

Letter to Our Friends and Supporters

Volume 11. Issue 4

April 2008

Eden Prairie
A Better Chance
Foundation
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AN OPEN LETTER FROM KIM

I was thirteen when I left home, left my family, left everything I knew. My parents opposed the idea of me going away to school so far away from home. I was only a girl. What did I know about being independent? What did I know about taking care of myself? Apparently, more than they thought I knew. After almost four years of being a part of ABC and Eden Prairie, I can look back retrospectively and know that the choice I made was the right one.

ABC has changed my life in countless ways, an obvious one being the great education I've received from the amazing high school that is Eden Prairie High School. The environment that ABC creates for its students is one so geared towards being successful in school as well as in life. With all the commitments that ABC scholars have, it forced me to prioritize. I'm a better student because of it. By choosing to become a part of ABC, I also became a part of a family. I've met many girls through this program. Some have stuck with it, others have not. Despite anything else, every girl I have come into contact with has touched me in a way. The ABC girls are the one thing I know I can count on at the end of the day, the good days and the bad. Trust me; I have my share of the bad ones. There is always a shoulder to lean on. There is always someone to laugh with, to worry with, and even to complain with. There will never be anything else like this for me. These girls are my best friends and are my sisters.

It is extremely hard for an ABC girl, especially her freshman year, to adapt to something as huge as EPHS. Making friends is a challenge. I'd like to say that after several years, I've found my niche at the high school. It isn't something that is defined, but I've formed some friendships that will be unforgettable. In addition to those relationships, ABC has further eased my stay in Eden Prairie by providing me with such a remarkable support team. My relationships with my host families and my mentor are some of the ones I cherish the most. I love them and greatly appreciate them for their unconditional support and generosity. They are always willing to lend a helping hand. Their homes have become *my* home away from home. Their kindheartedness is evident from the fact that they accepted a stranger like me into their homes and made me a part of their family. What could be better than that?

This experience has been so profound for me. It's the type of experience you can look back on later in life and say, "That is when it all changed." My graduation from the ABC program and from high school will be a huge milestone in my life. Those of you who knew me since I started the program know the changes I've undergone since then. The timid girl who hardly ever said a word is now someone different, someone better you might say. The rigors of the ABC program have changed me. You know what they say, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. ABC is the medium through which I have accomplished so much. I owe it all to those who have always believed in me. It will be extremely hard to let go of the wonderful relationships I have forged during my time here in Eden Prairie. I want to sincerely thank those who have done nothing but contribute to my success: my host families, my mentor, the resident directors, the tutors, and everyone who has only wanted to see me succeed. Thank you.

XX

ANNUAL MEETING-MAY 13TH-6:30 PM-ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN

SENIOR DINNER/JUNE 5TH/6:30 PM/PRAIRIE LUTHERAN



A Golf Event

benefiting Eden Prairie's "A Better Chance" Program

When: Friday, June 13th, 2008

11:30 AM - Registration, Lunch, Driving Range

12:30 PM (shotgun) best ball scramble format

5:30-6:30 PM - Prizes, Social Hour, Dinner

Where: Braemar Golf Course

6364 John Harris Drive, Edina, MN 55349

Cost: \$150/person to play this beautiful and challenging course

Includes: 18 Holes, Cart, Lunch, and Dinner

Men's, Women's & Mixed Foursomes Welcome!

If you don't have enough golfers, we'll find you a foursome.

To reserve your spot, contact Katie Smith at 952-975-8310 or via e-mail at katies@edenpr.org or mail the attached sign-up sheet to the address indicated.

About the Eden Prairie ABC Foundation.

The ABC Foundation searches the country for very talented high school students who are in schools where they may not be able to reach their full academic potential. These scholars are given full ride "scholarships" to Eden Prairie High School for their entire high school career. Many are awarded substantial scholarships to area colleges upon their graduation. The ABC Foundation houses, tutors, nurtures and mentors these students for their entire high school career, preparing them for college and beyond. The foundation relies entirely on volunteers and is totally supported by the generosity of local citizens and businesses. To volunteer contact Gardner Gay at ggay@mn.rr.com.



Swing for Scholars



A golf event benefiting the Eden Prairie ABC Foundation

When: Friday, June 13th
11:30 AM - Registration, Lunch, Driving Range
12:30 PM (shotgun) best ball scramble format
5:30-6:30 PM - Social Hour, Dinner & Prizes

Where: Braemer Golf Course
6364 John Harris Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55349

Cost: \$150/person to play this beautiful and challenging course

Includes: 18 holes
Cart
Lunch
Dinner

Questions? Contact John Whaley at 612•867•6665

SIGN ME UP!

Other Players

Contact or

Captain's Name: _____

1. _____

Address: _____

2. _____

Phone: _____

3. _____

Email: _____

If you don't have enough golfers, we'll find you a foursome.

To reserve your space please return copy of this via fax to 952•942•7496
Please mail checks to John Whaley, 250 Prairie Center Drive #205, Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Please make checks payable to the ABC Foundation

All foursomes must be paid in advance - \$150 per person