

{ founders' notes. }



Ok, I get to brag a little bit this month. As I was frantically racing through one of my days about a month ago, my phone rang. It was our good friend Kory Thompson from Billings Parks and Recreation. He called to let me know that he had not only nominated *Simply Family Magazine* for an award, he had just found out that we were awarded the **2011 Media Excellence Award** from the *Montana Association of Parks and Recreation*.

I was absolutely flattered! I called Kim right away and she too was thrilled!

Following the news, I have to admit that after nearly four years of working on *Simply Family Magazine* and over three years of publication, it was the first time I have ever thought of what we are doing as *media*.

When our passion for *Simply Family Magazine* began, we simply wanted a community resource that we ourselves did not have when our kids were very young. We also wanted a resource that would carry us through our parenting journey as our little ones grew into kids, tweens, and teens in this great community of ours. We decided that if it was something that would help us in our journey, then it would probably help a few other families too. In our minds it didn't even occur to us as "media", instead we considered it an essential resource for the families in our community including of course ourselves.

Receiving this award from the *Montana Association of*

thankful.

Parks and Recreation and even being nominated by Kory in the first place is the biggest compliment to our effort that we can imagine.

We continue to be so thankful to our community for embracing *Simply Family* for what it was and still is striving to be every day. We desired a tool to assist parents in helping their families thrive in our community, and today because of the amazing community support we receive, we are not only able to help a few families, but tens of thousands of families every month.

We would sincerely like to thank Kory and Billings Parks and Recreation, the Montana Association of Parks and Recreation, as well as our community for helping to make *Simply Family Magazine* what it is today.

Jenny

jenny barriger and kim nelson, founders



What will you find at simplyfamilymagazine.com this month? Recipes, crafts and much more as well as the announcement of our Cover Kid Contest finalists! See you there!

COVER KID CONTEST 2012