

2014 Community Champions



Shannon Parsons has served on the Community Chest board, worked as a student employee in Community Chest's before and after school program in Virginia City, and been a role model in her community. What is most special about Shannon is her ability to be with the young people she serves and really be with them heart, body, and soul. Of the many youth board members Community Chest has had, Shannon was the one who was a constant source of support for other youth on the board, and an example to her peers as a result of her leadership experience.

Bill Fehr has tirelessly volunteered 20 hours per week over the last six years at the Dayton Food Pantry. With a can-do attitude, he just does it because "it needs to get done." The food pantry could not be managed without him and his hard work, and his dependable work ethic is a model for all. He is a humble leader and treats all like they are his family.

Lyon County Youth Probation was chosen because, to a person -- whether Natasha, Eric, Brian, Roger, Rosa, Jessie, or whoever -- they are genuine, well-intentioned, and driven by a desire to sincerely help the youth and their families have better lives. The youth under their watch respect and admire them. Because they model the strength inherent in vulnerability and the vulnerability in strength, they give permission to the youth who look up to them to do the same. Their actions re-instill trust by the youth, their parents, and the public.

The Silver Stage School Complex is a model of community and school partnership. Their answer is always "yes" if it is going to help our kids. Here is but a short list of their school community successes: MORE, Silver Stage Food pantry, school gardens, flu shots, Food Summit, school composting, community gardens, Get Real Events, Youth dental events, SOS, Co-op, Food drives, and the CNA program. Special thanks goes out to Rachel Leach, Darlene Betts, Patrick Peters, Peggy Merril, Donna Ray, and Jim Gionotti--this team includes principals to custodians and they are a powerful community partnership team.

The Healthy Communities Coalition and Lyon County Human Services present:

THRIVE

Lyon County's First Annual Conference

The THRIVE Conference showcases the impressive humanitarian work happening here in Lyon County. Health and human services providers, teachers, community volunteers, public service employees, and many others come together for this event. Our intent is to provide a forum for education and networking while unifying this diverse group under the context of social justice. Too many fail to grasp the potentially transformative nature of their work. We are convinced that if they did, we'd have many more appreciating and advocating for human-friendly policies and practices in Nevada.

September 19, 2014
Silver Springs

8:00 *Registration*

9:00 *Welcome by Edrie LaVoie & Christy McGill, Conference Hosts*

9:15 *Evolution to THRIVE by Erik Schoen, Community Chest*

9:30 *Poetry by Pan Pantoja*

9:45 *Break*

10:00 *Inspiring Youth with Kindness*

Brian Williams, founder of Think Kindness, will discuss how to organize a social justice campaign, motivate individuals in the community to collaborate, and measure results. Brian has documented over 250,000 Acts of Kindness, spoken to over 75,000 students, and received the Thornton Peace Prize.

10:45 *Break*

11:00 *Focus on Collaboration: Food Security in Lyon County*

Ms. Leach and her class will present how a simple school garden can be a great tool for: stem, healthy eating, food security, building assets, but most importantly a space where kids can be innovative.

Partner Organizations:



For more information visit

www.communitychestnevada.net

11:45 *Break*

12:00 *Focus on Collaboration: Health Services Hub*

The Health Services Hub in Silver Springs is an innovative approach to ensuring that all residents in Silver Springs feel empowered to live healthy lives by ensuring access to a wide variety of services with an emphasis towards dignity and compassion. This session will feature a panel of those involved from the beginning of this effort, and how others can use what they've learned in their own communities.

1:00 *Break*

1:15 *Lunch and presentation of Community Champion Awards*

2:15 *Hildy Gottlieb*

Hildy Gottlieb, co-founder of Creating the Future, has been called "the most innovative and practical thinker in our sector." Her book, *The Pollyanna Principles: Reinventing "Nonprofit Organizations" to Create the Future of Our World*, details her groundbreaking approach to aiming the work of the Community Benefit Sector at its highest potential - creating the future of our world.

3:00 *End*

