



Jennifer Singer
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Bright Futures for Youth



THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB
NEO | SAFE



THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

NEO

SAFE

How We Meet the Needs of Our Youth



A Vision For Tomorrow

OUR VISION

Every young person has hope,
opportunity and the capacity to succeed

OUR MISSION

To ignite the potential of youth today
for vibrant communities tomorrow

Stronger Together

BRIGHT FUTURES FOR YOUTH



**The
Friendship
Club**



- Leveraging resources
- Increased ability to raise funds
- Youth can participate & benefit from all three programs

Positive Youth Development

Building a foundation for success with **POSITIVE ...**

EXPERIENCES



**Build
Competence**

RELATIONSHIPS



**Instill
Confidence**

ENVIRONMENTS



**Promote
Health & Safety**

RISK FACTORS

Affecting Young People

IN NEVADA COUNTY...

- **1 of every 5** children lives under federal poverty line (US Census Bureau)
- **1 in 7** youth face food insecurity (Feeding America—supplies food to food banks)
- **1 in 20** youth is experiencing homelessness (CA Dept. of Education)

RISK FACTORS

Affecting Young People

SCHOOL DISENGAGEMENT



SOCIAL ISOLATION



ANXIETY/ DEPRESSION



RISK FACTORS

Affecting Young People

HOUSING INSTABILITY



DRUG/ALCOHOL USE



Partnering with families as well as public & private organizations

PRIVATE PARTNERS

- Parents & Guardians
- Family Support Organizations
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Community Donors

PUBLIC PARTNERS

- Schools
- Health & Mental Wellness Providers
- County/City Services
- Law Enforcement

Meeting the Needs of Youth

Connecting with more than 500 youth every month



NEO YOUTH CENTER

40-60 young people “drop-in” after school every day and summer activities

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

100 girls in 6th-12th grade receive year-round academic, emotional and social support



SAFE, HELPING YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

117 currently served, providing basic needs and access to community services, resources and housing

Meeting the Needs of Youth

Connecting with about 1 of every 12 youth in western Nevada County



FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Held on school campuses to encourage 4th-12th graders to live healthy lives—without substance use—100 youth participating

KITCHEN & NUTRITION PROGRAM

Provided 13,000 healthy meals in 2024, expecting 15,000 this year. Also offers healthy cooking and nutrition classes

VOLUNTEERS CHANGE LIVES

150, includes tutors, mentors for boys and girls, drivers and kitchen crew

Making the Next Generation the Best Generation

Internships: a win-win for everyone

- BFFY benefits greatly from our interns—from our commercial kitchen to year-round programs
- Interns learn valuable skills through the program
- Positions paid through Nevada County workforce grant



Community Challenges Affecting Youth



- No shelter in our community for youth experiencing homelessness under 18 years of age
- Lack of housing for youth experiencing homelessness

Challenges Ahead



- Uncertain economy
- Grant funding reduced or eliminated
- Fewer dollars available to promote health and wellness
- Government-funded health insurance at risk



THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB
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How You Can Help

Become a
supporter

Invite friends
& neighbors
to visit us

Keep us in
mind when
seeking grant
partners

Become a
volunteer

Attend
events & engage
with our
youth—listen
to them



Opening Doors

Making Dreams Come True

Thanks for Joining Us

... and Investing in the Next Generation

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