The Outside Las Vegas Foundation

**Vision**

A community that enjoys, values, and protects southern Nevada’s special outdoor places.

**Mission**

To connect people to southern Nevada’s special outdoor places.

**Goals**

* Enhance the public’s appreciation and understanding of Southern Nevada’s outdoor environments.
* Strengthen critical relationships amongst federal, local and private partners.
* Promote responsible enjoyment and stewardship of southern Nevada’s outdoor environments.
* Increase the quantity and quality of trails and open space in Southern Nevada.
* Foster sustainable funding solutions for maintenance and operations of trails and open space.

**Facts & Figures**

* Established in August 2000.
* Achieved Non-Profit status in 2008.
* Engaged over 400 volunteers.
* Bringing in 75 students from Rainbow Dreams Academy to public lands for educational fieldtrips during first year of partnership.
* Served on the City of Henderson Open Space Advisory Committee, which oversees the development and implementation of the COH Open Space and Trails Plan.
* Northface grant recipient for field-trip transportation
* REI grant recipients for training workshops for health professionals and childhood health programs.

**About Us**

The Outside Las Vegas Foundation is committed to the long-term sustainability and vitality of our community through promotion and protection of our special outdoor places. Established over 10 years ago, the Foundation brings a depth of knowledge and experience that is critical as we build links in our community through trails and open space.

**Focuses**

*Health & Wellness*

In Nevada, 35% of our kindergartners are overweight or obese. Obesity has strong links to heart disease, diabetes and many other diseases. The Outside Las Vegas Foundation is working to bring our community outdoors for a healthy, fit lifestyle. Open Space & Trails are essential elements of low cost health & fitness for families at all income levels.

*Economic Development*

Creating world-class amenities that enrich our community strengthens economic development through ecotourism. We are committed to improving our outdoor quality of life to attract and retain employers, our workforce, senior staff and business leaders. We work to create unparalleled amenities and experiences for visitors and residents.

*Education*

Urban, suburban and wilderness area trails and open spaces provide opportunities for education. People can connect with the experience of being outdoors, understand the story of where we live, and be inspired to create a future for our community.

*Community Engagement*

Building connections to trails and open space creates spaces where families can strengthen their ties to each other, and weaves together the fabric of our communities. The time is now to create projects that place our Valley front and center as a region where community is highly valued.

*Protecting outdoor resources*

Many residents of southern Nevada are unaware of our special outdoor resources, or feel no connection to them, and thus no urgency to safeguard these resources. By connecting residents and visitors to our special outdoor places, we create a constituency that cares about safeguarding and protecting these special resources.

**Funding Partners**

* + Southern Nevada Agency Partnership
	+ City of Las Vegas
	+ Southern Nevada Regional Planning Commission
	+ NV Energy
	+ Wells Fargo
	+ Northface
	+ Howard Hughes
	+ REI
	+ Walton Foundation
	+ Tamarisk Coalition
	+ Southern Nevada Health District
	+ Regional Transportation Commission

**Outside Las Vegas Foundation Team**

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**Contact Information**

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**­­­­­­Programs and Initiatives**

*Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights Alliance*

OLVF leads the effort (created by the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership) to organize and coordinate the efforts of more than 30 organizations dedicated to children’s outdoor adventures and environmental education.

*City of Las Vegas Adopt-A-Trail and Volunteer Program*

Started in 2011, OLVF leads this program which promotes citizen engagement as a mechanism to maintain the safety, security and cleanliness of the almost 60 miles of urban trails within the City of Las Vegas.

*Let’s Get Healthy in Nature Prescription Initiative*

OLVF is the sole nonprofit partner for the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership’s program focused on training health providers and school nurses to encourage outdoor activity as a means to increase healthy lifestyles for kids.

*Southern Nevada Trails Day*

OLVF has been a sponsor and on the planning team for the region’s annual celebration of trails and community resources.

*Open Space & Trails Summit*

Hosted the 2007 Open Space & Trails Summit that received commitment to open space creation and collaboration from 14 agencies with 300 people in attendance.

*Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition “Regional Open Space and Trails Workgroup” / Neon to Nature*

Facilitates and coordinates the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition’s “Regional Open Space and Trails Work Group” composed of state, local, and federal agencies and partners who collaborate on regional trail and open space planning and mapping. This group created and branded the Neon to Nature system, a system of trails consisting of 345 miles of bike lanes/routes and 750 miles of a trail network.

*Virgin River Partnership*

Consisting of more than 50 local, state and federal entities, the group’s vision is to collaborate to create a restored, protected Virgin River ecosystem.

*Vegas Valley Rim Trail*

Spearheading the Vegas Valley Rim Trail, a 100+ mile loop that will link the jewels of our Valley and create an unparalleled outdoor experience for residents and visitors.

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