



Community Partner Spotlight

Each month, a different local business or organization will be highlighted for their collaborative spirit in the community and commitment to supporting youth.

If you would like to discuss how your organization is involved in the community, please contact us – we'd love to feature you!

Call Laura Robertson at (303) 670-7539

We're All in This Together

By Sharlynn McKown, Clear Creek home school, 9th grade

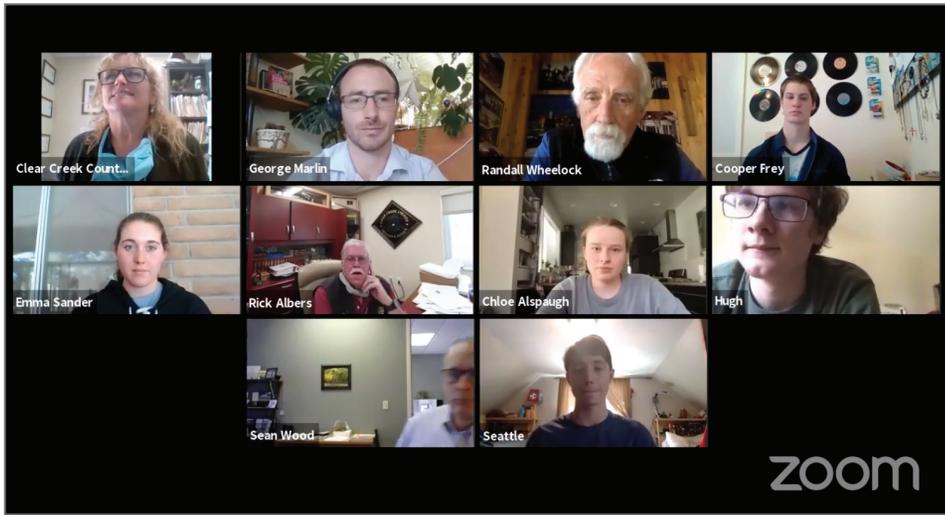
With a new disease sweeping the globe, many lives have changed. Students have been significantly impacted. From school work to social lives, many students' routines have been altered and are now full of uncertainty. Through all of this chaos, a local youth organization is providing support and opportunities for involvement.

One of the most prominent changes was that of the schools closing. Students went from spending full days in school to 24 hours a day at home. Clear Creek School District has established a distance learning program that allows students to continue their education through these troubling times. Now that the school year has ended, youth have a new challenge. Usually, after school ends every year, students spend time with their friends at various locations. The Safer At Home restrictions will decrease the options for activities youth are able to participate in during the summer.

Mountain Youth Network (MYN) and TREK Teen Council are working hard to stay engaged with the students in spite of the changes. The world has made adjustments to follow social distance protocols. Despite the

restrictions, MYN and TREK have found plenty of ways to keep students engaged. The monthly TREK Breakfast continued virtually through April and May. There have been several Instagram campaigns and sweepstakes held for the purpose of informing and encouraging youth regarding COVID-19 and the Stay At Home Order. There was even a group of students who gathered virtually to hone their public speaking and presentation skills. Their presentations were designed to educate peers and their community on COVID-19. They were even invited by the County Commissioners to a youth forum on the topic. When asked what advice she would give the youth, Rebecca Bernal, of MYN, responded, "Like the song at the end of TREK's COVID-19 presentation, 'We're all in this together.' Although this time looks radically different than we expected... Stay connected! Stay involved!"

Throughout this confusing time, students of Clear Creek County have stayed connected and been supported in our community. There are so many people to reach out to, and connections during this pandemic are essential. Overcoming these challenges will be hard, and the students are adapting. MYN and TREK will continue connecting youth with safe and healthy involvement opportunities. For more information visit our website www.MountainYouthNetwork.org.



TREK Commissioners

CCEDC Supports Youth Entrepreneurship

by Emma Sander, CCHS Class of 2020

Clear Creek Economic Development Corp. (CCEDC) has been extremely supportive to the community during this time of COVID-19. They have provided the option of emergency working capital loans to local businesses in the last two months and loaned over \$300,000 to date.

They have consistently offered support to young people in the community.

Over the last two summers CCEDC has played a significant role in coordinating the Entrepreneurship Investigation (ESI) Camp for middle school youth in the community. This camp gives youth the opportunity to explore entrepreneurship through interactive activities and real-world challenges. During this camp, youth gain the knowledge to develop business plans and goals which begins their journey to starting their own business. At the conclusion of the camp, CCEDC offers micro loans to youth who want to turn their business idea into a reality. Though the camp isn't happening this year, the CCEDC hopes to make it available again next summer.

Lindsey and Jon Cain, the Director of Community Outreach and Engagement for CCEDC, have continuously offered support for youth projects through TREK Teen Council. They have partnered with the council and the school district to help youth build their skills and realize their dreams.

To build the sustainability of our community, the CCEDC has added a youth seat on its Board of Directors. Upcoming high school senior Bode Dalton applied for the position because he wanted to be able to have a voice in the community. He also stated "I hope to learn the best ways to contribute to my current community, my future communities and even, potentially, places all over the world." Jonathan Cain commented about how having a youth member in the CCEDC will have benefits. "This allows us to focus on the Clear Creek that exists now, and also what we will need to work on to maintain our community long into the future."



TEEN COUNCIL
Find your path.



MOUNTAIN YOUTH NETWORK
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