

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: JANUARY 5, 2011

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

DIRECTOR: DAVID RIGGLEMAN

SUBJECT:

RECOGNITION OF THE CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Submitted at Meeting - Citizen of the Month Certificate for Derrick Felder

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY honored DERRICK FELDER as January 2011 Citizen of the Month. The Councilman indicated he sits on the Board of Goodwill of Southern Nevada, an agency that collects gently-used items, and the money from the sale of these items help people in the community. MR. FELDER became unemployed in 2009 and on January of 2010, he reached out to Goodwill of Southern Nevada Careers Connection for help, which assisted him with mortgage payments, car insurance and utilities. This allowed him to stay focused on finding a job. After many job leads, he obtained an interview for a Case Worker position with Lutheran Social Services of Nevada and was offered the position. During his first three months of work, Careers Connection was able to provide fifty percent reimbursement for MR. FELDER'S salary to Lutheran Social Services of Nevada LSSN. MR. FELDER was then promoted to Supportive Housing Manager and was handed the responsibility of managing the Emergency Services Department, which runs the food pantry. During the month of November, MR. FELDER organized a food drive for the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority yielding over 300 turkeys for needy families. During the month of December he worked on the Christmas program that provided toys for 150 children and gift cards to 75 seniors from Desert Oasis Apartments. MR. FELDER was grateful for the assistance he received and feels fortunate to have a job he loves and to touch people in a positive way. COUNCILMAN ANTHONY presented MR. FELDER with a certificate.

STEVE CHARTRAND, Executive Director of Goodwill of Southern Nevada, was pleased that COUNCILMAN ANTHONY recognized MR. FELDER, as he is the example of the power of work in action. He was proud of LSSN for having the insight and wisdom to hire him. In 2010 Goodwill touched the lives of 7,500 people and helped 1,072 obtain jobs in this tough economy.

ARMENA MKHITARYAN, Executive Director of LSSN, stated she is proud that she hired MR. FELDER who has taken on many responsibilities. The Supportive Housing Department and the Emergency Food Pantry will be successful under his leadership. MR. FELDER is a wonderful spirit for their organization, which serves over 15,000 people in Las Vegas with the food pantry, housing and jobs.

MR. FELDER was grateful to his family, as well as the Goodwill and Lutheran family, and was honored for the recognition. His sons DAVANTE and TYREE were present.