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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 15 – Welcome Back Member Luncheon/Dana Lee residence
- Sept. 18 – Grant Finalist proposals emailed to membership
- Sept. 29 – Outreach Comm. Funding Symposium/Location Tent. LVCC
- OCTOBER 13 – GRANT HEARING/WYNN LAS VEGAS
- Oct. 15 – Ballots mailed
- Oct. 31 – Membership dues deadline/Ballots due
- Nov. 6 – Vote Count/2009 Winner Announced!

## President's Report

It's been quite an active spring. The Grant Screening Committee worked diligently to cull our applicants to a pool of three excellent semi-finalists, our Grant Monitoring Committee commenced work with the Public Education Foundation (PEF) to establish funding parameters for our three empowerment schools and a roster of member volunteer opportunities, and meetings began with After-School All-Stars to outline our next three years of funding for after-school programs at Roundy Elementary and Wynn Elementary. Our Executive Committee and Outreach Committee convened a special discussion group with community leaders to address the economic impact on area non-profits. The take away was invaluable, but also reaffirmed our commitment to our funding basis. For 2010, we will make accommodations to our criteria to make sustaining grants in addition to new and expanded programs.

NWP's success is all due to the dedication of our members, volunteers and committee members. Their participation ensures the smooth operation of our organization and the growth of future NWP leaders. I want to especially thank our Grant Screening Committee, led by Co-Chairs, Robyn Manzini and Gail Poll, for their assiduous work in a challenging time. I also want to recognize the PEF committee within the Grant Monitoring Committee for their leadership of our PEF partnership: Chair, Susie Lee, and members, Marcelle Frey and Trina Pascal.

On the membership front, our 2009 renewals are holding strong in comparison to last year. We rely on word-of-mouth and member introductions to help us grow. I challenge all of you to recommend a new member! Please "save" September 15<sup>th</sup> for a "Member Welcome Back" luncheon. It will be a purely social gathering to reacquaint or even introduce members to each other. It'll be a casual event at my home.

Our annual grants provide the funding necessary for area non-profit agencies to implement and grow their programs; to achieve their goals; and to serve the underrepresented and the needy. Our collective funds have made a dynamic impact in Southern Nevada. I thank you most gratefully for being part of our movement to "reinvent community giving". And, I can't think of a better way to close this report than with the announcement of our two 2009 grant finalists: **Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada** and **Three Square** food bank. A description of their programs is on page 4 of this newsletter.

With sincere appreciation,  
Dana Lee  
President



## Grant Monitoring Committee

The Grant Monitoring Committee (GMC), led by Chair Susie Lee, is responsible for the monitoring of NWP grants and the progress of funded projects. Prior to funding, the committee also works closely with grant recipients to develop reporting guidelines. The committee visits funded projects at least twice a year to ensure that the projects are being administered according to the terms of our agreement.

The GMC is pleased to welcome Sandy Hardie and Tedi Ann Templeton to the committee. They will serve as the monitors and liaisons for our Greater Las Vegas After-School All-Stars (ASAS) grant. We are also close to signing our Grant Agreement with ASAS and anticipate issuing our first payment to them this summer.

Due to the nature of the Public Education Grant and our partnership with the three empowerment schools, our monitoring group for that grant is made of three committee members: Marcelle Frey, Susie Lee, and Trina Pascal. Year 1 funding specifics for the empowerment schools are as follows: *Chaparral High School* – Improvement goals: reduction in the drop-out rate and improved overall academic proficiency. Funding: NWP Technology Center computer lab. Other funding uses include fees for late activity bus transportation to allow students to participate in after-school activities and fee waivers for elective classes. *Staton Elementary School* – Improvement goal: increase student achievement in language arts, reading and math with an emphasis on individualized attention. Funding: professional development, after-school tutoring stipends, media/science lab, and reading assessment programs and stipends for Palo Verde teachers to teach popular after-school elective classes. *Wendell P. Williams Elementary School* – Improvement goal: to increase student achievement in reading. Therefore, the bulk of our funds will be spent to purchase Lexia, a proven reading program, and to fund adequate teacher training for its maximum benefit.

The remainder will be spent to improve the parent center and for student award incentives.

The PEF committee will also embark on an exciting volunteer partnership this fall. Whitney duBoef and Judy Cebulko joined the PEF team at Wendell Williams (WW) to learn about volunteer opportunities. WW is looking for weekly mentors for young girls and for reading assistants. The team will also help with WW's monthly career days. If you are interested in participating at WW or any of our other partner schools, please contact Susie Lee at [smlee4@me.com](mailto:smlee4@me.com)

On a wonderfully symbolic note, two of our NWP members, Carrie Henderson and Wendy Hornbuckle, will represent NWP at the June 10<sup>th</sup> Chaparral High School commencement. Carrie and Wendy are both proud graduates of Chaparral and are both delighted to come back to their alma mater and represent NWP. Chaparral Principal, Kevin McPartlin, will recognize NWP for our empowerment partnership.

## Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee, led by Heather duBoef and members Leslie deVore and Whitney duBoef, will hold their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Grant Symposium on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. The location is tentatively set for the Las Vegas Country Club. The symposium is open to all interested non-profits who might consider applying for our grant. In one concise session, applicants learn about our criteria, process, and requirements. After the general presentation, there will be a question and answer session.

The Outreach Committee is responsible for all preliminary contacts with applicants and any post grant screening feedback.



## Grant Screening Committee

Grant Screening Committee Co-Chair, Robyn Manzini, reports that the GSC had a busy grant application season. With 15 returning GSC members and one new addition, the GSC had a great deal of experience on their team. They began the 2009 season with a summary of research data covering the community needs in the Las Vegas Valley, and how these needs are currently being addressed. Stacey Wedding of Professionals in Philanthropy provided the review.

In mid-January, the GSC received 20 Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) from the Outreach Committee and began the review process, narrowing down the number of applicants to six by mid-February. By the fourth GSC meeting in March, they had four agencies scheduled to move forward to the document package phase. At this point, the GSC was divided into four smaller teams, each charged with carefully reviewing one agency and their financials and supporting documents. By May, the GSC reduced their applicants once more and had three agencies remaining for the site visit phase of the review.

The Grant Screening Committee members all went and visited each of these three remaining applicant agencies: Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada; Teach for America; and Three Square. After the site visits, the GSC met on May 19<sup>th</sup> and selected the two finalists to present to the overall NWP membership at the October 13<sup>th</sup> Grant Hearing.

The members of the NWP 2009 Grant Screening Committee are: Cindy Ellis, Nazanin Ford, Marcelle Frey, Tami Hance, Wendy Hornbuckle, Susie Lee, Robyn Manzini, Trina Pascal, Gail Poll, Anna Robins, Julie Robinson, Sonja Saltman, Winnie Schulman, Laura Smith-Trampler, Tedi Ann Templeton, and Angela Thalgot. The committee's co-chaired by Robyn Manzini and Gail Poll. In addition, NWP president, Dana Lee, and immediate past president, Heather duBoef, served as ex-officio members.

## Marketing/Public Relations

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, NWP participated in a press conference with the Clark County School District to announce NWP's \$450,000 donation to support three new empowerment schools. NWP received coverage in the Las Vegas Review-Journal View section and the Las Vegas Sun. In addition, NWP president Dana Lee was interviewed by local CBS and ABC affiliates about our empowerment partnership.

Roundy Elementary principal, Rod Knowles, and Dana Lee were also interviewed by National Public Radio for a syndicated radio show on philanthropy. Roundy Elementary is one of our After-School All-Stars funding recipients.

## Membership

As of May, we have 76 members of which 35 have remitted their dues in full and six have remitted partial payment. We highly encourage everyone to remit outstanding dues before summer so that we can better estimate our 2009 grant award.

We do have a variety of options for members to pay. Members can elect to set-up automatic drafts from their bank account or pay by credit card. For credit card charges, a 2.75% per transaction fee will be charged. For details or to sign-up for a plan, please contact NWP Treasurer, Laura Smith-Trampler, at 702.250.0254 or [laurasmith2001@hotmail.com](mailto:laurasmith2001@hotmail.com)

If you have any prospective members, please contact Dana Lee at [danasulee@cox.net](mailto:danasulee@cox.net). Dana's happy to meet any prospect individually or send a membership packet.

We have quite an archive of NWP event pictures. To view these photos or print your own copies, please go to <http://photobucket.com>. Login: nvphilanthropy. Password: philanthropy. Click on the album module to view photos by event.



## Education/Events Committee

**SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – 11:30 TO 1:30 PM – NWP MEMBER “WELCOME BACK FROM SUMMER” LUNCH**

NWP President, Dana Lee, will host a luncheon at her home to welcome back all NWP members from their summer travels. The lunch will be purely social and a perfect opportunity for members to get to know each other or meet for the first time in a casual, informal setting. Mark the date in your calendars – an invitation will follow in late August.

For future Education Salons, we will look to hold them during the day, as feedback indicates that day events are easier to attend than evening events. Future Salon topics will address public education and the social impact of the economy on our valley’s citizens.

If you would like to join this dynamic committee, please contact chair Carrie Henderson at [chenderson@best-agencies.com](mailto:chenderson@best-agencies.com)

## Treasury

While our membership dues remittance is slightly down from last year, we are in a strong position for 2009. On a terrific note, our year-to-date expenses are *one-third* of what they’ve been in the past! Much is due to diminishing capital costs (e.g. stationery, web design), very generous in-kind contributions, and a curtailed *Salon* schedule.

We’ve always been a volunteer organization modeled on efficiency and low overhead, but we’ve managed to further transition to a very streamlined operational model. While the interest earned on our fund accounts is minimal, we can rest easily knowing that our funds are secure and the principal of our funds is secure.

## 2009 Grant Finalist Descriptions

### Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada – Foster Care Early Intervention Program (FCEIP)

The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Inc. (LACSN) was founded in 1958 to provide free legal advice, advocacy, and representation to residents of Clark County. It is their mission to ensure that individual rights are protected regardless of a client’s ability to pay for an attorney. Programs include the Consumer Rights Project, Children’s Attorney Project, Domestic Violence Project, Community Legal Education Project, and the Pro Bono Project.

LACSN requests NWP funding to begin its Foster Care Early Intervention Program (FCEIP). This program is designed to provide a voice for a child when he or she is first taken from the home and placed into the child welfare system. The goal of this program is to improve the lives of children and families who enter the child welfare system by improving court and agency processes, reducing the amount of time children spend in foster care and achieving permanency. The program would ensure legal representation for both the child and parent at the earliest point in the process. Legal Aid of Southern Nevada would hire one additional attorney and paralegal to implement this program, and are requesting the grant funds over a three year period.

*For more information on Legal Aid Center, please visit their website at: <http://www.lacsn.org>*

### Three Square – Mobile Food Pantry Program

Founded in 2006, The Three Square Food Bank was created to help solve southern Nevada’s hunger problem. Three Square is dedicated to “providing wholesome food to hungry people, while passionately pursuing a hunger-free community.” Three Square serves all hungry people in the community by collecting/purchasing nutritious food and distributing it to those in need through collaborative partnerships with more than 140 schools and over 240 non-profit and faith-based organizations.

Three Square requests NWP funding to purchase a 53-foot refrigerated truck and hire a driver to launch its Mobile Food Pantry Program. The program will allow Three Square to provide flexible emergency food services in areas underserved by existing agency partners. All food would be distributed from the refrigerated truck to areas of need identified by a UNLV Hunger Gap Analysis.

*For more information on Three Square, please visit their website at: <http://www.threesquare.org>*



## In Our Own Words – By Nazanin Ford

*Nazanin Ford is a first year member of the Grant Screening Committee and also a member of the Education/Events Committee. A resident of Las Vegas since 2003, Naz graduated from Loyola Marymount with a BA in English and received a Masters in Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. She is a freelance writer and editor, a passionate philanthropist, and a new mother to Ella James Ford.*

When I joined Nevada Women’s Philanthropy last year, I had ulterior motives. Sure, I wanted to be a part of a unique way of giving. I liked the idea of making a real impact with my donation—one I’d never be able to make on my own. But like I said, I had other designs.

What I wanted was to get to know the place I’d called home for the last five years in a deeper way. I wanted to learn more about the organizations and people who were making our city “real.” So far it’s worked. Within our organization alone we have so many amazing women dedicated to philanthropic causes big and small while raising families and leading successful careers. And just by touring the schools eligible for our PEF grant, I met some of the most dedicated teachers and administrators our children could hope for.

This year, I joined the Grant Screening Committee where we combed through 20 Letters of Inquiry that each opened my eyes to a new way to better our community. It was a tough process narrowing it down to two finalists for our members to vote on. There is so much need and so many worthy causes.

So has my duplicity paid off? You bet. I have learned that beyond the headlines of academic failure, we have some very dedicated teachers, innovative schools, and dynamic leaders preparing Clark County students for a brighter future than test scores and drop out rates indicate. I’ve come in contact with people who are dedicated to bettering the bedrock of our community by conquering one of the most basic needs: hunger. Most importantly, I’ve seen first-hand the humanity and charity of our city’s citizens, and the solutions not just the problems.



# 2009 Awards Luncheon

