

DAVIES SWIM-A-THON TO BENEFIT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

The Davies High School swimming and diving team is swimming as far as they can and completing as many dives as they can to raise money to help support the families of critically ill children.

WHAT: Davies High School Swim-A-Thon

WHEN: Saturday, January 21 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

WHERE: School Pool, Davies High School, 7150 25th Street South, Fargo CONTACT: Jennifer Johnson, Davies boys swimming coach, 218.791.2896 or

johnsoj9@farqo.k12.nd.us for more information.

The 34 seventh-through-12th grade athletes and student managers of the Davies High School Boys Swimming and Diving Team will participate in a charity swim-a-thon on Saturday, January 21 to benefit Ronald McDonald House of the Red River Valley.

The students have collected pledges for total yards swam and the challenge level of dives completed. Of the total money raised, 60% will be donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Red River Valley, while the rest will be used for team expenses.

"We enjoy supporting families in need when their children are in the hospital," Davies senior Aiden Hoff said. "We figured some extra money would help them out and help them continue helping out the community."

This is the 12th year of the charity event. In the previous 11 years, the team has donated \$36,940.95. In the past, the team has donated to Amy Johanson's ALS treatments, Special Olympics of North Dakota, F-M Humane Society, Cat's Cradle Animal Shelter, Doug Hansen's kidney treatments, Imagine Thriving, and Mara Olson's cancer fight, and Gigi's Playhouse.

"Involvement in sports can provide so many benefits for the athletes," Davies swimming coach Jennifer Johnson said. "It has always been my goal for the program, that the athletes also give back to the community which they benefit so much from. Additionally, the Swim-A-Thon gives them the opportunity to make and achieve goals both in and out of the pool."

Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Red River Valley has supported families while their children receive medical care since 1982. It provides the comforts of home in an attempt to keep families together and minimize the financial burden that comes along with medical care. Its current facility can now serve a total of 24 families, and up to 104 people each night, allowing families of critically ill children to set aside the stressor of finding accommodations.