

Community Chest 2017 Annual Report

Mission and Programs

Founded in 1991, Community Chest, Inc. serves the greater Northwestern Nevada area with a myriad of prevention programs and formerly, two statewide initiatives: K-12 service-learning and homeless youth education. Our mission is ***“To act as a catalyst for change and a center for resources to help people help themselves, as together we build healthy families and communities.”***

Community Chest is a United Way Partner agency with a staff of 40 full and part-time employees, 20 youth employees, and 20-plus regular volunteers. Our annual operating budget for calendar year 2017 was \$2,285,039. Community Chest, Inc. was twice a semi-finalist for the Ford Foundation Leadership for a Changing World Award (2001 and 2002).

This year Community Chest celebrates its 27th year of building community at home and abroad. Our programs serve the entire age span— from early childhood education to nutrition for seniors— but the primary focus of our work is building healthy youth, families, and communities.

Program Accomplishments in 2017

We began – and have almost finished – building out the nearly 5,000 square feet of Phase Two of our Community Center which will house the county library, a tech center, an arts/recreation space, a kitchen, and multiple office spaces.

The GAME Program for out-of-school youth in Fernley continues to serve nearly 20 students from Storey and Lyon Counties.

We completed the purchase of an office for the GAME program and counseling and domestic violence services in Fernley. There will be seven staff working in Fernley. Remodeling for three new office spaces will commence in Spring 2018.

We have more fully partnered with the Lyon County District Attorney’s Office to improve victim services and have offices at the courthouses in Fernley and Dayton, as well as another counseling office rented in Dayton.

We completed a comprehensive summer program for 60+ youth ages 5-12 that included recreation, social skills building, and substance abuse prevention.

We continued our partnership with Healthy Communities Coalition’s Safe Schools/Healthy Students’ Program to provide three COW Bus programs in Storey and Lyon Counties. The COW Buses are mobile classrooms that come to each community on a weekly basis and serve a total of 90 students. We also continued the program in Tonopah with a fourth bus there.

We led two community-based initiatives to address rural mental health, food security, public health, and youth and family programs in Nye County.

We provided a tech center with three computers, a printer, and Xerox machine that are available to all community members free of charge.

We served 20 individuals per week in our Food Closet, and served over 30 families during Christmas and served 30 during families during Thanksgiving, and provided free nutritious snacks to 60+ K-6 youth per month in the elementary program. As well, we supported the schools in providing snacks and meals to 20+ students across all four Storey County schools.

We provided counseling services to approximately 100 clients – our highest total ever – over the past year in many areas: personal, family, drug and alcohol prevention, domestic violence, and youth development. We expanded the counseling/domestic violence program to Dayton, Silver Springs and Fernley.

We continued fund-raising for another Global Voice trip. Due to the efforts, the high school students will be leaving for Loreto, Mexico to help with a community project in the early summer of 2018.

We continued to offer expanded employment case management services to two full-time people who work at four sites in Storey and Lyon County. We continued to help approximately 25 people to find employment.

We continued three Nevada Family First programs in Storey, Carson, and Hawthorne. This is an early childhood outreach program for new mothers.

We co-led the FASTT program in Lyon County. This program is intended to divert people with mental health/addiction issues to the proper treatment and thereby keep them out of the justice system.

Additional Financial Information (From most recently completed audit for 2016)

- Total Income for 2016: \$2,669,716
- Total Expenses for 2016: \$2,069,436
- Fund Raising Costs for 2016: \$89,616
- Administrative Costs for 2016: \$269,861
- Ending Net Assets for 2016: \$1,339,376

Board Roster for 2017

Cherie Nevin, President, term expires December 2019

Harriet Cummings, Vice President, term expires December, 2019

Michelle Gamble, Secretary/Treasurer, term expires December 2018

Chad Sprong, Director, term expires July 2018

Shannon Parsons, Director, term expires August 2019

Lucy Pitto, Director, term expires December 2019

Cierra Frisby, Youth Representative, term expired May 2017