

KAREN C. ROSS

EDUCATION:

- Master of Public Health – University of Nevada, Reno, 2006
- Bachelor of General Studies – University of Nevada, Reno, 1990

WORK EXPERIENCE:

NV ENERGY - RENO, NEVADA (1985 to 2016)

1997 to 2016 – Community Relations Manager

- Managed and led community relations employees and cross functional teams to support NV Energy's model corporate citizenship role in both urban and rural Nevada.
- Administered NV Energy's Charitable Foundation in northern Nevada, granting over \$3 million annually to nonprofit organizations.
- Developed Foundation grant making policies that responded to diverse social conditions and critical needs in both urban and rural communities.
- Developed innovative educational programs, community partnerships and scholarship programs that promoted workforce development, renewable technology, and sustainable social change.
- Developed, led, and implemented advocacy and outreach strategies addressing the needs of financially distressed families.
- Organized and led award winning assistance expos in partnership with 40 nonprofit agencies, offering tangible products and services to help people live healthier, more stable lives.
- Developed nationally recognized *Senior Power* program in partnership with Retired Senior Volunteer Programs, providing free home energy efficiency makeovers to over 400 seniors throughout Nevada.
- Chaired State of Nevada Low Income Energy Assistance Advisory Group for over 10 years, guiding the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to refine and develop policies that promoted financial stability and energy conservation practices.
- Oversaw, organized, led and participated in 100+ community events and NV Energy sponsored community support projects annually.

1996 to 1997 - Manager, Major Mining Accounts

- Served as manager to NV Energy's major mining customers in northern Nevada, overseeing customer relationships and projects to achieve strategic initiatives.
- Project leader on utility construction projects, including team leadership, contract negotiation, permitting, right-of-way acquisition, customer engineering and design, and construction of electric transmission lines and electrical facilities.

1992 to 1995 - Negotiator, Power Contracts

- Performed as negotiations team leader, directing assignments of a contract administrator and analyst.
- Analyzed renewable energy project proposals. Negotiated electric power purchase agreements with geothermal, biomass, wind and hydro producers.
- Performed as lead on a team that successfully negotiated with the U.S. government to facilitate a large-scale, regional water agreement.

1986 to 1992 - Construction Analyst/Division Administrator, Electric Planning and Engineering

- Analyzed and coordinated all aspects of major construction projects.
- Developed measurement tools to optimize division operating efficiency and improve customer service, including training programs for a diverse group of technical employees.

CURRENT COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Board Member, Nevada Land Trust, preserving the open spaces and special places of Nevada for future generations
- Board Member, Canyon Granada Homeowners Association

Past Community Involvement:

- Vice-Chair, Tahoe Rim Trail, preserving and protecting “a trail like no other”
- Treasurer, Special Assistance Fund for Energy, providing short term energy assistance to financially challenged families
- Nominating Committee Member, Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada
- Vice-Chair, Nevada Women’s Fund, providing scholarships and opportunity to northern Nevada women and their families
- Chair, Retired Senior Volunteer Program Advisory Board in Washoe County, NV
- Secretary, High Sierra Industries and Washoe Ability Resources Board, providing work and living opportunities for mentally and physically challenged individuals
- President, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow community quality of life organization
- Chair, Truckee Meadows Tomorrow Accentuate the Positive Community Celebration - 2007
- Co-Chair, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Leadership Development Series
- President and team leader for “Project Starfish,” a leadership development program for middle school girls

HONORS AND AWARDS:

- University of Nevada, Reno Distinguished Alumna – 2015
- Americans for the Arts, Arts & Business award winner for NV Energy and its nationally recognized support of the arts – 2015
- Truckee Meadows Tomorrow Platinum Star – 2005
- Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada Woman in Leadership - 2005
- Soroptimist International of Reno Woman in Leadership - 2005
- Nevada Women’s Fund Woman of Achievement – 1995

SPECIALIZED TRAINING:

- Boston College – Center for Corporate Citizenship
- Leadership Reno-Sparks - Community leadership training program
- Nevada Women’s Fund professional leadership development training program

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS:

- Immunize Nevada Silver Syringe Awards Dinner Keynote Speaker - 2013
- Association of Fundraising Professionals Keynote Speaker - 2012
- Truckee Meadows Tomorrow Quality of Life Indicators keynote presenter – Quincy, IL, 2009
- Edison Electric Institute Low Income Best Practices Conference presenter – Washington, DC, 2007, 2009, and 2011
- American Public Health Association Conference presenter – Philadelphia, PA, 2005
- Conference Board Human Resources Roundtable presenter, 2005
- University of Nevada, Reno – Co-taught graduate level health behavior change course in the School of Public Health, 2004