

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Bright Futures for Youth

The County of Nevada Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in recognizing Bright Futures for Youth for their 30 years of outstanding dedication and commitment to the needs of Nevada County youth beginning with The Friendship Club program.

Bright Futures for Youth is a community-focused nonprofit organization committed to addressing the ever-changing needs of youth in Nevada County. Bright Futures for Youth was formed in the summer of 2020 through the merger of two grassroots organizations: The Friendship Club and NEO (New Events and Opportunities), which together, have more than 30 years of experience serving youth in Nevada County. In 1995, The Friendship Club summer pilot program was launched by Mary Collier, Jennifer Singer, and Amanda Chavez with 15 girls in a classroom at Deer Creek School. Today, The Friendship Club has grown significantly to serve 100 girls in sixth- to twelfth-grade cohorts, providing academic, emotional and social support after school, summer camps, and year-round opportunities to build friendships. Through the programming, participants learn life skills and build confidence for their future. The Friendship Club also ensures basic needs, such as access to health care and healthy meals, are available. Since its inception, it has supported nearly 1,000 girls and young women through year-long programs focused on academics, life skills, and wellness.

The Friendship Club served as the foundation for what has become Bright Futures for Youth, which has expanded to meet the needs of several hundred children and young adults every month – from boys and girls in the NEO Youth Center, to the SAFE (Stability, Access, Foundation, Empowerment) program for youth experiencing homelessness. Drawing on three decades of experience, Bright Futures for Youth continues to expand its no-cost, life-changing programs to meet the growing and diverse needs of young people in the community.

Therefore, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in recognizing Bright Futures for Youth for its exceptional service and commitment to empowering generations of young people, and looks forward to its continued success and enduring impact in our community.

Heidi Hall, Chair

Robb Tucker, District II

Lisa Swarthout, District III

Susan K. Hoek, District IV

Hardy Bullock, District V