

“Raising Hope” - Small Group, Huge Hearts

By: Bright Tomorrows Staff

We had a smaller turnout this year at the Bright Tomorrows Annual Fundraiser, "Raising Hope," but it felt like hearts had never been bigger. The total amount raised this year exceeds any other year totaling over \$24,000 in sponsorships and money raised at the event.

We wanted to send out a HUGE thank you to all that attended and gave and to our main sponsor: Portneuf Medical Center. All of the funds raised from this event stay in Pocatello and are used for services provided to children and families at Bright Tomorrows who are facing the crisis of child sexual abuse.

Last year alone we provided 191 children with child forensic interviews allowing them to talk about the abuse or crisis they had been through so our local law enforcement could hear their words, charge the responsible party, and better protect our community.

We also provided 198 parents and caregivers with crisis intervention, education, and follow up support after their child disclosed abuse or witnessed a crime. National studies have shown that children who have been sexually abused whose parents or caregivers are supportive and educated about how to best protect and help their child to heal experience far less trauma symptoms and long-term effects from the abuse.

Last year we counseled 124 children as well as their family members with abuse specific counseling, providing more than 3,288 hours of services. All of this would not have been possible without the support of the community.

Our annual fundraiser enables Bright Tomorrows to provide help and healing to the hurting children and families in our community. Those who attended and supported our event truly allowed us to achieve our goal. We, together with you, were able to “Raise Hope”.