



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **CHAMBER'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP UNDERWAY!**

**[www.RenoSparksChamber.org](http://www.RenoSparksChamber.org)**

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**For Immediate Release** (02-09-2011) – More than eighty parents, students, school administrators, and chamber board members attended the Leadership Reno Sparks Youth Orientation Meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2011, at Damonte Ranch High School.

The youth leadership program, now in its 17<sup>th</sup> year, is patterned after the highly successful adult leadership program, which is now in its 27<sup>th</sup> year. The youth program is a collaboration of the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce, the Washoe County School District, and the Education Alliance. This year's class comprises 33 diverse students from most of the region's high schools. All students are in their junior year and have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. Each applicant completes an extensive application and is chosen by a committee which evaluates the student's leadership potential, community contributions, and ideas for addressing community challenges.

In addition to the four full-day workshops, the class members will participate in extensive community projects, including volunteering at the Veteran's Guest House and providing for the needy students and families at a local elementary school. They will be making drives for clothing, hygiene products, and money contributions. There are three more workshops and a graduation event slated for participants.

The first workshop of the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce/WCSD Youth Leadership program was held on Thursday, January 27, 2011, at the AGC Building in Reno, Nevada. Dean Whellams of Q&D Construction, internationally known for his youth teambuilding programs, led 33 local high school juniors in a

full-day, high-energy team building and communications program, which the participants described as “freaking fantastic!”

If you or your organization would like to contribute to this program, please contact Idora Silver at (775)829-0606 or [idsilver@sbcglobal.net](mailto:idsilver@sbcglobal.net).

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