needs of older adults. The needs will be defined as:

1. Social and Recreational
2. Education
3. Cultural
4. Emotional
5. Physical
6. Economical

**Willmar Area Senior Citizens Community Center Goals**

1. The goal of the Center is to provide adequate recreational services which teach skills For leisure use, provide opportunities to maintain and renew self respect, provide opportunities to learn ways of improving one's health, and to provide opportunities for interaction with others.
2. The goal of the Center is to maximize the use of the Center both with senior activities, as well as opportunities for general public use.
3. The goal of the Center is to offer opportunities for older adults to have a voice in the affairs of the Center and Community.
4. The goal of the Center is to offer opportunities for independence and self direction.

Statement of Support for 2007

Sources of Support

City of Willmar	\$ 75,550.00
Rentals	\$ 5,288.00
Sr. Club Donation	\$ 3,000.00
Programs & Activities	\$ 397.82
Donations/Contributions	\$ 250.00
<b>Total Financial Support:</b>	<b>\$ 84,485.82</b>

Uses of Funds

Programming/Special Events	\$ 1,422.23
Newsletter	\$ 1,939.69 (Does not include mailing costs)
Management & Operating	\$ 91,945.49
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 95,307.41</b>

Capital expenditures hit us hard in 2007 at the Center. We had to replace the last over-head AC/heating unit in November. What was to have taken place in our five year capital improvement process took place in two years. Three rooftop units, major repair on another rooftop unit and replacing a heating unit in the woodshop took a toll on our 2007 budget and is the main reason the Center went over budget.

Partnerships & Community Involvement

Senior Citizens Club	Widowed Persons Advisory Board
Senior Coalition	Drivers Safety Program
Willmar School District	Boy and Girl Scouts
Compassionate Care	West Central Barbershop Chorus
WA-AARP	YMCA
Willmar Public Library	Willmar Fests Committee
New Year's Eve Celebration	KAT Operation Board
Region 5 Dairy Committee	Life Connections
Willmar Bus Service	Southwest Tours
MRPA	NRPA
Senior Tops	Kandiyohi Country Health
Ombudsman	

Senior Council 2007

Anne Miller	Phyllis Jensen	Jim Schnell
Arthur Griffin	Mardi DeJoy	Jim Collier
Jim Dokken—City Council	Audrey Nelsen—Community	
Steve Brisendine	LeAnne Freeman	

## **A note from the Chair of the Senior Council**

Jim Collier

2007 was a busy, but exciting time at the Center. The library was moved to the Bremer Room, and joined with the computer lab. This provides users a quiet, comfortable place to browse and read. The exercise room is less busy with readers and more busy with people exercising. We were also able to make the room available for small groups or meetings. The room divider between the Bremer and Burlington Northern Rooms was installed in late December and has provided much needed quiet times.

The outside of the building has been inspected and is in need of painting and some maintenance. Future projects that the building and grounds committees have looked into are a new electronic sign and some landscaping in front of the Center.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the volunteers who help at the Center.

### **Willmar Area Senior Citizens Community Center Staff & Volunteers**

LeAnne Freeman, Recreation Supervisor

#### **Volunteers**

(Volunteers are worth - \$18.04 Per hour)

##### **Greeters**

Don Niece  
Kermit Bjornberg  
Margherita Larmon  
Pat & Lloyd Tollefson  
Mary & Jim Schnell  
Dick Reyer  
Evelyn Freeman  
Lorraine Himango  
Jim & Mary Schnell  
Shirley & Wayne Hulst  
Doc Watson  
Bob Lehman  
Clarence Oletzki  
Ella Mae Dengerud  
Sonia & Jim Collier

##### **Program**

Shirley Hulst  
Joyce Lovander

##### **Maintenance**

Jim Collier  
Clarence Oletzki

##### **Drivers Safety Instructors**

Mary & Jim Schnell  
Dave Peterman  
LeRoy Sanders  
Dick Reyer  
Lois Lin  
Dale Johnson

##### **Library**

Lorraine Himango  
Evelyn Freeman

Jim & Mary Schnell  
Evelyn Freeman

##### **Inter-generational**

Barb & Lowell Anderson  
Jim & Mary Schnell  
Doc & Elaine Watson  
Evelyn Freeman  
Joyce Lovander  
Rosie Nelson  
Josie  
George Davis  
Shirley Hulst  
Ella Mae Dengerud

##### **Building & Grounds**

Jim Collier  
Ralph Seybert  
Myron Frank

Margherita Larmon

# Casey Johnson - Adult Recreation Aquatics Special Needs Programs

I began working with Willmar Community Education and Recreation on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. As the work started I was hired to work the Aquatics Center, Adult Recreation and Special Needs activities.

## Aquatics Center:



The summer of 2007 was the third full year of service. We have a great group of lifeguards, who do a great job at the Aquatics Center. The attendance of the Aquatics Center was very strong this past summer. There were very few days the Aquatics Center was closed due to bad weather.

Some of the data that was collected:

*We had over 16,500 people come through and use Dorothy Olson Aquatics Center.  
For the second year in a row the week of SonShine was the busiest of the summer.*

Overall, the time that I was on the job the summer aquatics season went well. The best attendance was when the weather was 90 degrees or better and sunny. Then when the weather was cool and cloudy the attendance was drastically affected.

## Adult Recreation:

This was my first time running large adult recreation leagues and the programs had great numbers. There were 70 teams that competed in the summer softball leagues that ran Monday through Friday. Then we had a very successful fall softball league for the diehard softball players. After the fall softball leagues were done, and then it was right into the volleyball leagues.

The adult recreation leagues were very successful. I could not have done it without the great help from officials, participants and other WCER employees. In all the leagues there were 65 volleyball teams competing in the Willmar winter volleyball leagues. There are 7 teams that are going to play in the MSF State Volleyball Tournament.



The city of Willmar is very lucky to have the amount of gym space at the Senior High, Junior High, Roosevelt, Kennedy and the Auditorium. This winter our programs alone comprise about 40% of the gym space that is being used.



Along with the gym space, the outdoor ice rinks in the city of Willmar are probably some of the greatest in the state. This winter the rinks and warming houses were open for almost 3 months. These warming houses were staffed from 4 to 9 on the weekdays and 1-9 on the weekends. Public works did an amazing job of watering the rinks daily to create the smoothest ice in the area.

Another aspect of my job was working with the special needs population. The summer recreation for the special needs was fantastic. There were activities that ranged from softball and horseshoes to bingo and movie nights. The number of participants is continually on the rise and this summer there should be a larger variety of activities for the special needs population. This school year, I have also been teaching one hour of 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education. This has been a very good learning experience. This year was also my first season as the head wrestling coach at the Senior High School. We had a very young and inexperienced team that will make great strides in the next couple of years.

## **Tammy Rudningen - Youth & Adult Enrichment Youth Service Public Relations**

The past year has been another busy one! I have continued teaching the high school Youth Service class at Willmar Senior High. Seventy-five eleventh and twelfth grade students enrolled for the 07-08 school year. These students learn while they volunteer in our pre K- 8 classrooms. The classroom teachers enjoy the extra hand in the classroom and the Youth Service students benefit from the many learning opportunities that occur. Over 2,000 volunteer hours took place during these three terms.



The “Something For Everyone” poster contest at WHS was a success. The winning entry appeared in the Winter 2008 WCER Activity Brochure as well as on some promotional posters and magnets.

Prairie Fire Theatre returned to Willmar for the eleventh year in a row to put together two successful shows. The popular shows involved about 150 local youth. The touring actors were also able to visit all of the first and second grade classrooms in the district as a result of a cooperative effort with the Willmar Area Arts Council.

A collaborative effort continues with Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center that allows for several outdoor hands on learning experiences for children and their families.



The Rural Youth Leadership Conference for students in grades 6-8 was a huge success with maximum enrollment and excellent participation. The Rural Youth Leaders continue to do a variety of “random acts of kindness” at the 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade levels. One of their favorite projects was the “Books for our Buddies” book drive. Another is the annual cookie bake at the junior high. The students bake about 200-300 cookies, serve them to the building staff and then donate the leftovers to a local group in need.

As a STRIVE mentor, I am again paired with a student who is falling behind academically. This mentor program has proved to be quite valuable to students who struggle academically and

are at risk of not graduating. My student is working hard towards earning her diploma and graduating with her class.

Academy Camp was attended by 70 students from several area school districts. Although attendance was down from last year, all feedback indicated that the students and teachers enjoyed this summer enrichment program. Popular classes included "Pottery Paradise" and "Click and Create." Some more changes, including a name change new location are being considered in 2008 to encourage more participation.

"ON THE ROAD" with WCER was implemented this summer. It offered a variety of hands on adventures in our local parks for grades K-8. One of the highlights from the series was when the participants planted a garden at WLC and watched it grow and later harvested it. Participation was less than hoped for and some adjustments will be made for the upcoming season.

General adult enrichment offerings continue to evolve as the needs arise in the community. Several new classes were offered in each activity brochure. There has been a trend in decreased enrollment in adult enrichment classes. This appears to be a reflection of the hectic schedules that many community members maintain and less leisure money for many families.

## **Danae Sischo - Cardinal Place**



Cardinal Place school age care program is offered before and after school, on non-school days, and over the summer to grades K-6 and to the Cardinal Kids Preschool students. Cardinal Place programming is offered at Kennedy, Jefferson, and Lincoln Elementary Schools, with students from Roosevelt and CCS bussed to sites. Over the last year, Cardinal Place served around 250 kids and their families by providing quality school age care.

It is the goal of Cardinal Place staff to provide a caring and fun environment for children that meets their social, physical, and emotional needs through a variety of experiences and activities. We encourage children to make positive choices while promoting self awareness, fostering creativity and providing leadership opportunities.

2007 was a year of change for Cardinal Place. Main focuses for change were on providing a safe environment, increasing program structure, bringing on Site Supervisors at each site, drawing on staff creativity and strength in activity planning, and increasing staff retention. Restructured before and after school programming included arts and crafts, outdoor and gym games, science experiments, computer lab, cooking, homework help, community service projects, and more.

Throughout 2007, Cardinal Place collaborated with many area programs to offer our kids additional learning opportunities. These programs included 4H, the Barn Theater, the Youth and Paws program at Ridgewater, the Willmar Police Department and Bike Safety group, Hormel/Jennie-O, and Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center.

## **Ann Trochlil - Cardinal Kids Pre-School**

Cardinal Kids preschool began its fourth year of programming in September of 2007. The program, which serves four year olds in their last year before kindergarten, is an inclusion program for students from the Early Childhood Special Education department learning along with students from the community.



Students continue to receive a top-notch educational experience from certified teachers and specialists and staff. The educational piece runs from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with before and after school care being provided by Cardinal Place childcare program. This collaboration between WCER programs is a great benefit to the families we serve. Cardinal Kids preschool program coordinator is Ann Trochlil.

We have had another wonderful year and are looking forward to continuing to offer quality early childhood programming to the residents of Willmar.

## **Jodi Wambeke - Early Childhood Family Programs**

**Early Childhood Family Programs (ECFP)** continues to provide exceptional educational and support services to children in families in Willmar.

For 2007 our **Early Childhood Family Education** program has seen over 700 families that were involved in one or more of the 38 classes, special events, Fire Station event or Open House. 'ECFE on Wheels' continues to see several families at WIC Clinics, Rice Hospital, PazY Esperanza, and, Jennie-O Turkey store and through home visits.

**The Family Literacy** program continues to get bigger and better. For 2007 we were able to double the size of the program with grant dollars. We now offer 2 sections of Family Literacy. This program is again full with a waiting list, developed to ensure participation as openings arise.

We continue to work with Public Health to offer **Incredible Years** which is a parent program designed to strengthen parenting skills and prevent behavior problems in children 3 to 10 years of age.

**Kids Together Preschool** is going as strong as ever. We continue to work closely with Early Childhood Special Education and Family Literacy to provide preschool placements for children in those programs. We currently have 98 children enrolled.

**Creative Kids Preschool** is a new collaboration this year with Heartland Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education and Family Literacy. This class runs 4 days a week for 3 ½ hours per day. We have 18 children enrolled.

The **Week of the Young Child**, which is April 13-19th, is always an exciting time for us! For the past 7 years Washington Learning Center Early Childhood Staff along with Ridgewater College Student Senate and Kandiyohi County IEIC has provided the families in our community with **Family Fun Night**. This event sees over 700 families with young children each year. This year the event will take place on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

*2007 CIVIC CENTER ANNUAL REPORT*

**CIVIC CENTER PERSONNEL:**

- Manager ..... Kevin Madsen
- Maintenance ..... Keith Hendrickson  
Jeremy Marcus
- Clerical ..... Lynette Christenson

*FLOOR ACTIVITIES AND REVENUES:*

The Civic Center Arena continues in its purpose of meeting the wide range of community needs as a multi-purpose facility providing indoor ice skating and large event and exhibition space. The facility overall, attempts to provide a well-balanced blend of rentals, public options and access to most groups during ice season, and works to maintain a balance between ice and dry floor. Scheduling ice time between user groups and using maximum available time for promoting a healthy list of dry floor events requires considerable cooperation from all renters.

Dry floor activities continue to fill most weekends in March and April, with the Sonshine Festival the largest single event. Other dry floor events continue to represent a variety of endeavors, both for private business activity or community use.

Total ice usage by major renters increased by 88 hours for 2007. The addition of a Girls High School Junior varsity team has increased the High School's usage. Diamond Edge Figure Skating also increased hours.

*OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES:*

The maintenance staff completed two major repair projects during the summer months. One set of exiting doors were removed and replaced. The work involved retro-fitting the door openings to accommodate the new doors, which are of a different size than of the 30-year doors that were replaced. The older zamboni ice re-surfacer had a complete overhaul of the conditioning sector, which was worn out after 14 years of use. Much of the rest of our maintenance time was devoted to working with the new construction, contractors, cleaning, moving materials, and completing several small projects that were coordinated with the new addition.

*SUMMARY:*

2007 was an exciting year for the Civic Center and the community as the construction project connecting the Civic Center and the Blue Line Center was completed. The project was funded by the voter approved local option sales tax. The work was completed by the time the hockey season began on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Included in the project was a dedicated locker room for the boys varsity team, a new concession area plus large concession storage room, a high school coaches room, a meeting room, and conversion of the old concessions to a skate and ticket area. The lobby that connects the two buildings is large enough to be called a “gathering area,” and really is a welcome place for all the facility users to enjoy visiting or frequenting the concession stand.

Program highlights include continued partnership with Willmar Youth Hockey to introduce youth to the fun and enjoyment of ice activities. The Diamond Edge Figure Skaters were successful in promoting their annual show by sponsoring Olympian skater Oksana Baiul as featured performer. Curling continues as a popular sport of mainly “baby boomer” age participants, and the annual “bonspiel” or tournament drew 16 teams from various parts of the state. The senior high physical education classes continue to use the facility for fitness and recreation, both for skating and curling.

The facility continues to host a variety of trade shows and events that serve to draw visitors to the community and translate into an excellent economic benefit for the City far beyond funds raised through rentals. The un-documented amount of economic benefit goes beyond hotel/motel, restaurants, service stations, retail and fast food establishments.

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>SERVICE CHARGES</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>
*****		
Miscellaneous	\$ 698.30	\$ 2,290.47
Donations	\$ .00	\$ 1,500.00
Tournament Fees (Commissions)	\$ 2,047.40	\$ 806.80

Skating Programs	\$ 4,544.00	\$ 2,176.00
Ice Arena Rent	\$143,011.80	\$131,938.29
Dry Floor Events	\$ 56,860.21	\$ 54,599.22
Skate Rentals/ Skate Sharpening	\$ 1,127.99	\$ 1,423.82
Open Skating Public Fees	\$ 2,406.65	\$ 2,519.61
Advertising Sales	\$ 7,300.00	\$ 4,300.00
Vending Machine	\$ 12,315.57	\$ 13,226.45
Concessions	\$ 45,209.53	\$ 47,879.89
Hockey Games	\$ 16,344.00	\$ 17,189.00
Accessories Sales	\$ 93.46	\$ 86.92

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**TOTAL SERVICE  
CHARGES**

**\$291,958.91**

**\$279,936.47**

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	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>
Puck Shoot %	\$ 31.90	\$ 54.60
BLA Zamboni Reimbursement	\$ .00	\$ 812.18
Camping	\$ 210.00	\$ 200.00
Novelties	\$ 100.00	\$ .00
Copies	\$ 12.25	\$ 9.00
Concession Reimbursement	\$ 344.15	\$ 750.89
Willmar Senior High	\$ .00	\$ 420.00
Light Bulb Recycle	\$ .00	\$ 43.80

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**TOTALS**

**\$ 698.30**

**\$2,290.47**

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<b>DONATIONS</b>	<b>2006 \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>2007 \$ AMOUNT</b>
Torgerson Properties	\$ .00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ .00</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>

<b>TOURNAMENT FEES (Commissions)</b>	<b>2006 \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>2007 \$AMOUNT</b>
WYH Tournament	\$ 714.00	\$ 806.80
Diamond Edge Show	\$ 315.80	\$ .00
H.S. Holiday Tournament	\$1,017.60	\$ .00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,047.40</b>	<b>\$ 806.80</b>

<b>SKATING PROGRAMS</b>	<b>2006</b>		<b>2007</b>	
	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>
Learn to Skate	8	\$ 1,280.00	8	\$1,524.00
Shoot to Score	17	\$ 1,200.00	0	\$ .00
Curling	118.5	\$ 2,064.00	70.75	\$ 232.00
Learn to Play Hockey	0	\$ .00	8	\$ 420.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>143.5</b>	<b>\$ 4,544.00</b>	<b>86.75</b>	<b>\$2,176.00</b>

<b>ICE USERS</b>	<b>2006</b>		<b>2007</b>	
	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>
High School Practice	262.75	\$ 26,431.75	300.25	\$ 31,465.5

Miscellaneous	41.5	\$ 4,830.00	38	\$ 3,795.79
*Senior High Phy Ed Classes	63	\$ .00	54.75	\$ .00
Adult Curling League (Deposited in Skating Programs 2006)	118.5	\$ .00	123	\$ 2,500.00
WYH Tournaments	61.2	\$ 5,431.25	90	\$ 9,784.50
Willmar Youth	805.5	\$ 93,532.00	744.5	\$ 70,686.50
Figure Skating Club	124.75	\$ 12,786.80	134.5	\$ 13,706.00

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**TOTALS**                      **1,477.25**    **\$143,011.80**                      **1,485**    **\$131,938.29**  
\*\*\*\*\*

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>DRY FLOOR SHOWS</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>
Ag Show	\$ 2,108.00	\$ 2,224.00
KWLM Spring Show	\$ 2,419.00	\$ 2,365.00
Builders Home Show	\$ 2,985.00	\$ 2,825.00
Tribune Garage Sales	\$ 1,510.00	\$ 1,488.00
Jose Cole Circus	\$ 2,040.80	\$ 2,108.00
Sonshine	\$22,825.00	\$22,535.00
A.W.A.K.E.	\$ 7,567.75	\$ 3,525.00
Camper Show	\$ 2,588.70	\$ 2,541.02
Community Christian School	\$ 1,924.00	\$ 1,758.00
Kandiyohi Horticulture Society	\$ 125.00	\$ 100.00
Extreme	\$ 748.00	\$ 883.00
Ridgewater College Graduation	\$ 1,588.50	\$ 1,612.00
Zuhrah Shrine Circus	\$ 1,794.71	\$ 1,883.00
Tribune Senior Show	<u>\$ 2,514.50</u>	<u>\$ 2,416.50</u>
	<b>\$52,738.96</b>	<b>\$48,263.52</b>

Clothing Concepts	\$ 580.00	\$ .00
Auto Value Show	\$ .00	\$ 493.00
ARC Spring/Fall Dance	\$ 713.00	\$ 750.50
Fladeboe Auction	\$ .00	\$ 580.00
KAT Rodeo	\$ .00	\$ 360.00
Quilt Show	\$ .00	\$ 870.00
Cummings Tool Show	\$ 657.00	\$ .00
KCP Customer Appreciation	\$ 684.00	\$1,112.00
High School Softball	\$ <u>75.00</u>	\$ <u>.00</u>

Miscellaneous Shows Total	\$ <b>2,709.00</b>	\$ <b>4,165.50</b>
Stage, Chair, & Table Rental	\$ <b>1,412.25</b>	\$ <b>2,170.20</b>

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<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$56,860.21</b>	<b>\$54,599.22</b>
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<b>SKATE RENTALS/ SKATE SHARPENING</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b>NUMBER \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>NUMBER \$ AMOUNT</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

Skate Rentals	341	\$ 478.97	457	\$ 615.43
Skate Sharpening	254	\$ 649.02	330	\$ 808.39

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<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>\$1,127.99</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>\$1,423.82</b>
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<b>OPEN SKATING PUBLIC USAGE</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b>HOURS \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>HOURS \$ AMOUNT</b>

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Leisure Time Hockey	39.5	\$ 637.37	30	\$ 555.12
Open Skating	28.5	\$1,769.28	28.5	\$1,964.49

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<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>\$2,406.65</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>\$2,519.61</b>
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<b>ADVERTISING SALES</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ AMOUNT</b>

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Advertising Sales	<b>\$7,300.00</b>	<b>\$4,300.00</b>
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<b>VEND REVENUE</b>	<b>2006 \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>2007 \$ AMOUNT</b>
Pop Machines	\$ 9,674.11	\$10,475.58
Candy Machines	\$ 1,978.46	\$ 2,133.00
Gum Ball Machine	\$ 663.00	\$ 617.87
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$12,315.57</b>	<b>\$13,226.45</b>

<b>CONCESSIONS REVENUE</b>	<b>2006 \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>2007 \$ AMOUNT</b>
Hockey Tournaments	\$ 3,713.51	\$ 5,197.96
H.S. Holiday Tournament	\$ 2,816.89	\$ 1,516.64
High School Games	\$ 8,863.22	\$12,731.13
Dry Floor Events	\$23,686.22	\$21,060.64
WYH Games	\$ 5,348.09	\$ 5,647.12
Figure Skating Show	\$ 781.60	\$ 1,726.40
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$45,209.53</b>	<b>\$47,879.89</b>

<b>HOCKEY GAMES</b>	<b>2006 ATTEND.</b>	<b>2006 \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>2007 ATTEND.</b>	<b>2007 \$ AMOUNT</b>
H.S. Hockey Games	<b>4,403</b>	<b>\$16,344.00</b>	<b>5,441</b>	<b>\$17,189.00</b>

<b>ACCESSORIES SALES</b>	<b>2006 \$ AMOUNT</b>	<b>2007 \$ AMOUNT</b>
Tape, Laces, Mouthguards, Pucks	\$ 93.46	\$ 86.92
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 93.46</b>	<b>\$86.92</b>