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New Climbing Wall at the Muldown School Gifted by North Valley Hospital

WHITEFISH, MT – October 12, 2010: Climbing walls are all the rage, and a fun and colorful version gifted by North Valley Hospital is the latest addition to the Muldown School gymnasium in Whitefish. The permanent structure spans one end of the gym and is in use much of the day by students in kindergarten through 4th grade. The wall was installed in September as part of North Valley Hospital’s support of healthy recreation in the local community.

“I’m really enjoying having the climbing wall as a teaching tool and strength-training option for our students,” says Vonda Garcia, Muldown’s Health Enhancement Teacher. “The students cheer whenever they see it’s going to be part of our lesson! Most kids are natural climbers, but pull-up bars and climbing ropes can be intimidating for kids whose upper body strength hasn’t kept pace with their growth,” Garcia added.

On the climbing wall, students can choose their own level of challenge, be successful, and develop strength and confidence. The Muldown students have been working on the basics to this point, but Garcia is looking forward to trying some of the cooperative, problem-solving, and cross-curricular activities with the wall later on this year.

“We are pleased to bring enjoyment to the children of the Whitefish community,” says Jason Spring, North Valley Hospital CEO. “It’s another way for our organization to encourage our young people to stay healthy and active regardless of the weather.”
About North Valley Hospital:

North Valley Hospital is a private 501©(3), non-profit community Critical Access hospital governed by a Volunteer Board of Directors from the North Valley area. North Valley Hospital is the only hospital in Montana affiliated with Planetree. Planetree is a non-profit organization that provides education and information in a collaborative community of healthcare organizations, facilitating efforts to create patient centered care in healing environments. North Valley Hospital receives no tax support for its services. The hospital and its affiliate clinics serve Flathead and Lincoln counties.

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