# From the desk of **KELLY OLSON**The Village President and CEO



This year's Bobcat ND Open tournament marks 40 years of a significant and impactful relationship between The Village and Bobcat Company. Over the years, this partnership has strengthened, with Bobcat providing substantial financial support and employee volunteer efforts to help further support our mission of enhancing the lives of those we serve.

As the tournament grew, its impact on The Village and the community also expanded. The tournament's increased visibility and financial support allow us to enhance and broaden our services, reaching more individuals and families in need. The \$1.2 million in donations throughout the years has significantly contributed to the sustainability and growth of our programs, ensuring that we can continue to meet the diverse needs of the community.

Funds have supported The Village in providing high-quality services with innovative practices to all those seeking care, regardless of their ability to pay. In 2023, The Village provided over \$400,000 in free or reduced-fee services to those in need, with the Bobcat ND Open helping contribute to this effort.

The Village has also been able to further educate our providers in evidence-based models like Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), and Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP). These timely and costly training programs ensure our providers can always find solutions for our clients that help them feel better, thrive, and get back to life.

We want to express our gratitude to all the Bobcat ND Open golfers for their participation and support. Your involvement not only makes the tournament a success but also plays a crucial role in supporting us in helping those in need. Thank you for being a part of this meaningful event and for contributing to the well-being of our community.

## **SHELLEY WEIDNER**

Volunteer of the Year

The Bobcat ND Open wouldn't be what it is without our volunteers. We rely on the hard work and dedication of dozens of people throughout the year to ensure this tournament runs as efficiently as any Bobcat machine. This year, we want to recognize an especially important member of our volunteer team, Shelley Weidner.

Shelley Weidner has been a familiar face at the Bobcat ND Open for nearly 50 years. Over the years, Shelley has been involved in many aspects of the tournament, including registration, administration, scoreboard logistics and also serving on the Bobcat ND Open Committee.

"A lot has changed," Shelley admits. She remembers the ping pong table in her basement covered in hand-written recipe cards with each player's information. "That's how we determined tee times and the cut on Saturday back before computers."

It was a labor of love. One Shelley has always been proud to be a part of.

"It was the highlight of our year," she said. "We looked forward to it every summer. Seeing returning players and friends. Knowing our hard work was making a difference for The Village and for the community. We wanted to make it the best tournament in the area." And it is! Just ask any of the dozens of players who return to the Fargo Country Club year after year.

You'll find Shelley working the scoreboard again this year – her favorite position during the tournament since it keeps her in the middle of all the action. Take a moment to stop by and thank her for 50 amazing years!





Co-sponsor:

Bell Bank

**Proceeds benefit:** 







To celebrate the tournament's 60th year and Bobcat Company's 40th year as the major corporate sponsor, we want to shine the spotlight on an individual who has been a fixture at the event longer than Bobcat has. The 2024 Honorary Chair is

Bill began playing golf as a young man. He quickly discovered he had a natural talent for the game, and it provided a fun way to network as he built the family business. Dakota Hose, with his four siblings.

Bill has always appreciated the competitive nature of the sport, so when Bobcat joined the event as a sponsor, he and many others were excited to see a new crop of golfers join the competition. The Bobcat ND Open quickly became a highlight of Bill's summer - a chance to catch up with friends and rub elbows with some of the best names in golf. He played his most memorable round of golf during the tournament.

"I have one round that is so vivid in my mind," he said. "I was playing the back nine at Fargo for my opening nine. Coming into 18 I was two under par. I hit my drive right in the river. Pretty disappointing. I ended up scoring a five, so a bogey. Still good considering hitting it out of bounds was a two shot penalty. So now, instead of being two under, I was one under on that side, which was really good for me. Then we went to the front nine, and the same thing happened! I was two under going into nine and, God, didn't I hit it out of bounds on the right! Another two shot penalty and another five. I ended up shooting a 70, which is the best round I've ever shot in Fargo!"

Bill admits his scorecard might be a bit higher these days, but he still looks forward to the Bobcat ND Open every summer. Now a resident of Arizona, he enjoys introducing new golfers to what he considers the best golf course in North Dakota.

Join Bill and the rest of this year's competitors for an exciting weekend of golf and giving.

# **JOHN MARK**

Honorary Founder



The Bobcat ND Open has welcomed hundreds of players over the past 60 years. An army of volunteers have applied their time and talents over the decades to make this one of the best tournaments in our region. Generous donors and community supporters have helped us raise over \$1 million for Big Brothers Big Sisters and other Village programs.

When tournament founders began this journey, they had no way of knowing the lasting impact the Bobcat ND Open would have on our community. As we prepare to celebrate a monumental anniversary this summer, we've added a special category to this year's honorariums to shine a spotlight on the unique and important contributions of John Mark.

From the initial tee shot of that first tournament to today, there's not a page of our story that John hasn't helped write. John was one of the first to play the back nine at the Fargo Country Club – which was opened up as part of the inaugural North Dakota Open tournament. He was there when Bobcat signed on and watched as the tournament grew, attracting professionals from across the country.

Throughout his golf career, John has had an opportunity to play many notable courses and referee some of the top pros, including Tiger Woods – twice! It's the Bobcat ND Open, though, that holds a special place in his heart. "It's been a great tournament for 60 years," he said. "I'm not sure how many tournaments last that long, but this one did!"

John will be at the first tee again this year to greet players. He has been the first tee starter for almost three decades and has played an important part in every Bobcat ND Open golfer's experience.

As you step up to the tee this year, please join us in recognizing John Mark!

#### **DAVID NEWMAN** Director of Development, The Village

"Working with Bobcat ND Open coordinators, volunteers, donors and players for the last 13 years has definitely become something I look forward to every summer. The dollars this event raises for The Village help us support people in the community. We have been able to nurture and grow this event for 40 years, and that is just amazing and a testament to the generosity and commitment to this community of Bobcat Company, the Fargo Country Club and our Fargo-Moorhead residents!"

#### **JENNY SMITH** Development Events Coordinator, The Village

"60 years is a real rarity when it comes to golf tournaments. Most don't even make it a decade! And to be a part of this event for 40 of those years is a huge achievement for our organization and the FM community. Our lasting partnership with Bobcat Company and the Bobcat ND Open has opened doors for collaborative efforts that enhance our service delivery and community impact."

#### MIKE BALLWEBER President, Doosan Bobcat North America, Inc.

"Bobcat Company is proud to again support this annual tournament, which has become a favorite tradition in the Fargo community," said Mike Ballweber, president of Doosan Bobcat North America. "For decades, the Bobcat North Dakota Open has been a great way to showcase pro and amateur golf talent while also giving back to our community by helping The Village build brighter futures for area kids and families who need our support."



# **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**, TRAINING. AND CONSULTING

The Village improves the health and well-being of employees through The Village Employee Assistance Plan. Additional offerings include Training and Consulting, such as crisis management, worksite-based training, coaching, and workplace mediation.

#### **COUNSELING SERVICES**

Licensed counselors help children, individuals, couples, and families with various relationship, behavioral, and mental health needs. In addition to in-office sessions, counseling services include an intensive outpatient program, school-based and in-home family therapy.

### **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS**

We clear the path to a child's biggest possible future by creating professionally supported. one-to-one mentoring matches so kids can realize their full potential.

## FAMILY CENTERED ENGAGEMENT / **FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING**

Trained facilitators guide families and service providers through important decisions regarding the safety, care, and protection of children.

#### FIRST STEP RECOVERY

The Fargo-based program provides a continuum of outpatient treatment services for adults who struggle with substance use and offers education and support for family members of those involved in our programing



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## **VILLAGE INFORMATION**

The mission of The Village Family Service Center is to enhance the lives of those we serve. We strive to meet community needs and improve overall well-being with innovative services and integrated care models. We do this while upholding four core values: integrity, excellence, service, and communication.

As the definition of family evolves, so do we. No matter how you define family, at The Village, you will never go it alone. The Village reaches out to more than 70,000 people every year, constantly adapting our services to meet the needs of modern life.

