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UPCOMING NWP EVENTS

May 27 – After-School All-Stars and Public Education Foundation “Sex in the City 2” Movie Premier and Party

Sept. 14 – Welcome Back from Summer Lunch: Dana Lee residence 12pm

Sept. 28 – Grant Symposium: LV Chamber of Commerce

Oct. 12 – Grant Hearing and Annual Meeting: LV Chamber of Commerce 8:30 am

NWP WRAPS UP 5TH GRANT SCREENING CYCLE: LIED DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER SELECTED AS FINALISTS

Dear NWP Members:

Every year I'm amazed at how quickly time passes by. And yet again, I'm amazed that NWP has embarked on another grant cycle. I'm proud and humbled by how this organization has grown and established itself and am honored to work alongside the amazing women who make up NWP. NWP is truly an organic entity that thrives on the brain power, ingenuity, vision, and participation of its members. We are a testament to the “whole is greater than its parts”. Every member is a leader and a dynamic part of our strength: whether you participate on a committee, are a committee chair, help to recruit new members, or simply share what we do to the community at large – you are all part of our success and our future.

On October 12, 2010, our grant finalists will present their final proposal to membership at our annual Grant Hearing. This presentation is the culmination of a nearly year long process that begins in November with the Outreach Committee pouring through preliminary applications and then the Grant Screening Committee (GSC) commencing its review process in January. Led by co-Chairs Robyn Manzini, Gail Poll, and Julie Robinson, the GSC chose Lied Discovery Children's Museum's “House Calls” mobile science classroom program and Rape Crisis Center's “Signs of Hope” counseling program as our 2010 finalists. I urge you all to mark **OCTOBER 12TH** in your calendar and make sure you attend this very important and critical presentation. The presentation will be from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce – Town Square.

This fall we'll have a new President with Susie Lee assuming the role and also new faces serving in chair and board positions. Since our founding, Susie has served numerous leadership roles starting as first GSC co-chair and then Grant Monitoring chair. She is also a board member of the Greater Las Vegas After-School All-Stars, the Public Education Foundation, and is an education advocate. I hope you all get to know her over the course of the year.

Have a wonderful summer. See you September 14th at my house for our annual “welcome back” lunch.

With gratitude,
Dana Lee – NWP President



Grant Monitoring Committee

Grant Monitoring Committee (GMC) chair Susie Lee reports the following:

After-School All-Stars (ASAS): Out of the \$320,000 granted, \$192,500 has been awarded to date for programming at Roundy and Wynn Elementary schools. 45% of students enrolled at Roundy and 42% of students enrolled at Wynn participate in ASAS programs. Our funds were allocated for both academic and enrichment programs such as state-of-the-art media equipment for the Media All-Star program; musical instruments for the “Girls Rock Vegas” program; math and reading lab supplies; a portable computer lab at Wynn Elementary; and start-up funds for a Roundy Elementary Parent Center.

Public Education Foundation (PEF): This school year, NWP’s empowerment funds allowed the following at our partner schools:

Chaparral H.S. – a reduction in teacher-student ratio; a reading/writing tutor for non-proficient students; 50% fee waivers for courses with materials fees; late bus transportation; NWP Technology Center computer lab for tutorials and make-up credit programs; new modified block schedule to allow more academic class times. These benefits translated to an increase in 12th grade proficiency pass rates and improved pass rates in math, reading and writing.

Staton Elementary – increased school instructional time by 20 minutes; new Library Research Media Center with 30 laptop computers; accelerated classes for grades 1st through 5th; primary and intermediate science labs; two new science teachers to provide science classes to students K-5; computer teacher and classes for grades K-5; before and after-school tutoring; “CRT Boot Camp” for grades 3-5; 1st and 2nd grade “Math Camp”; enhanced “Explorations” incentive program with participating H.S. teachers; staff development workshops; funding for field trips; and purchase of additional resources.

Wendall P. Williams – purchase of reading software programs to help achieve school improvement goals of increased reading proficiency in grades 3-5. NWP members Judy Cebulko and Whitney duBoef continue to volunteer in the classroom. Both ladies provided field trip opportunities for students and most recently, 2nd graders visited the Lied Discovery Children’s Museum.

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee (OC) led by chair Heather duBoef and members Leslie deVore and Whitney duBoef, look forward to the 3rd annual Grant Symposium on Tuesday, September 28th, at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. The symposium serves as a “one-stop-information-drop” for all non-profits interested in applying for our grant.

A thorough grant criteria guides our grant process, yet questions always arise from non-profits as to what NWP will fund and what we’ll not fund. The symposium also serves as an opportunity for local non-profit executives to catch-up and talk shop. All NWP members and interested parties are invited to attend.

Throughout the year, OC chair Heather duBoef meets with area non-profits to find out about new programs and initiatives. If you have an organization that you’d like to bring to Heather’s attention, please email her at hduboeff@aol.com



Grant Screening Committee

The 2010 Grant Screening Committee (GSC) was composed of 21 members and 2 non-voting members (Heather duBoef and Dana Lee). The GSC has evolved and further refined its process so it's a tightly run, highly organized and efficient committee. The group holds five meetings from January to May with additional site visits in May for the grant semi-finalists. We encourage every NWP member to consider joining this team!

For 2011, new co-chairs Tami Hance and Wendy Hornbuckle will join lead co-chair Julie Robinson. We're delighted to welcome Tami and Wendy; both have served 3 years on the GSC. We also give tremendous "thanks" to Robyn Manzini and Gail Poll for their last two years as co-chairs and for all the hard work and dedication they brought to the GSC.

As always, the "main event" happens in May with the selection of our two grant finalists! This year the committee reviewed many impressive and fundable projects, but voted for programs submitted by Lied Discovery Children's Museum and the Rape Crisis Center. Please be sure to **MARK OCTOBER 12TH FROM 8:30 AM TO 12:00 PM FOR THE GRANT HEARING** at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce - Town Square. It's critical for members to attend to ensure every vote is an informed one. There is tremendous benefit to attending the presentations! Descriptions of the programs are as follows:

Lied Discovery Children's Museum (LDCM)
"House Calls" is an outreach program that provides hands-on, interactive science programming to K-5 grade students throughout the valley. Developed according to state and district curriculum standards, "House Calls" travels by van and reaches students across the valley and especially at the most at-need schools. More importantly, "House Calls" provides educational materials and expertise that normally isn't accessible to teachers.

Grant Screening Continued...

Curriculum covers health, life, earth and environment, chemistry, and physical science. Students get to work with scientific models to help bring these subjects to life. Additionally, students are encouraged to visit the LDCM to further their exploration and understanding of these topics. Once fully developed, "House Calls" will serve 70,000 students annually. LDCM requests \$300,000 for a 2-year grant period.

Rape Crisis Center (RCC) "Signs of Hope" is a therapeutic counseling program for victims of sexual assault. It will serve Clark County residents ages 12 years and older. RCC provides advocacy to victims, a 24-hour hotline service, primary prevention education class to students in CCSD, and educational support groups. RCC seeks to add to their services by starting this counseling program. Program funds requested will pay for a licensed therapist, clinical support, and related office expenses. RCC requests \$300,000 for a 3-year grant period.

Membership

We are on-track to matching our 2009 membership count and presently have 77 members for 2010. Of course, we always hope to gain a few more members by September, and "80" would make a nice number!

We owe thanks and gratitude to founder and founding Membership chair Dena duBoef for her tireless dedication to Membership. After 5 years, Dena has decided to hang up her hat and pass the baton. Dana Lee will join Membership co-chair Denise Cashman on the committee. Together, the ladies look forward to holding some prospective membership gatherings in the fall and growing our membership ranks.

If you have any prospects, please pass them their way. Emails are welcome to cashmandee@aol.com and danasulee@cox.net



Education/Events Committee

SAVE THE DATES:

- MAY 26th - *Sex and the City 2* premiere at The Palms, fundraiser for ASAS and PEF
- SEPTEMBER 14th - *NWP Member "Welcome Back" Event*—President Dana Lee welcomes members to her home.

PAST EVENTS RECAP:

- *March 2nd Award Luncheon honoring Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada*

The Encore once again provided the perfect setting for an elegant luncheon honoring LACSN and their Foster Care Early Intervention Program. We recognized our fourth grant recipient in front of a group of 70+ members and guests.

Members also generously donated hundreds of dollars worth of Target gift cards for Legal Aid to distribute to clients of the Children's Attorney Project. That afternoon also showcased our past grant recipients, Public Education Foundation and After School All Stars, who shared films and statistics illustrating the progress and success of the programs NWP has sponsored.

- *April 6th FIT Open House and Presentation*

We were welcomed by Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow into their new facility where we got a fascinating look at the economic and employment picture in Las Vegas. FIT Founder/CEO (and NWP member) Janet Blumen shared with us that our \$180,000 grant for the NWP Employment Program has translated to a total of \$8.4 million dollars in earnings and decreased demand for public aid among FIT clients in 2008-2009 alone! Finally, FIT's incredible staff of career counselors and administrators answered questions for NWP members about the process of empowering individuals to rise above their circumstances. Attending members generously donated hygiene products and gift cards for FIT clients.

- *May 20th After-School All-Stars Showcase*

The Springs Preserve was this year's site of the annual ASAS showcase. NWP members gathered to watch students give heartfelt performances, including Roundy's *Girls Rock Vegas'* rendition of "We've Got the Beat"!

Treasury

Laura Smith, our fearless and proclaimed "detail queen", will resign as our treasurer. We owe much to Laura for her rigorous accounting of NWP finances. Her job not only required her to know where every NWP penny is, but also to track membership dues and work closely with the staff at the Nevada Community Foundation to manage our funds. We welcome our new "co-Treasurers", Robyn Manzini and Gail Poll to the position and to the board.

We sequester our funds by year and by grantee to protect the corpus of each grant and to ensure proper accounting. Each fund also continues to earn interest until the grant is paid in full. The remaining balance is then rolled into the current year's operating account.

Similar to 2009, we currently have 77 members for a projected 2010 grant fund of \$385,000. From this we withhold 10% (\$38,500) for expenses, but our actual expense percentage for the last 3 years has been 5%. To date, we've spent \$8,312 for printing and postage, two Education/Events, and the annual luncheon with remaining expenses for the Outreach Symposium, the Grant Hearing, and our Nevada Community Foundation management fee.

Thus, with 100% of members remitting their dues in full, we'll be able to make a \$316,500 grant and a \$30,000 runner-up grant. Our NWP grants are coveted funds that make an annual impact on the Las Vegas economy. Each program we fund hires and employs people, and each program creates an exponential and invaluable change in people's lives.

Final payment invoices will be mailed late August. If you would like to pay early, you may do so by sending your check to Jane Ramos at the Nevada Community Foundation – 1635 Village Center Circle, Suite 160, Las Vegas, 89134. Your final payment will be due by September 30 in order for your vote to count.



NWP March 30th Education Event at Foundation for An Independent Tomorrow (FIT)



FIT Founder/CEO Janet Blumen, presents data on the effects and benefits of the NWP Employment Program to an audience of NWP members. Since FIT received the very first NWP grant in 2006, it has seen a tremendous rise in demand for its programs. In 2006-2007 FIT served 313 clients; in 2009-2010 FIT served 1100 clients. Alone in 2008-2009, FIT calculated that its total economic impact due to placing clients in stable jobs amounted to \$8,435,488.

This figure came from \$4,061,160 in decreased assistance and benefits, combined with \$4,374,328 in projected earnings. As Janet stated, “our NWP grant was like ‘apple seeds’, spreading FIT’s ability to reach and help so many clients sow their own future and begin a life of stability.”

NWP group photo with NWPEP project director Jake McClelland.

From left to right: Dana Lee, Robyn Manzini, Nazanin Ford, Heather duBoef, Jake McClelland, and Kelly Petersen.





As part of our grant, we received naming rights to the NWPEP Library. FIT clients use this room as a resource center.

And lastly:

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada would like to invite NWP members to observe their grant at work in court. Members will be able to watch court proceedings with Janice Wolf, Children's Attorney Project (CAP) Director, or Xavier Planta, our NWP CAP Attorney, and meet with the presiding judge. Finally, they would participate in a debriefing with Barbara Buckley, Executive Director of LACSN. Intersted members should contact Lynn Etkins at letkins@lacs.org.