

April 29, 2009

Dear Friends,

Good news to share!

Dakota Communities is known for our commitment to creating opportunities for people with disabilities to live fully, to experience the magical as well as the everyday. Gifts to our Basic Wishes Fund make possible the thrill of attending the Roller Girls, the enjoyment of carefree barbecues in the backyard, the sense of accomplishment in volunteering for Meals on Wheels, and connections with pets in pet therapy visits.

There is a longstanding tradition within Dakota Communities circle of generous and thoughtful donors to make tribute gifts in honor and in memory of very special people. We invite you to join with us in this meaningful tradition. **Tribute gifts for Mother's Day, Father's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays are gifts that do not weigh down but rather lift up special people and ourselves.**

In 2008, we received 100 tribute gifts. One of our generous donors has extended a challenge: **if we double the number of tribute gifts in 2009, she will contribute \$10,000 to Dakota Communities!**

**The best news is the impact of your gifts on the lives of people living at Dakota Communities.** In the attached photo story we highlight Patty and pet therapy visits from Sydney, the Australian Husky. It shows how Patty's life includes a full measure of joy, hope, duty, challenge, adventure, love and pets. Like Patty, this is what we all want.

**Please join with us in this challenge and pass it on to your friends and relatives.** We will keep our website updated [www.dakotacommunities.org](http://www.dakotacommunities.org) so you can check our tribute progress throughout the year. You can also make your gift online if you wish.

Together we can do so much! Thank you for your partnership! You make a difference!

Sincerely,



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