

NEW Playground for Community Action Council

Employee-built project of Minnesota Energy Resources

For Immediate Release

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EAGAN, MN – With an aging Playground at Eagan’s B. Robert Lewis House, a safe haven home for women and children experiencing domestic violence, Minnesota Energy Resources (MERC) and its employees arranged to fund and build a new GameTime play system. This employee-built program was funded by Wisconsin Public Service Foundation, a private foundation supported by Minnesota Energy Resources and other affiliates of Wisconsin Public Service Corporation who have donated \$18,000 for the new playground equipment.

Minnesota Energy Resources employees have been volunteering with Community Action Council (CAC) at their Eagan, Lakeville and Rosemount centers for many years, and this was another opportunity to help CAC build stronger families and healthier communities. For more than 35 years, CAC has instilled hope in families to keep them safe from violence and abuse, kids come to school ready-to-learn, and people overcome crisis to become self-sufficient, productive citizens.

The project began with Northern Pipeline (NPL), a contractor with Minnesota Energy, volunteering to tear out the old playground equipment to make it ready for the new 50 foot long play system. Minnesota Energy Resources President Chuck Cloninger said, “We appreciate the support of NPL to bring in their heavy equipment and look forward to our employee-build on October 12th as we work with the Eagle Scouts and Minnesota/Wisconsin Playground to install the new custom manufactured play system.” NPL had seven volunteers, two mini-excavators and skid loader and three dump trucks. The bushes were sent to composting, the asphalt and concrete will be recycled by NPL for re-use in filling holes, and the sand and rocks will be recycled for the new playground and landscaping.

The employee-build is expected to take one day (Friday, October 12 from 8am – 3pm) with Minnesota Energy volunteers, and will be ready for the kids to enjoy that weekend. Additional information will be available as the playground build date draws near. For more information contact Ann Carlon at 651-322-8916.



NPL clearing area for the new playground