Our Mission ...

The mission of Ability Building Center is to improve the quality of life in Southeastern Minnesota by providing rehabilitation and employment services for persons with disabilities and other special needs.
Dear Friends of ABC,

Throughout our 52 year history, Ability Building Center has benefited greatly from the generous support of so many friends like you who help make this such a wonderful organization. I am pleased to provide you with ABC’s 2007 Annual Report highlighting some of the many accomplishments achieved throughout the year and introducing you to just a few of the programs benefiting Southeastern Minnesota.

As you can see in this report, ABC had another strong year, providing services to 874 people with disabilities and special needs. With an annual budget of over $11 million, ABC continues to grow fiscally at a healthy and deliberate pace despite mounting costs related to transportation, wages, and healthcare. Our growth could not have been achieved without your support.

As I sit down to write this article, I am quickly reminded of how fast another year has flown by at ABC. Besides providing quality rehabilitative services and programs to our participants on a daily basis in 2007, there were definitely some highlights which merit special mention. Once again, we hosted another successful golf fundraising event on a beautiful afternoon in June. We had over 140 golfers and raised over $50,000 to benefit our programs! In October, we hosted our annual Employee Recognition Banquets in Rochester and Caledonia. The banquets were once again a huge hit with more than 850 participants and family members in attendance. Also in 2007, ABC hosted two special benefactors’ events, recognizing their contributions to ABC throughout the years. Thank you to all of those benefactors who attended and to all who continue to contribute to the growth and success of ABC.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to outgoing Board member Jeff O’Toole. Jeff is stepping down from our Board after serving on it for nine years and his contributions and insight will be missed! I would be remiss if I did not also recognize the dedication and hard work by the wonderful staff and Board members at ABC. I am always amazed at their tireless commitment and dedication to ABC’s mission. Finally, I would like to extend a personal thanks to everyone in the ABC community for your support throughout my tenure as President. You have definitely made my job easier and I ask that you continue that support for our new Board President, Steve Kann.

Sincerely,

Phong Luong
Board President

ABC would like to acknowledge and thank the many individuals, organizations and volunteers who made generous gifts in support of ABC programs in 2007. We strive to be as accurate as possible; if you notice an error or omission, or would like to make a contribution, please contact Laurie Kellagher, the Development Director at (507) 535-7105.
2007 Program Update

A high level of achievement, growth, and stakeholder satisfaction all describe the 2007 program year. It was also a year of recognition for programming success at Ability Building Center.

While continuing to refine current programs and identify other programming opportunities, Ability Building Center served 874 people; just slightly below the 880 served the prior year. The largest numbers of people served continue to be in Day Training and Habilitation, as well as our Supported Employment program. The demographics related to the primary diagnosis remained relatively the same over the past year, as did the age distribution of people served.

The variety of programs and services available account for the large number of persons we serve across all the agency’s locations. This variety is often mentioned as a reason people are drawn to receive services from ABC, as we also can provide a seamless transition from one program to the next to support a person’s changing needs.

This past year was also a time where Ability Building Center received recognition for the quality of services it provides to people. In 2007 we participated in a rigorous survey of ABC’s programs and practices by CARF, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. The process involves CARF sending a team of surveyors to talk with program participants, staff and representatives of area agencies, community members and others, as well as inspect the physical facility. Ability Building Center was awarded a three-year accreditation, which is the highest recognition an agency can receive.

Ability Building Center was also recognized by the United Way of Olmsted County at a banquet for “Organizational Responsiveness”, as well as the assistive technology program (PACTT) which received an award for “Exceptional Program Results”. These were a result of the community partnerships we have developed, as well as superior progress in program outcomes.

### Annual Numbers Served

#### Annual Numbers Served by Program 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Evaluation</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Adjustment Training</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center-based Employment</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported Employment</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community-based School Employment</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competitive Placement</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability Enterprises/Options</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodland Industries</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People Achieving Change</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through Technology</td>
<td>820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abilities Unlimited</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC Works</td>
<td>90</td>
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</tbody>
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#### Annual Numbers Served by Disability 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Dependency</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Disability</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI/ED</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR Mild</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR Moderate</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR Severe</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/N</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBI</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Annual Numbers Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Numbers Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>721</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>734</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>867</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>902</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>874</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2007 Financial Statement

Revenue:
- Trade Sales & Community Contracts: $3,397,368
- Program Service Fees: $6,910,436
- Contributions: $347,900
- United Way Allocations: $277,304
- Other Income: $18,459
- Investment Income: $86,076

Total Revenue: $11,037,543

Expenses:
- Program Services:
  - Vocational Development: $323,232
  - Center Based Employment: $3,546,751
  - Ability Enterprises: $2,208,541
  - Abilities Unlimited: $485,818
  - ABC Works: $1,850,489
  - Community Based Employment: $1,427,930

Total Program Expenses: $9,842,761

Supporting Services:
- Management and General: $810,043
- Development: $163,659

Total Supporting Services: $973,702

Total Expenses: $10,816,463

Change in Net Assets: $221,080

Development Highlights

- A $12,500 contribution from Think Community Foundation, Rochester, MN, provided help in the purchase of a new electronic signboard.

- IBM, through the help from present and past IBM employees, provided two new computer servers to help upgrade the Information Technology department.

- The Minnesota Star program provided grants and equipment in the amount of $62,000 to procure and maintain assistive technology for the PACTT program, and to cover expenses of making PACTT one of three state-wide regional resource centers for assistive technology.

- The annual ABC golf tournament and auction raised over $50,000 in revenue from golf sponsors, golf registrations, donations, and auction items.

- Memorial gifts in excess of $4,800 were received in the names of friends and loved ones.

- Additional contributions to ABC over the year in excess of $160,000 were received for use in programs and services to help improve the quality of life in SE Minnesota for people with disabilities and other special needs.

Programs Provided

- Assistive Technology
- Vocational Evaluation
- Community-based School Employment
- Work Adjustment Training
- Competitive Placement
- Center-based Employment
- Supported Employment
- Recreational/Social
- Employer of Record Services
Dear Friends of ABC,

This past year included many positive program accomplishments. We ended 2006 with a slump in our job development success. We had not had a lot of success in developing many new community-based job sites. Beginning in the second quarter of 2007 we redirected our job development focus and almost immediately began to experience success. At the end of 2007 over 120 new community-based work sites had been developed. This effort provided many great opportunities for people who receive work services through Ability Building Center.

At the end of April, 2007, ABC went through its 10th Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Survey. Three surveyors spent 3 days looking at all of the administrative and program processes that have been established at ABC. The survey proved to be a learning experience for many of the staff and Board members that were involved in the survey process. According to the reports from the survey team, ABC did very well when compared to the quality standards developed by CARF. Over 400 standards were applied during the survey. ABC achieved the highest level of accreditation—three years.

In October, we received good news on a grant from the State of Minnesota STAR program, which supports assistive technology programs for persons with disabilities. Along with obtaining up-to-date equipment, People Achieving Change Through Technology (PACTT), was designated as a regional assistive technology center. This means that for people needing assistive technology in Southern Minnesota, they’ll likely be referred to the ABC PACTT program. Since we’ve received the news on the grant the PACTT program has been extremely busy with a number of new referrals. We have added a half-time staff position to keep up with the increased work load.

This past year was the start of a joint program with PossAbilities to provide supported employment to people served through ABC and PossAbilities, supported by United Way funding. So far, the outcomes for the program have been above expectations for both programs. Earlier this year ABC and PossAbilities received an award from the United Way for their collaborative efforts in providing supported employment.

As we look back on 2007, we had a financially successful year, while continuing to have positive outcomes in our program efforts. As we move into 2008, we expect to expand our program offerings and options for our Day Training and Habilitation programs in Houston County and Rochester, along with providing additional vocational options for those students that are served through our Community-based School Employment programs. With your continued support, we’ll be able to continue the success through the coming year and into the future.

Sincerely,

Steve Hill
Executive Director

“I am deeply grateful to the many staff at ABC who took an interest in my vocational and personal future. When I started down this path, I felt hopeless and lost. But you cared enough to hold my hand and lead me where I wanted to go, even though I did not know where that was!

THANK YOU!”

~A Former Program Participant
2007 Ability Building Center Benefactors

The Benefactors Circle was established in 1994 to honor key leaders in the ABC mission. Donors who gave cumulative gifts of $1,000 were recognized. Because of the generosity of our donors we have added 4 new levels of giving. Listed below are our new Benefactors and also Benefactors who have achieved a new level of giving.

$100,000 Platinum Level
Anonymous
Mayo Clinic
Alton & Louise Shefelbine
Wayne & Pam Wesala

$25,000 Gold Level
Joel Bigelow
IBM Corporation
KTC Networks
Harold & Virginia Payne
Rochester Public Utilities
Think Mutual Bank
Wells Fargo Bank
Dennis Zortman Family

$10,000 Silver Level
Ace Communications
Anonymous
Anonymous
Associated Bank
Charter Communications
Peter & Margaret Coleman
Davies Printing
Bob & Barbara Domsalla
Titus & Carol Evans
Dorothy Gauthier
Dorothy Hartman
Clayton & Janene Hosch
Dave & Della Jenkins
Maxine Langdon
Howard & Beverly Lower
Jim & Carol McCabe
Tom & Betty Murray
Dick & Lois Quinn
Allen & Rose Rich
Claud Rowley
Carl & Vernon Schmidt Foundation
Dennis & Rita Semerad
Spring Grove Commercial Club
Dick & Sheila Wieser
Bym & Anita Williamson
Ken & Mary Zubay

$2,500 Bronze Level
ABLE
Altel
Claire Bender
Jerome Bigelow
Pat & Molly Bigelow
Wally & Faye Bigelow
Mahlon & Marilyn Burbank
Clarey’s Safety Equipment
Tom & Jane Cummings
Tom & Kathy DeBoer
Charles & Marilyn Elliott
Larry & Karen Erickson
Dick Ferguson
Arne & Kay Fockler
Forensic Technologies
Grace Franz
Fraternal Order of Eagles
Colin Gentling & Lisa Clarke
Matt Gikas
Leon & Linda Gregg
Larry & Marcia Grimm
Ken Halverson
Hamnatty & Associates
Dick Hawkins
Mike Hawkins

Faith Lutheran Church
Steve Fuchs & Therese Stern
Garnes Trinity WELCA
Gauthier Industries
Ed & Emily Harris
Henrietta Hemmesch
Beatrice Hill
Hiller Commercial Floors
HIMEC
Mark & Sue Hindermann
Hokiah Lions Club
Home Improvement Professionals
Hunt Drug & Gift
Insty Prints
Craig & Laurie Kellagher
Dick Kerndt
Kiwanis Sunrisers
Kiwanis West
Charlie Kuehn
Kwik Trip
Robert Larson
Legends Technical Services
Phong & Jacqueline Luong
Kurt & Geri Maki
Roger (Mac) McCabe
McGhie & Betts
Pete & Mary Jane McDermott
McNeilus Companies
Merchants Bank
Metro Sales
Minnesota Energy
Edith Parkhill
Pemstar
Plainview Area United Fund
Premier Bank
R & S Transport
Tom & Mary Schattengren
Schmidt Printing
Mike Steve
Henry Somsen
Spring Grove Township Unite Fund
Sterling State Bank
Trade Mart the Furniture Center
Trinity Lutheran Church
Virgil’s
WalMart North
Poebo Walters
Glady’s Willey
Winona Agency

$1,000 Blue Level
Adamson Motors
Anderson Wheelchair
Anonymous
Bill & Mary Aronin
Randy Bartz
Keith Bergie
Leslie & Elaine Beyer
Myron & Joan Bietz
Jerry & Mary Beth Biese
Brownsville Lions Club
Jim & Beth Carlson
Carlson Wagonlitt Travel
Dahl Home Builders
Duane & Barbara Duerker
Dunlap & Seeger
Roger & Marie Edelm
Etizen Lions Club

2007 Donations
Bob & Betty Aaby
Rhonda Abbott
Adair Electric Company
Adamson Tire
Alice Adamson
AFP Southern Minnesota
Nora Albert
Jeffrey Amanis
American Family Insurance
American Legion
Howard & Adella Anderson
Mark & Nan Anderson
Richard & Marlis Anderson
Steve & Barb Arbour
Bill & Mary Aronin
Dolores Augedahl
Richard Badger
Mary Baker
David & Florence Barnes
Chuck & Kitty Barry

Tom Batterson
Richard & Margaret Becker
Steve Belike
Mary Bell
Tom & Kathy Bergquist
Bigelow Watts Commercial Real Estate
Charlie Blykra Appraisal Services
Tim & Jeanne Block
Jeff Boehm
Booman Chiropractic
Bill & Rita Bourne
Don & Dorothy Bourquin
Sharon Boyce
Fran & Mary Bradley
 Wes Brandenburg
Timothy Transatlantic
Jim Brodbeck
James & Diane Bronk
Don & Rosemary Brossio
Julie Brown
Terry & Shelly Brown
Tom Brownlow
Jim & Karen Buchanan
Bernard & Rosanne Buehler
Barbara Burgess
Karina Byers
Byron Pet Clinic
Caledonia Bakery
Caledonia United Way
Camille’s Sidewalk Café
Canadian Honker Restaurant & Catering
Rick Cardiff
Cardinal of Minnesota
Chateau Theatres
Cinematic Theatres
Classic Cuts
Gene & Denise Cobb
Edmund Comartin
Costello Communications
Country Inn & Suites
Cindy Cox
Creative Cuisine Company
Crest Red Carpet Inn
Thomas & Debra Crowley
Dorothy Crown
Culligan Water Systems of Rochester
Custom Alarm & Security
Alfred & Thelma Cutia
D & R Star Vending
Olga Dahl
Daniel’s Restaurant
Danielson Insurance Agency
Al & Ann DeBoer
Tom & Lorraine Deedrick
Deer Creek Speedway
Carol Demulling
Ron & Grace Demo
Jon DeWitt
Randy Dick
David & Betty Dines
Dish It Up
Dave & Sue Dripps
Duane & Barbara Duerker
Terri Dugan & Van Heston
Schwartz
Lisa Duncan
Theodore Dunnington
David Dykstal
Edward Jones
Thank you for your loyal and generous support of the mission of ABC and individuals with disabilities. We are honored to serve as stewards of these gifts and will continue to invest them in the lives of those we serve and in the development and growth of quality programs and services.
Ability Building Center’s success over the years is greatly attributed to the leadership of its Board members.

Board: Alice Adamson, Dr. Tom Bergquist, Roger Dearth, Arne Fockler, Vice President Steve Kann, President Phong Luong, Secretary Angela Murphy, Tom Murphy, Jeff O’Toole, Katherine Piderman, Dick Quinn, and Judy Tollefsrud.