

KRLD radio Spot – January 5, 2007

[You can hear the spot on the website: krl.com ---- Go to "Audio", "KRLD Audio News" scroll down to the bottom left and click on "more" and then scroll down to January 5 for Darlene Hollingsworth. ---- Note: the actual spot is labeled incorrectly and the one for Darlene is found in 12/29 slot. Click on this one to hear the spot on Darlene.]

Community Hero for the week. Nominated and selected
Transcription of the actual radio spot.

Radio Host: BJ Austin
Nominator: Becky Strader
Community Hero: Darlene Hollingsworth – The Clubhouse for Special Needs, Inc.

- BJ No greater community hero for those special children than Darlene Hollingsworth, who has a son with Down syndrome.
- BECKY She ended up losing her job because she needed to attend to him after school. So as a single mom with no income, she opened up a day care for children with special needs from the ages of 13 on. She's turned it into a non-profit organization and she has worked real hard and sacrificed everything just so kids with disabilities has a place to go after school.
- BJ Darlene Hollingsworth opened The Clubhouse in August on Brown Trail near Pipeline in Bedford – a place for after school activities and she says, "they're having fun."
- DARLENE ... so we play balloon ping pong and then they advance and they get up to where they're playing regular ping pong. We have foosball and air hockey, computers, Nintendo, music, Kareoke...
- BJ Hollingsworth says they have six after school students signed up for the next semester starting in January.
- DARLENE And that's our major funding program and we need 20 in order to meet our budget.
- BJ Darlene says 85% of the budget is now funded through donations. She says The Clubhouse is doing wonders for these kids.
- DARLENE People are discovering that my young person can do more than I realized.
- BJ Darlene says these kids have a place to come and have fun, to socialize and to learn.
- DARLENE I firmly believe that we retard our children that have special needs because we're not providing them sufficient socialization.

BJ Her friend, Becky Strader, says, “Darlene is a true Community Hero.”

BECKY When you speak with her, she has such a positive attitude. And she really knows that this what she’s supposed to do. You know, it doesn’t matter to her, you know, and her comment is, well, you know, the rent will get paid this month. It always does. She knows that this what her calling is.

BJ You may find out more about The Clubhouse and our Community Hero, Darlene Hollingsworth at theclubhouse.org. BJ Austin, Radio 1080 KRLD.