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Oshkosh's smallest business donates profits to Habitat for Humanity



September 2009 – Oshkosh, WI – This summer four local kids started their own business with the help of Choice Bank. What started out as an idea quickly turned into a functioning small business. In only two short months of business they managed to raise over \$580. After Choice Bank's profit match these four kids presented a check for \$1172.22 to Habitat for Humanity of Oshkosh.

The owners, self-proclaimed "Team Lemonade," opened the Best Choice Lemonade Stand in July of this year with a small loan from Choice Bank and help from a few generous

community sponsors.* After putting out a call for area kids to help work at the stand, they received 21 applications for employment. They were able to hire each and every applicant to work at least a shift or two.

By the end of the season Team Lemonade had learned a lot about what it takes to run and grow a business - from creating a business plan to selling the product. Everyone had learned how to work with money, make lemonade, test taste the product for quality and most importantly, Team Lemonade learned what it was like for a community to come together in support of a cause. "I liked being able to help people out by raising money," said Harmony, age 7. "It was a lot of fun to be able to meet so many other people who wanted to help raise money for Habitat too," added Wyatt, age 10.

So what is the next big adventure for Team Lemonade? They are back in school now but are looking forward to next summer when they will be able to open the stand again. In fact, the lemonade business was such a success that they plan to open a second Oshkosh location in the summer of 2010!

Team Lemonade extends a huge thank you to everyone who worked at the stand and to those who supported Oshkosh's smallest business by sharing their story or stopping to buy a cup of lemonade.

"When we granted Team Lemonade's loan request we were eager to see how their business would come to life. We could never have anticipated the overwhelming effect this small business would generate in the Oshkosh Community. I am proud that Choice Bank could be part of this great community experience."

-Stan Leedle, Chief Credit Officer, Choice Bank

**The Best Choice Lemonade Stand sponsors included: Stand design by Chet Wesenberg, Architect · Building by Matt Simonson and Keith VandenBoogaard of Apollo Homes · Building materials sponsored by Choice Bank · Ice donated by Blue Moose Convenience Stores · Additional lemonade donated by Marcia Thomas.*

Choice Bank, established in July 2006, is located at 2450 Witzel Avenue, Oshkosh with a second location at 2201 Jackson Street, Oshkosh. Choice Bank is a locally owned and operated community bank dedicated to making a difference in your community! Choice Bank...Your Community, Your Choice! Member FDIC · Equal Housing Lender www.choicebank.com.