



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

...it's about Time

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world... Indeed it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead



PLUMAS RURAL SERVICES

SERVING PEOPLE, STRENGTHENING FAMILIES, BUILDING COMMUNITIES

Leslie Wall, Program Coordinator

A Little Background

- 18 years in Las Vegas
- Father Flannigan's Boys Town – 36 Teen-Age boys
- 2 Adopted Children
- Voluntary Simplicity in 2000



Where is PLUMAS COUNTY CALIFORNIA?

- Rural mountain area
- 2,553 Square Miles
- 100+ miles Across
- Winter November-May



- Population 19,765
- Quincy – County seat
- 21.6% over age 65
- 12.1% below poverty
- \$44k Median Income
- 7.8 People per Square Mile



- Plumas Rural Services non-profit agency
- Serving Plumas County for 32 years
- Diverse service programs
 - Regional Food (Farmers' Markets, Food Growers)
 - Child Care Payment Assistance and WIC Nutrition
 - Services for adults and children with disabilities
 - Crisis intervention, therapy, emergency shelter
 - Public transportation
 - Community resource centers
- \$4 Million Annual Budget – 75% goes back into community

Getting Acquainted with Rural

- Family Advocate – Home Visitor
- Nurturing Parenting Classes
- Women's Support Groups
- Rape/Child Abuse/Crisis Counseling



An Idea is Born

- The definition of insanity: Doing what you've always done over and over and expecting different results.
- Created in 2007 – address gaps in services
- Solution-focused, strength-based - rather than needs directed
- Greatest asset to build on – people
- Advisory Board – What If?
- Time Banking proven model



- Time Banking started in Europe in 1980's – Edgar Cahn, author of '***No More Throw-Away People***'
- Today - 300 active Time Banks in the United States
- Unlimited possibilities – no exact model

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EXCITED TO BUILD A NEW KIND OF COMMUNITY

- Unique to our rural communities
- Open to everyone (all ages)
- Utilize individual strengths and skills
- Support community residents, activities, events, and services
- Create opportunities to connect
- No volunteer burn-out
- Equality of Members
- Innovative way to meet needs



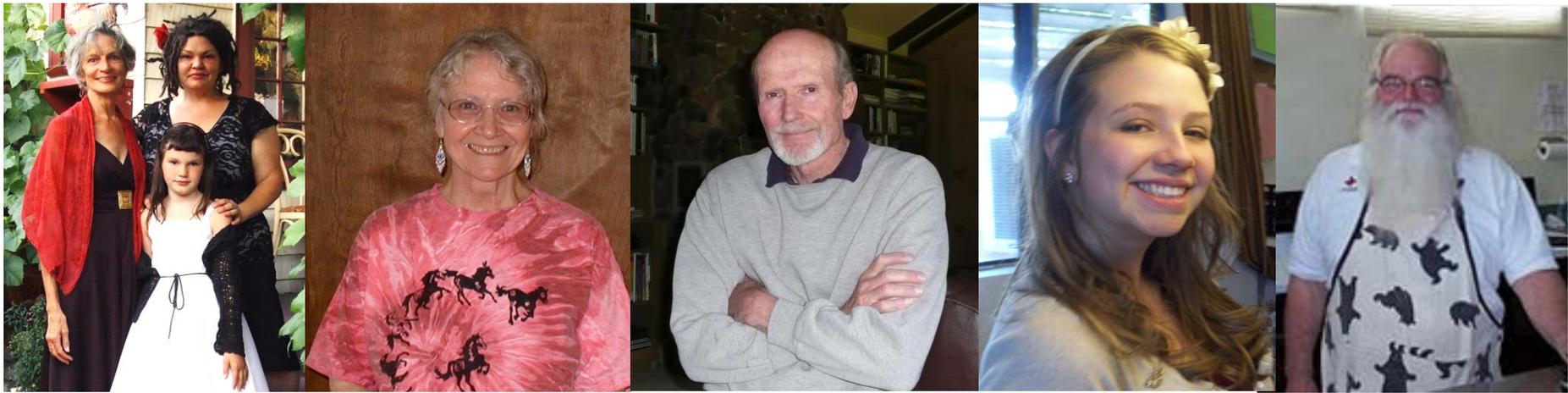
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WE ARE ALL UNIQUE, BUT EQUAL



One hour of service equals one
time credit – always!

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MISSION STATEMENT

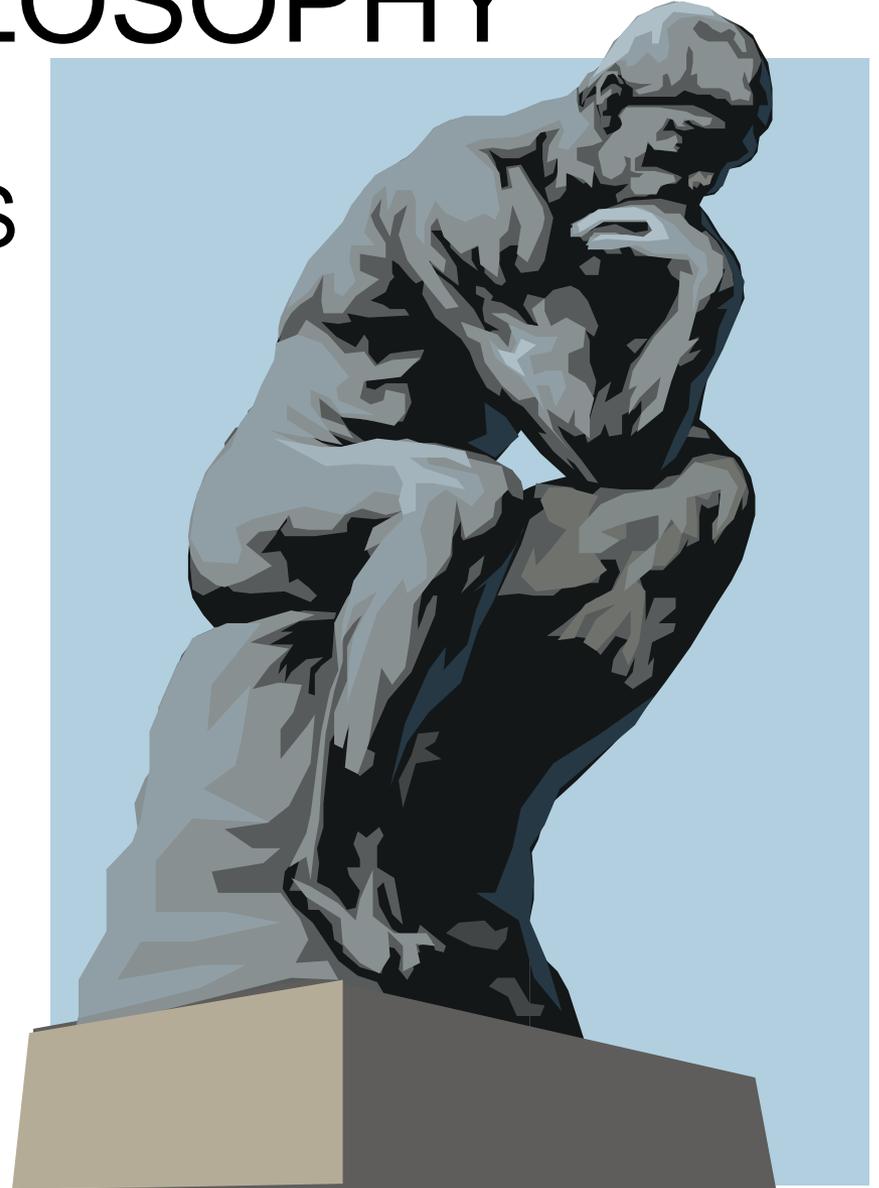
To connect people, strengthen families and build communities through the exchange of services.

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OUR PHILOSOPHY

FOUR CORE VALUES

- EVERYBODY MATTERS
- GIVING IS RECEIVING
- VOLUNTEERS MAKE COMMUNITIES WORK
- PEOPLE NEED PEOPLE



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EVERYBODY MATTERS

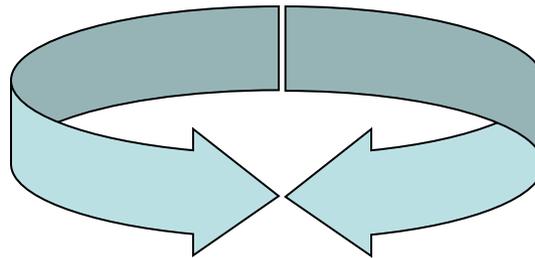
- WE ALL HAVE SKILLS & TALENTS
- People are the real wealth of a community
- Every person, regardless of age, income level, or education is valuable and has something to offer to others



GIVING IS RECEIVING

- RECIPROCITY is the impulse to Give Back
- When everyone has an opportunity to serve AND can accept service from others...

“You need me” becomes “We need each other”



VOLUNTEERS MAKE COMMUNITIES WORK

Sharing in the responsibility of

- raising healthy children
- strengthening families
- supporting vital businesses and service organizations
- caring for our seniors and aging

Creates a community we all want to be a part of



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PEOPLE NEED PEOPLE



We are all unique, but equal.

Sometimes the greatest gift we can give another is to allow them to serve so they can feel needed and appreciated.

FUNDING

2009-2011 – Child Abuse Prevention Council

– to provide unique resources to parents

2011-2014 – proven success

2011-2013 – Archstone Foundation

– to expand into outlying communities focus on senior's ability to 'age in place'

Always seeking new funding!

Membership Structure

- \$20 Individual Membership
 - Conduct background checks
 - Under 18 Free
- \$10 Annual Renewal
 - Maintain current **active** membership
- \$100/annual Sponsorships
 - Support for activities, events, programs

It's about people not economy...

A Community is All Ages

- Youngest is 5
- Youth learn community service when it is modeled
- Oldest Member is 92
- Age does not mean “nothing left to give”
- Change Paradigm from ‘Retired to Required’
‘Court-Mandated to Choice’



PROGRAM SPONSORS

- 45 service organizations
- Provide Opportunities to engage in the community and support activities/events
 - 4 Chambers of Commerce
 - Natural Foods Co-op, Thrift Stores, Farmers' Market
 - County Museum, Libraries, Animal Shelter
 - Radio Station
 - School District, Community College
 - Hospital Volunteer Groups, Hospice
 - Highway Patrol
 - Recreation & Park District

TYPES OF SERVICES

Every new Member increases services available

Arts/Crafts

Business Services

Computer Assistance

Events

Handy Services

Household Management

Personal Care

Recreation

Transportation

Yard Care

Auto Care

Child Care

Cooking

Gardening

House Sitting

Housekeeping

Pet Care

Sewing

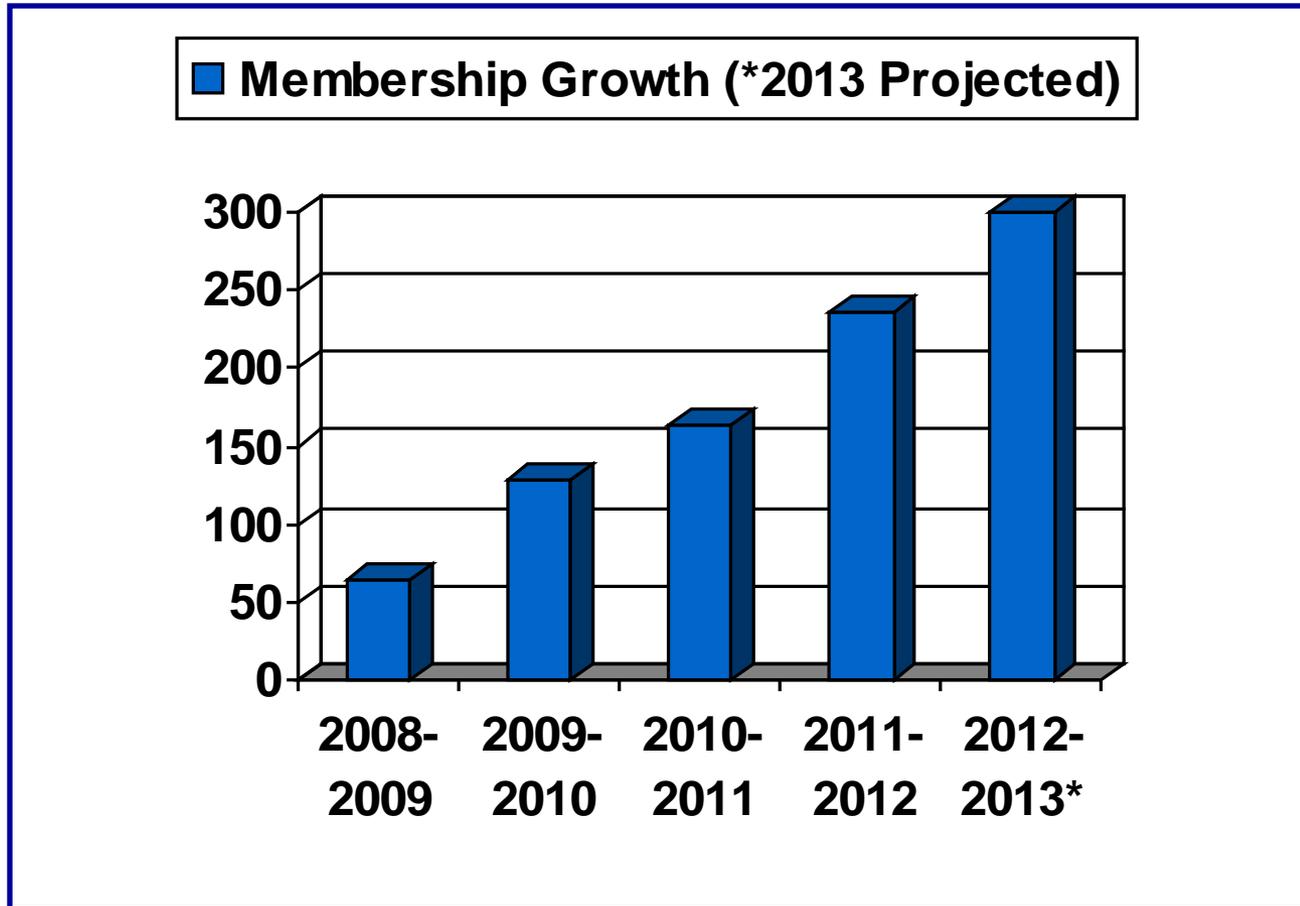
Tutoring

***Over 400 different services...
only the tip of the iceberg***

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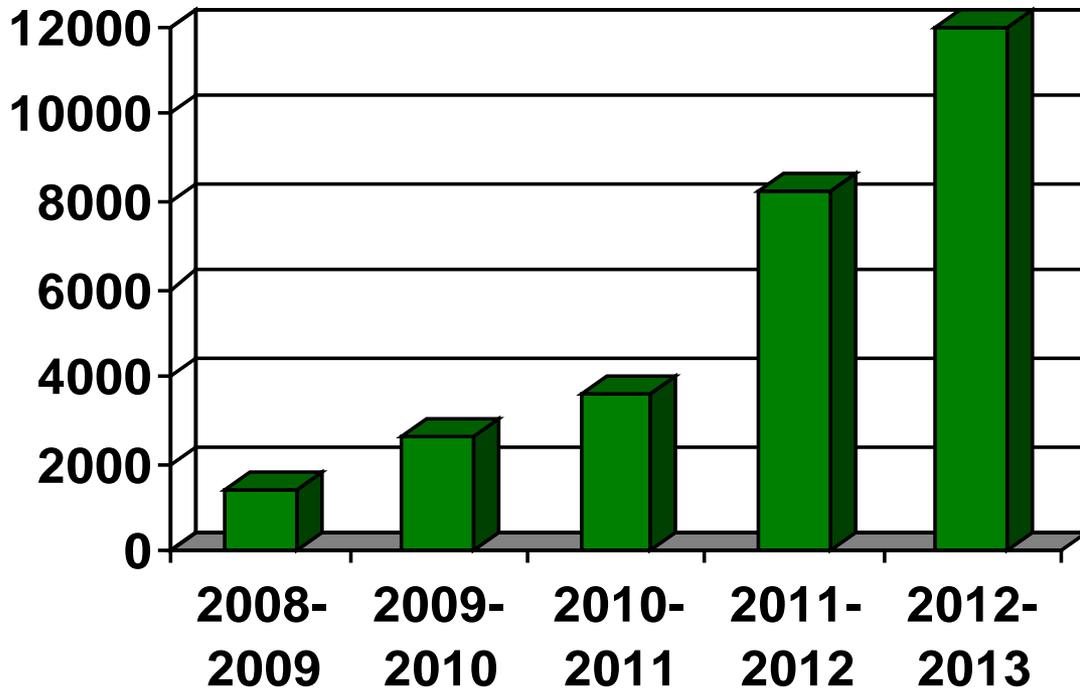
Membership Growth



285 Current Members & Sponsors

SERVICE HOURS

■ Service Hours (*2013 Projected)



**82% of
Requests
Receive a
Referral!**

**SOMETIMES THE
GREATEST GIFT
WE CAN GIVE
ANOTHER IS
TO FEEL NEEDED
AND
APPRECIATED**

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