



COMMUNITY
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of Western Nevada

Community Needs and COVID-19 Responses: Children and Family Organizations

Boys Town Nevada

We are a non-profit organization that serves kids and families in Southern Nevada. Throughout this crisis we have continued to provide essential mental and behavioral health services with flexibility and determination, through the use of technology. With families experiencing unprecedented stress and uncertainty, our on-staff Psychologists in our Behavioral Health Clinic are working tirelessly to provide support to local children and families. Our LIFT Together Program, which normally provides support services to students and families, teachers and administrators in the school setting has pivoted to continue to provide intensive in-home care to families, while providing extra support around distance learning and addressing behavioral challenges in this unique setting. All of our services continue to be offered virtually!

Critical Needs: Monetary donations are especially helpful at this time to support the families we serve. Amidst the current climate certain support from state education funds have been impacted, and some foundational and individual support has been redirected to COVID related services. Additionally, donations of necessities such as diapers, school supplies, cleaning supplies and other essential items are needed as we continue to make every effort to provide like items to the families we serve at this time!

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Communities in Schools of Western Nevada

Communities in Schools of Western Nevada has adjusted our model to supporting students both online and in the classroom. During the 2020-21 school year, we are case managing both in-person and distance learning students who are living in poverty in our community and have barriers between them and their educational success. In total, we will serve 11 Title I schools and over 8,000 at-risk students.

In schools, we have fully stocked CIS Resource Rooms with food pantries, clothing closets and school supplies for any student on campus. We now also provide home deliveries, virtual support, drive through food pantries, and other supports for distance learners. We have gone from a service that schools are lucky to have to being absolutely essential to the well-being of students and families.

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Our mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

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Education Alliance of Washoe County

Education Alliance is working to provide high need students with technology for distance learning – current Washoe County School District (WCSD) data finds 11,000 students do not have a computer/laptop at home! This digital divide prompted Education Alliance to launch a Distance Learning Laptop Drive to raise money and secure used laptops/computers. Thanks to our generous community, we have provided new or used computers to 450 students to date. Although WCSD secured 4,000 laptops with grants (shipping in October), thousands of students still are in need of technology at home and we still need funding of \$2.5 million to provide equitable access for all students to continue their learning! Since 1992, Education Alliance has been supporting ALL WCSD schools, students, and educators in collaboration with UNR and TMCC.

In addition to fundraising and collection of used computers, volunteers can spread the word about the urgent need for students without home computer access and help bring attention to our distance learning laptop fundraiser. Additionally, volunteers can assist with computer distribution as needed. We have marketing materials ready to be shared including photos, flyer, press release, and a dedicated web page.

Contact:

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www.ed-alliance.org/dlld

Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is a 100-year-old program that gives girls the tools they need to respond in times of crisis. The courage, confidence and character building activities create resilience, giving girls a platform to help their communities, and themselves.

How GSSN is responding:

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- Rolling out a "Girl Scout at Home" program that is open to EVERY girl, not just Girl Scouts: <https://www.gssn.org/en/about-girl-scouts/athome.html>
- providing volunteers support to conduct virtual troop meetings and hosting multiple badge programs
- conducting wellness checks and delivering food, toiletries, computers and technical assistance as needed
- And so much more!

Girl Scouts are doing what they do best, making the world a better place with projects like mask making and blood drives.

Funding from the Paycheck Protection Plan has helped us bridge the gap, but remaining at current staffing levels, we are anticipating a \$170,000 shortfall with a drop in individual giving, foundations redistributing grant funding and lost event revenue.

If you are passionate about building the next generation of women leaders, we need you! Whether supporting an online badge program or creating a virtual troop that will move to a typical troop when allowed, there is a place for you at Girl Scouts.

Contact:

Wendy Firestone

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www.gssn.org

Girls on the Run Sierras

Girls on the Run Sierras works with local girls in grades 3rd - 5th to build confidence, character as well as show them the benefits of physical activity! Our program gives girls tools to stand up for themselves and others, shows them the value of friendship and the importance of honest communication. We are NOT a running program; we ARE a social emotional learning program with an element of physical activity.

Girls on the Run is hosting a "modified" Fall program for 2020. Traditionally we host a 10-week program at schools, this Fall we will host a 5-week program at a community site two days a week {Wednesday's from 4-6pm & Saturday's from 8-10am}. Moving to a community site allows for any girl in Washoe County to participate!

Program will begin September 23rd, space is limited to 80 girls.

Girls on the Run teams will have 10 girls & 2 coaches, we will follow local health protocols including temperature checks, wearing masks & staying 6 feet apart.

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Help us spread the word that Girls on the Run will host a community-based Fall program! Our local girls need a program that celebrates them now more than ever!

Contact:

Joy Heuer

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www.girlsontherunsierras.org

Kiwanis Club of Downtown Sparks

Bike Shop open W/Th from 1pm - 7pm and F/Sa from 1pm - 5pm. Masks required. Limited camps, clubs, clinics, or outreach activities. Call 775-337-1717 to check. Once we can fully reopen for community gatherings, we will need funds to support our community center renovation (\$20K), and to support our outreach programs (camps, clinics, and support for other organizations).

Volunteers are needed to build bikes to donate to youth organizations and schools, help finish organizing our new show, and help with events and activities.

Contact:

Kevin Duggan, President

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www.kiwanisbikes.org

Northern Nevada Math Club Inc

In response to COVID: Working to straddle the need to reduce in-person contact and maintain a level of normalcy for the kids in our programs, we moved our contests and Competition Team practices online. We canceled our in-person summer math camps and held 7-weeks of online classes to contain the financial impact to a loss of \$15k. For the 2020-21 school year, programs will be fully online for the fall semester and regular season contests will be online for the year; making them accessible to all Nevada students in grades 1-12. We anticipate cuts in participation from GATE programs due to budget cuts and we are working with Boys & Girls Club and Title I teachers to ensure programs are accessible to low income students. We are currently creating online resources to provide these students additional support. We have also cancelled our Amazing Math Race fundraiser and anticipate an increase in the number of families requesting financial assistance.

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Future Needs: Help with promotion and communications is appreciated. Sponsors and donors to cover the costs of going online, creating online support programs, and fund teachers who want their students to participate in our contests as part of their classwork are needed.

Contact:

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Rainbow Dreams Educational Foundation

We had to cancel our 20th Annual fundraiser. Immediate needs: Provide computers and food school age children and families. Budget - \$15,000.00

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<https://rainbowdreamsfoundation.org/>

Sage Ridge School

All schools nationwide have moved to online school's some with greater success than others. Many states have finished classes early. We have been very successful in the scheduling and implementing what we call "Scorpion School" and are still going strong and will stay in class until June 9th.

Immediate needs: Technology needs strengthening and lower grades 3-5 who do not have 1:1 laptops (\$108,000) and some lower income families need internet access at their home's (\$1200)

Future needs: Depending on the CDC recommendations we plan on resuming school we will possibly need 2 masks per child per day, disinfectant wipes, sanitizer and possibly thermometers. (\$7000)

Contact:

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Sierra Nevada Journeys

Sierra Nevada Journeys (SNJ) prepares primarily underserved youth for success through science, engineering and environmental education in the outdoors. SNJ needs scholarship funding for weekend-based Family Camps this Fall for families in need, especially during these challenging times. Change a child's life this Fall by ensuring their family has the resiliency and communication tools to stay stable and supportive. Families are identified by our partners in the non-profit community, focusing on families that would most benefit from a change of scenery and experience a whole new level of connectedness in a beautiful outdoor environment. Families maintain safety by staying in their own comfortable cabin, eating together outdoors, and moving through fun activities as a family unit, like the Ropes Course, Kayaking, Archery, and Night Hikes.

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Tahoe's Connection for Families

Our family learning center site closed mid-March; however, our parenting classes and toddler circle times continued through Zoom. TCF built a digital library for parents and children (parenting classes and activities for kids). TCF staff has maintained regular communication with members (calls, texts, emails, newsletters, and social media posts). Our kids' thrift store closed for three months, then provided curbside pickup, and reopened in June to on site shopping. In July, Tahoe's Connection for Families opened its outdoor play area for member sign up and use.

TCF canceled our spring fundraiser, Tahoe Teddy Bear Picnic, and our largest annual fundraiser, Tahoe Fall Fest. These events bring people together to build a stronger community and they bring in over 60% of TCF's annual operating budget. The loss of these funds, approximately \$100,000, will have the most detrimental impact to the services that our small nonprofit has proudly provided the community for 20 years.

All donations are greatly appreciated and would be of great help to our nonprofit that empowers, educates, connects, and supports families with young children. TCF remains immensely grateful for our community and we know we can serve our community because of support from individuals like you.

Contact:

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The Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Nevada

Our daily attendance has been 500 youth at our main site before the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working with our local front-line staff, current members, and community partners to provide relief to our Club families. BGCWN served 90 youth in Phase I. Now in Phase II, BGCWN can serve 115 youth. BGCWN hopes to open their doors to 150 youth in Phase III. We are anticipating \$600,000 in revenue loss due to the cancelation of our community fundraisers and the reduced number of youths we are able to serve in a safe and healthy environment. We will continue to provide meals and Club to go packets this coming summer for kids who are unable to attend the Club. Funding needs to support the Club while we provide in house childcare and remote programming and food programs are as follows:

\$2500 - \$3000 – Sanitation supplies

\$15,000 - Weekly Program Supplies

\$20,000 – Extended Meal Services

\$25,000-\$50,000 – Scholarship fund

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The Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Project

The CAP Project provides an interactive child abuse prevention awareness workshop to children in elementary schools in Washoe, Storey, Lyon and Churchill Counties. It is a school-based-skills based program that has been designed for presentation in individual classrooms. Now that the children are in distance learning situations in their homes, we aren't able to present our workshop in its current format.

Our immediate need is to find a way to reach the children who are vulnerable to child abuse during this uncertain time. We know that most disclosures of abuse and neglect are processed by mandated reporters at school and situations outside of the home environment.

If children are able to return to classrooms 120 days from now, the CAP program will need to increase its staff and budget to reach the children that missed the required CAP workshop during the 2019-2020 school year as well as teach the new workshops for the 2020-2021 school year. The estimated dollar amount would be \$25,000.

We have many volunteer opportunities such as office work, research and data analysis, scheduling workshops, and workshop presentation in the classroom.

Contact:

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