Signal Circle moving KUNR forward

In 2013, as KUNR celebrated 50 years of broadcasting from the University of Nevada, Reno, a new, vital high-level giving group was formed: the KUNR Signal Circle. Open to all station contributors, this opportunity received a tremendous response, surpassing its inaugural 50-member goal in honor of the station’s anniversary. The KUNR Signal Circle is comprised of donors giving $1,000 or more annually; many give more and some have made multi-year commitments.

It’s impressive to see what a relatively small but growing group of dedicated donors can achieve when they come together in this way to support our longtime, local public radio station. The more than $60,000 in Signal Circle contributions received this past year established the foundation for many of this year’s successes. The Signal Circle funds were instrumental in KUNR’s advancement with its new station website, kunr.org, expansion of local news staff and resources, regional arts coverage, program investment and updated broadcast technology.

For 2014, KUNR Signal Circle has a goal of assembling the Top 100 supporters of KUNR to achieve an impact of $100,000 or more to further advance KUNR’s work in the region to serve its listeners and the community.

“We extend our sincere and grateful appreciation to current KUNR Signal Circle members recognized here, and those who chose to remain anonymous,” said General Manager David Stipech ’85 (journalism). “KUNR’s success is only possible with faithful contributors at all levels. We’re proud and humbled by how much the station is valued, as reflected in the growing membership of the KUNR Signal Circle.”

To learn more about the KUNR Signal Circle, please contact Stefanie Givens, assistant director of development, (775) 682-6056 or sgivens@kunr.org.

—KUNR Staff

KUNR Signal Circle Members 2013-14

Jeanne Ackley
Deena & James Behnke
Derwent & John Bowen ’76 Ph.D.
Laura Brigham ’12 M.A. & Brian Beffort
Suzanne Buckley
Lynn Carasali
Renate Daniels ’76
Richard Davies
Craig Denney & Valerie Fridland
Todd Denton ’84 & Julia Gold
Mary English
Brian Fox
Eric Freyer
Terry Friedman
Grant & Joan Gardner ’74, ’84 M.Ed.
Dian Garrett
Sharon Genovese
Bonnie Gilbert
Lorraine Giurlani
James & Agnes Golden
Martha Gould
Heather Hardy
William Haug
Amy Hayes
Michael & Barbara Heffner
Abby & Zeb Hogan
Frieda Hulka ’87, ’92 M.D. & Faith Burnette
David Jickling
Hy Kashenberg
Joanne Kimball ’54
Elizabeth Knott ’87 M.Ed.
Cecilia Lee
Jackie Leonard ’71

Lorraine Masterson
Sandra & Tim McFarren
Marcia & Chuck Kerl
Lucia & Stephen Missall
Mary Ann Morgan & Bruce Beesley ’75
George Mortimer
Nico Murphy ’07, ’10 M.S. & Kevin Murphy
Peter Chase & Renate Neumann
Linda & Alvaro Pascotto
Nancy Podewils
Marshall & Patricia Postman
Lloyd Rogers & Gaia Brown
Jennifer ’80 M.Ed. & Philip Satre
Cynthia Scripps & Jeffrey Wachs ’82
Charlie Shepard & Wendy Swallow
John & Beverlee Shields
Michael Short
Dallas Smith & Susan Mazer-Smith
Susan Sorensen
Janet Usinger ’76
Sharon Walbridge ’61
Brooke Walker & Craig Conrath
Sally White ’86 & Geoff White
Virginia Williamson ’09 M.P.H. & John Williamson
King & Linda Won
Carl Young

KUNR morning host Danna O’Connor with Signal Circle members Jim and Deena Behnke at the Lake Tahoe Summerfest this year.
NCED promotes access for all

The Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED) in the College of Education is a statewide program that works cooperatively with consumers, agencies and programs to assist Nevadans of all ages with disabilities to be independent and productive citizens who are included in their communities. The NCED is part of a national network of 67 other federally funded university centers on disabilities, at least one in each state and territory.

“We serve a wide audience that includes people with disabilities, their families, state and local government agencies and community providers,” says NCED Director and University Professor Steve Rock. “Many issues—early intervention, health care, community-based services, inclusive and meaningful education, transition from school to work, employment, housing, assistive technology and transportation—have been positively impacted by the services provided at NCED and at university centers throughout the country,” Rock adds.

NCED projects include:

**Advocacy and family support:** Partners in Policymaking provides training in advocacy and systems change to parents and adult consumers with disabilities.

**Assistive technology and accessibility:** Three NCED projects provide assessment, equipment, training and technical assistance in assistive technology, including the Nevada Assistive Technology Resource Center, the Assistive Technology Assessment Project and the American with Disabilities Act Nevada.

**Educating children with disabilities:** The University Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment is a collaborative effort lead by the Department of Speech Pathology to provide interdisciplinary assessments for children with autism. Federally funded projects include training teachers to become board certified behavior analysts and preparing master’s-level early childhood special education teachers. The NCED also conducts an annual statewide parent survey of Nevada Early Intervention Services and statewide support and coordination for the Nevada Department of Education training activities.

**Employment and transition:** The Customized Employment Project is a collaborative project among several state agencies and designed to help individuals with significant disabilities work in the community for at least a minimum wage. The project identifies the individual’s passions, skills and interests and provides support when needed. Path to Independence (P2I) is a two-year, non-degree certificate program that offers an inclusive college experience for students with intellectual/developmental disabilities and emphasizes career and job skills.

**Positive behavioral supports:** Nevada Positive Behavioral Supports works with Nevada school districts to develop school-wide positive behavior support programs. Project personnel also provide training and technical assistance in working with individuals with challenging behavior.

**Leadership preparation and disability awareness:** The NCED offers an 18-credit undergraduate minor in development disabilities to students from a variety of majors. The Nevada Leadership Project in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities provides interdisciplinary training to graduate student and practicing professional from a variety of disciplines. In addition, NCED faculty members participate in a range of University and community disability awareness activities.

To learn more about supporting NCED and the College of Education, please contact Veronica Haskins, director of development, (775) 784-6914 or vhaskins@unr.edu.

To learn more about NCED, please visit www.nced.info.

—NCED Staff