



Community Chest, Inc.

A Center for Resources . . . A Catalyst for Change

An Inside View of the CCI Summer Program

By: Shannon Parsons

Beginning June 13, 2013, elementary school children (k-5) can experience one of the best summers of their childhood at the Community Chest Inc. Summer Program.

Michael-Ann Lazzarino (Elementary Program Director and Community Center Coordinator) and Bobbi Pickles (Youth Development Coordinator), are very excited to begin the summer program and look forward to working with the youth of Storey County.

This summer the program will be offering swimming lessons (through the program itself) kindergarten readiness program, a leadership group for the older children, garden club, field trip Fridays, community service projects, and the Farmers Market run by fourth and fifth graders.

Bobbi Pickles said that the kids in the program "have their freedom to be creative and independent within a structured environment." And Michael-Ann added, "It provides them a safe place to connect with caring adults."

Aiden, Skylar, Talon and Tara who attended the program last summer were very eager to express their favorite part of the program. Aiden and Skylar said that they liked meeting their friends, swimming and participating in activities. Talon and Tara liked the crafts and hanging out with the employees.

The Summer Program is highly recommended. Working there last summer has allowed me the chance to fully recognize its benefits. With the Community Center's location, it is easier to access the park, swimming pool, and baseball field. Also, it's one-on-one interaction between the employees and the child is highly beneficial to the development of the children.

This 10-week summer program runs June 13- August 19, 2013 at the NEW Community Center located at 175 E Carson St. in Virginia City. The Summer Program runs from 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM Monday through Friday.

\$100.00 per week for the 4-5 day program, \$75.00 for 3 days per week or \$25.00 per day drop in based on space available + one-time \$15.00 registration fee per child to hold spot (includes t-shirt). **For more information, visit our website.**

New Development Director/Project Manager for CCI

We are happy to announce that Pamela Abercrombie has joined Community Chest Inc. as the new Development Director/Project Manager. We are very happy to have Pamela on board. Pamela was gracious enough to provide us with her story...



It honors me to join Community Chest staff on their journey toward social change and social programs. This opportunity brought my life and career fulfillment and focus. I hope to help staff and the agency accomplish goals and achieve success by applying my passion, creativity, skills, and knowledge to what I

know best ~ community and youth development.

I was born and raised in Nevada. Nevada is my world and Tahoe is my ocean. Nothing pacifies me more than the Nevada terrain and Nevada skies. My work-career began in Mill End Fabrics, the local fabric store where I learned how to sew and applied this skill to becoming a professional drapery seamstress during the mid to late 90's. However, in my heart I have always felt compelled to work with youth, especially at-risk youth. One of the gifts the Creator bestowed me is laying seeds of hope in the hearts of youth. Therefore, following the Columbine shootings in the late 90's I merged onto my path of community and youth development by leaving the drapery workroom. In 2001, Michele Watkins opened the door to my new career by hiring me as a youth program coordinator. Michele will always remain a mentor in my heart and the barer of gift that brought me to where I am today. My service to Central Lyon Youth Connections led me to the Yerington Paiute Tribe, which provided me the spiritual and intellectual growth I craved at that time in my life. Working on a reservation allowed me to witness immediate results of laying seeds of hope in the hearts of youth.

Many of my greatest accomplishments transcended from my experience with the Yerington Paiute Tribe. Although, after of seven years of either commuting 600 miles a week or living out of a suitcase during the week my health, family life, and spirit grew fatigued and damaged. Unfortunately, I chose to leave the tribe and face the depressing job market, which influenced me to earn a Master's degree. I chose a Master's in Public Administration because the University of Phoenix MPA program offered instruction parallel to my current career aspirations.

During my time away from the tribe and working on a master's degree, I contracted with the following organizations: Partnership Carson City to compile data and data analysis as well as help plan for the launch of Character Counts! Carson City community-wide campaign; Turning Point, Inc. to assist with a needs assessment and implementation plan for a School Based Health Center in Silver Springs; Partnership of Community Resources in Douglas County to help with their prevention plan data analysis, Annual Walk/Run, and staff support; Inter Tribal Council of Nevada to develop a Tribal Early Childhood Education Advisory Council and a strategic plan for Tribal Early Childhood Education and Development in Nevada; and of course, the Yerington Paiute Tribe as Interim Education Director, Grants Writer, Research and Development, Strategic Planning for the Wovoka Museum and Cultural Center, and Special Child Welfare Case Management.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE IMPORTANT EVENTS AND PLAN TO JOIN US....

July 14, 2013- Community Picnic co-sponsored with the **Presbyterian Church** at Miners Park 12pm

September 27, 2013- Annual Social Justice Event at UNLV in Las Vegas

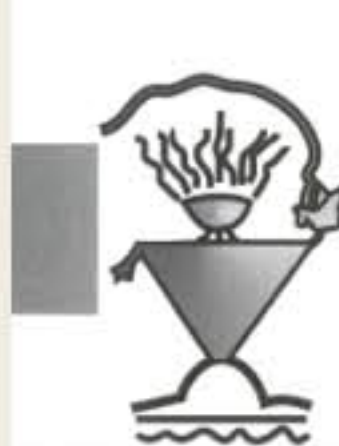
Upcoming Events

JULY
14 Community Picnic co-sponsored with the Presbyterian Church at Miners Park
12pm

Our Mission

To act as a catalyst for change and a center for resources to help people help themselves, as together we build strong and healthy families and communities.

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Thanks for making our "Night to Imagine" a successful event. It was great to have so many friends and supporters together in one room. Your participation helps us to continue to be a center for resources and a catalyst for change in Storey County and beyond.

Special thanks to Barrick Mining & NV Energy for their financial contributions.

If you haven't seen our website, check us out at www.communitychestnevada.net



Thanks for supporting Community Chest