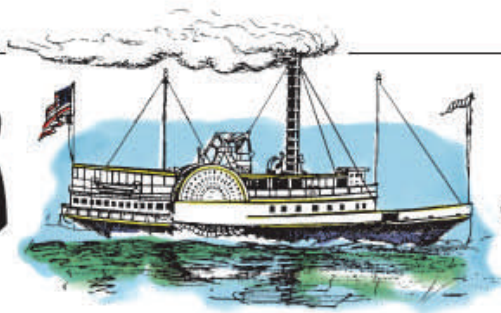

Gilford



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JUNE 3, 2010

GILFORD, N.H. - FREE

Genesis Behavioral Health awarded grant for children's program

LAKES REGION — Genesis Behavioral Health was the recent recipient of a \$5,450 grant from the Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation.

The grant will support recreation programming during school vacations for children with mental health issues. Working together with local organizations, such as Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center, children receiving services from Genesis Behavioral Health will have the opportunity to access the many outdoor activities available in the Lakes Region.

“Support for these types of projects is so important,” said Ray Barrett, director of Children and Family Services at Genesis Behavioral Health. “Research shows that recreation activities have multiple benefits for children with mental health issues, including increased self-esteem, improved social skills and enhanced feelings of well-being.”

Maggie Pritchard, executive director of Genesis Behavioral Health, noted, “For many of the children we serve, participation in recreation activities is limited. They may need more individualized attention, or the family may need additional resources to facilitate participation. In particular, school vacations are a challenging time for families. This project will alleviate some of that burden, and result in positive outcomes for the children we serve.”

Founded in 1989, the Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation supports education, land resource management and social service programs in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. The Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation has a particular interest in programs that provide educational and economic opportunities for underprivileged persons, especially children. Genesis Behavioral Health is the Lakes Region's Community Mental Health Center, serving Belknap and Southern Grafton Counties. A non-profit organization, Genesis provides services and programs to the community's children, adults and elderly and serves over 3,000 individuals each year. For further information, call 524-1100 or visit www.genesisbh.org.