

B4K Newsletter

January - March 2021 (vol. 21.1)

This newsletter is published with the purpose of providing information for all volunteers, suppliers, and known supporters of Bikes4Kids. Subscribe >>> To subscribe please fill out the "Newsletter Sign UP" form on our website. Unsubscribe >>> To unsubscribe please click the "Unsubscribe" link on the bottom of the newsletter email that you have received.



The focus for the spotlight in this issue is Katie Wood,

In the last issue of the B4K Newsletter we said our goodbyes and thoughts of appreciation to Cindy Baily who had served as our Operations



Coordinator for over seven years. We are now very pleased to announce the addition of Katie Wood as the new Coordinator. Katie has already worked with Cindy in order to keep procedural and systems knowledge as seamless as possible. This transfer of information will result in the following responsibilities for Katie:

1. Responding to emails from the website for requests and volunteer inquiries.

2. Setting up requests for Norm/Janet and the summary of priorities for the week.
3. Sending (to Janet/Norm) the print file at year-end to print the logs for the upcoming year.
4. Completing file updates after bikes have been picked up.
5. Tracking log file updates (white tags) from the shop.
6. Intake log file updates (green tags) from the log that Roger's crew uses. Also recording green tag numbers that have been repaired from the tracking log in the shop

7. Maintaining donation log updates:
 - a. From the drop off log in the office.
 - b. From Gambia, Liberia and FB4K bike donation numbers.
 - c. From RBS bike donation number updates
8. Producing the monthly Coordinator's report and sending the PDF to people who need it.
9. Helping with inventory requirements as needed.
10. Producing periodic reports of onsite bikes for Janet/Norm to use in operations decisions.

Katie's experience in retail sourcing and production as well as small business management will be highly effective assets as Bikes4Kids progresses.

Katie is also a current volunteer member with the Salvation Army serving the greater Owatonna area in which she resides. Her husband, Gary and rescue dog, Jack keep her busy and loved. An injury caused and early retirement for Katie seven years ago but that hasn't stopped her from living an active life filled with new interests in watercolor painting and sculpture/pottery that she shows in local venues. If she had her way, they would be living on a small island in the Florida Keys...but we all need a good dream, right?

Katie, welcome to Bikes4Kids, we are certainly blessed and grateful for your current and look forward to your future contributions.

(by Bryan Siercks)

Some Examples of Bikes4Kids Outreach Programs

The Bikes4Kids distribution programs are quite varied and unique. The process involves the efforts of various organizations in order to assure that a supply of bikes are maintained in concert with the needs of the communities that we serve. It requires the efforts of many volunteers with various skills such as mechanical, organizational, and administrative. In addition, it requires skills in networking and sourcing. Listed below are just a couple of ways that the bikes get to those who need them the most.

Bikes4Kids Outreach through NACE



The Bikes4Kids organization strives to bring joy to kids and people in need. Recently they have found another means of reaching those in need of a bike for transportation or fun. A partnership with NACE (North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf) allows people who seek help through NACE, the opportunity to also pick up a bicycle from B4K. Ryan (a volunteer from Bikes4Kids) says that over 100 bikes are given away each year through this distribution channel. A special tent enclosure (shown below) houses the bikes until they are picked up by the recipients. Ryan is shown below with the bikes ready for pick-up! He says that it is such a joy to see the smiles on the faces of the kids when they receive their bikes and helmets!

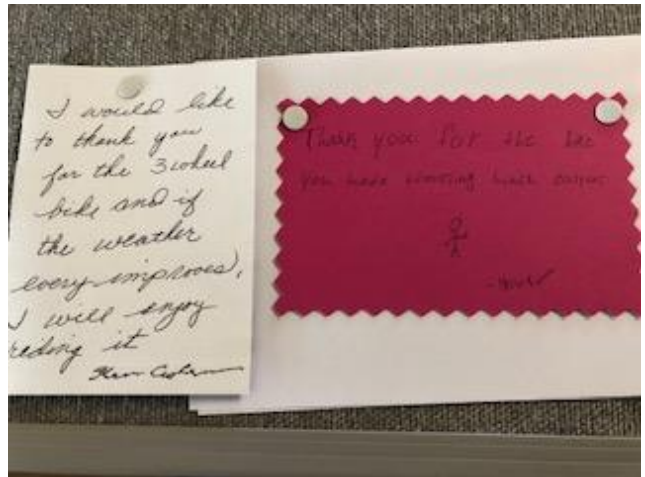
Bikes4Kids Outreach through Gambia and Liberia:

Since the inception of Bikes4Kids a distribution channel has been provided for bikes sent overseas to the African countries of Gambia and Liberia. Bikes will be processed for packing purposes prior to being packed in a shipping container. This involves turning the handlebars and removing the pedals so they can make the best use of space in the container. This activity is done in a separate area of the B4K processing base in Ham Lake. Pictured is our volunteer, Roger, who specializes in this effort.



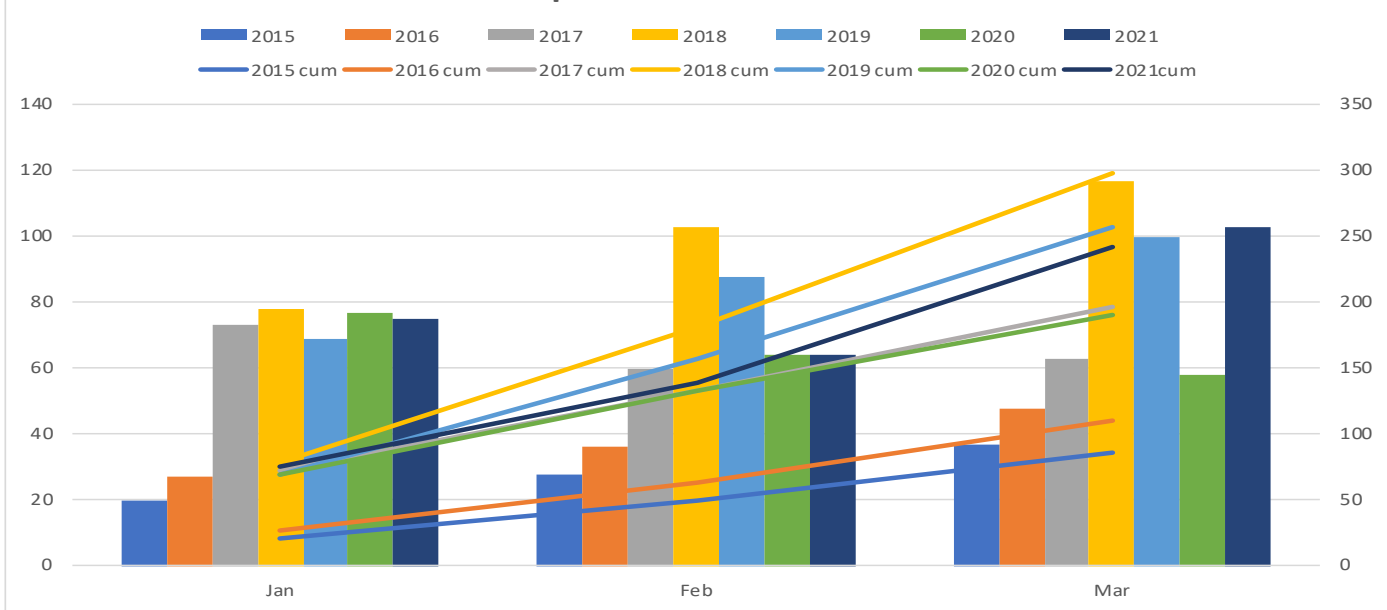
Why We Do What We Do...

We get letters and responses from the large population of people that we serve. Here are more stories and responses from very satisfied customers:



Operations Statistics

Bike Repair Statistics 2015 - 2021



Bike Delivery Statistics 2015 - 2021

