



# Bridge Newsletter

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## Mission Statement

We believe every person has worth and dignity and deserves the opportunity to experience emotional happiness, hope, health, relief, and recovery.

Bridge Counseling is dedicated to providing the services to help people build effective lives.

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## First Lady's Summit on Children's Mental Health in Carson City

The First Lady's Children's Mental Health Summit, held in Carson City on April 24, 2013, featured guest speakers from Northern, Rural, and Southern Nevada whose expertise lies in services available to children throughout the state of Nevada.

Nevada's First Lady Kathleen Sandoval has a background working with families and youth as the program director for **Children's Cabinet**. She has first hand experience dealing with the issues that face Nevada's children. A Review Journal article written about the First Lady indicated, at the time her husband Brian Sandoval was elected governor, she had been working for 11 years with the agency to improve the lives of children in the Reno area. Her passion for working with children has not diminished, as evidenced by the summit held to address the needs facing families and children throughout the state.

Among the invited speakers, Jacqueline Harris, Executive Director of Bridge Counseling, addressed issues that present in the Juvenile Justice System for adolescents. Ms. Harris focused on the "Living Clean" program designed in collaboration with Clark County Juvenile Justice Services, Bridge Counseling & Judge William Voy. This is a program that grew out of a need to address the multiple issues facing youth in the system and need for family involvement.

Thank you First Lady Kathleen Sandoval for all you are doing to improve the state of Nevada by taking care of our most precious resource... Nevada's children.



*Bridge Counseling Executive Director Jacqueline Harris (second from left), listens to presenters during First Lady Kathleen Sandoval's Children's Mental Health Summit in Carson City, Nevada. Ms. Harris's "Living Clean" presentation focused on the need to address issues facing youth in the Juvenile Justice System in Clark County. The all-day summit was held at the Governor's mansion on April 24, 2013.*

## Family-Centered Programs at Bridge

- Families in Transition (FIT) - A family reunification program in collaboration with the Department of Family Services
- Voice for Kids - Mental health counseling for children with behavioral/mental health issues
- **Adolescent Program** - Outpatient substance abuse treatment program for teens
- Parenting Classes - Offering helpful tools for positive parenting techniques
- Nutrition Classes - Healthful and nutritious meal options and cooking instruction
- One-on-one individual sessions with a clinician
- Group sessions provide feedback from others experiencing similar circumstances
- All Bridge programs are available in Spanish and English



Celebrating 42 Years  
1971-2013

Bridge has been changing  
lives one family at a  
time since 1971

**Child abuse  
prevention and  
family preservation  
are our main focus.  
Treatment of  
families is  
essential.**



If you would like to make  
a tax-deductible donation  
to the "Living Clean"  
program please use the  
form on the next page.  
You can also make a se-  
cure donation online by  
visiting our website:  
[www.bcalv.com](http://www.bcalv.com)  
Give us a call for more  
information 474-6450.

## Students from Desert Oasis High Donate to Bridge



**Principal Emil Wozniak, class sponsor Tina Fulks, and students from Desert Oasis High School present checks to five nonprofits through the Public Education Foundation. Bridge received a \$1000 award to enhance the meeting space for adolescents receiving treatment in our "Living Clean" program. Their generous donation will also provide snacks.**

It's seven o'clock in the morning and Desert Oasis High students are quietly awaiting instruction from their instructor Tina Fulks. She will guide the We R Community class into the world of philanthropy. Ms. Fulks is training the next generation of community action leaders by showing them how to navigate through the world of non profits. She will help them understand their function in society and how they are funded. No easy task, as there are so many details to be covered and addressed before the class must decide who will receive an award based on very specific criteria.

Through an initiative of the Public Education Foundation and the generosity of the Southern Highlands Foundation, nine schools in the Clark County School District are each given \$5000 to disburse among invited non profits that are finalists in the selection process. It is a grueling process for the students to eliminate many worthy causes that are in need of funds for special projects.

The We R Community students choose non profits that focus on substance abuse treatment, homelessness, human trafficking/prostitution, child abuse, poverty, and suicide. The selection process begins in November 2012 with an invitation to selected non profits to submit a grant application. The process culminates with the Grant Awards Ceremony which was held on May 15, 2013.

## Adolescent Living Clean Program

Bridge Counseling's "Living Clean" program has begun! This program provides direct services to the youth of Las Vegas who are involved in the Juvenile Justice System (JJS). In collaboration with the probation department of the JJS and Judge William Voy, Bridge provides outpatient substance abuse treatment services to adolescents under the age of 18.

The Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) provides a meeting room at their offices near Stewart and Lamb for Bridge counselors to see adolescent clients. With Bridge clinicians onsite at DJJS, clients aren't faced with the challenge of finding transportation to meet treatment requirements. Transportation issues are often a barrier to successful treatment.

"Living Clean" ties together the collaborative efforts of probation officers, clinicians and the court system to provide case management for adolescents in the program. An additional goal of the program is to address the multiple issues facing youth (see bulleted list below) in the system and need for family involvement.

- Legal Problems – possession, under the influence, burglary, domestic violence, truancy, school expulsion, & larceny
- Family Issues – parent/child conflict, parental substance abuse, parental incarceration, divorce, single parents, poverty
- Bullying, depression, anxiety, PTSD, behavioral problems
- Past history of abuse – sexual, physical & neglect

**Bridge treats 1500 clients every month. Individuals and families seeking treatment can access services through court programs, referral agencies and self-referral.**

# Nevada's Big Give is a Success



Two members from the cast of *Jersey Boys* stopped by Nevada's Big Give headquarters in support of local non profits. \$551,142 was raised at this year's event.

Headquartered at Planet Hollywood's Miracle Mile Shops on the Las Vegas Strip, on April 25, 2013, Nevada's Big Give hosted several celebrities and entertainers who endorsed and supported the second annual, one-day, online, "Give Where You Live" donation drive for Nevada nonprofits. Although the one million dollar goal was not reached, generous Nevadans donated \$551,142 to local and state-wide agencies. This amount exceeds donations received during the first Big Give in 2011.

According to NV Big Give website, "Nevadans came together on Nevada's Big Give to make donations to as many nonprofits as possible in 24 hours. On April 25th, 2013, from 12:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., supporters of Nevada nonprofits went to the Nevada's Big Give website, connected with causes they care about, discovered new causes, and made tax-deductible donations. The donations are staying local and helping our Nevada nonprofits provide much needed services throughout The Silver State."

Thank you to all the donors who contributed to Bridge. We received \$1025 in donations from our generous supporters. These funds will provide treatment services to clients unable to pay for counseling services and for their children as well. With a focus on family treatment, Bridge's goal is family preservation and child abuse prevention.

Many thanks to chair Stacey Wedding and her staff of dedicated volunteers for organizing Nevada's Big Give and making it a successful and fun event.

A tax-deductible gift can provide counseling services to at-risk children and their families here in Las Vegas. Please consider a donation to help preserve families in need of crisis services. For more information about our programs please contact our office 702-474-6450 x123 or visit our website.

## Support Child Abuse Prevention and Family Preservation

Bridge Counseling is changing lives one family at a time. Your tax-deductible donation will provide services to at-risk children and their families.

Please apply my donation to the programs checked

- Infants and toddlers
- Pre School 2-6 years
- School Age 6-12 years
- Adolescent Program
- Wherever needed most

Amount
\$
\$
\$
\$
\$

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment

- Check
- Bill Me
- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**You can make a donation to a specific program such as the *Living Clean Program*. Just check mark the **Adolescent Program** box.**

1640 Alta Drive, Suite #4  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
Phone: 702-474-6450

Phone: 702-474-6450  
Fax: 702-474-6463  
website: www.bcalv.com

## Support Children's Mental Health

**Make a tax-deductible donation to defray the cost of counseling**

Make a difference in a child's life.

## Charitable Giving Can Last a Lifetime

Mail form on left or visit our website to make a secure donation online.

### Bridge Counseling Associates

1640 Alta Drive  
Suite #4  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
www.bcalv.com

Your donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.







New Address

**1640 Alta Drive, Suite #4  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
Phone: 702-474-6450  
Fax: 702-474-6463**

**Celebrating 42 Years,  
Bridging the Road to Help  
Families Heal**



### **Our Board of Directors for 2013**

**Chris Carothers** has served on our board since 1996 and currently serves as board **President**.

**Candace Young-Richey** is this year's **Vice President** and has served on our board since 2005.

**Dr. Nancy Karr** serves as our current **Treasurer** and has been a board member since 2009.

**Natalie Montas** is our new board **Secretary**. She joined our board in 2011.

**Ron Thompson** is a current **Member-At-Large** and has served in several officer positions since 2001.

Our board meets monthly to review agency policies and/or procedures and recommends client-driven, programmatic improvements to existing and future treatment programs at Bridge Counseling.

**Thanks to our board members, Bridge's mission to serve the community has remained intact since 1971.**

If you are interested in becoming a member of our board to serve the community of Las Vegas children who have been exposed to abuse, neglect or endangerment and can make a commitment of time, resources and energy, please contact our office at 702-474-6450.



**We R Community instructor Tina Fulks and Principal Emil Wozniak of Desert Oasis High School proudly watch their students deliver grant checks to five non profits in Las Vegas including Bridge.**

### **We R Community Grant Awards Ceremony**

Many thanks to the students of **Desert Oasis High School** who donated \$1000 to Bridge Counseling to provide treatment services to clients in the "Living Clean" Program. During the heartwarming grant presentation program, Ms. Fulks' We R Community class explained the process of selection and the mission statement of the students:

*"We, the students of Desert Oasis High School are concerned with human trafficking/prostitution, child abuse, children living in poverty, suicide, and alcohol/drug abuse."*

Five non profits in Las Vegas, including Bridge, received donations for programs which address issues that concern students the most. The ceremony was held on May 15, 2012.

We are grateful not only to receive such a generous donation, but honored to be selected by the next generation of philanthropists who are reaching out and addressing the needs of their peers in the community.

We want to thank the dedicated staff at Desert Oasis who are leading directing, and mentoring these students. We also gratefully acknowledge the Public Education Foundation and the Southern Highlands Foundation for funding the We R Community program in the Clark County School District.

**Thank You Desert Oasis High School**