

## 2017 White River Communities Champion Award Recipients White River Families First Coalition



**White River Education Foundation.** The vision of the White River Education Foundation is to be the catalyst that creates opportunities, connects with the community, and that supports promising practices that enhance education in the White River School District. Since 2006, they have impacted and enhanced learning for each child in the White River School District.

Thanks to their organization's efforts, fifth graders learn about the world of business and finance at the Junior Achievement Finance Park.

Third graders have transportation to live children's theater productions. Fourth graders participate in an educational tour at the Foothills Historical Museum. High school students have the fee covered to take the PSAT, encouraging them to move a step toward their college dreams, which are even more attainable because of the Foundation's scholarship program. Glacier Middle School students are stronger readers because of the Accelerated Reading Program. Junior year AVID students visit Washington college campuses to experience what college life could be for them, igniting dreams and opportunities. The children who use the special needs playground and the elementary students who play ukuleles in music class have lives that are enriched by the Foundation's fundraising efforts. Every child in the district is impacted by the funds raised by the Foundation to help support CTE and STEM programs, the new auditorium sound system, the choral acoustical shell for musicians of all ages and the support provided to help pass the school bond last year.

The desire to see a need and work together to do something about it is the heart of the White River Communities Champion Award.



**Alan Predmore.** Alan Predmore has spent his adult life in service to the Plateau. Alan is presently serving his 20<sup>th</sup> year as Fire Chief for the City of Buckley Fire Department. Previously, while serving as an officer in the Buckley Police Department, he also served as a volunteer Firefighter at the Enumclaw Fire Department and King County Rescue One. Alan took the lead to make the new Buckley Fire Station a reality and developed the Volunteer Fire Academy, providing training to Buckley personnel and other area departments to help expand their

community volunteer base. A longtime supporter of regional access healthcare and healthy communities, Alan served several years on the Board of Directors for the Rainier Foothills Wellness Foundation. He was instrumental in securing funding for the Care Van and now works tirelessly to promote and expand the Mental Health Task Force. He works with the White River School district on safety and emergency preparedness, provides support and oversight of the Fire Cadet Program, and has filled many key roles as a participating member of the Pierce County Type III Incident Management Team. Alan spend countless hours above and beyond his normal working day to instruct, mentor and develop new firefighters and other public safety personnel that will take care of our communities for future generations.

There's much more, as the list of Alan's impact of service to our communities and beyond is extensive. Alan Predmore is true hero and community champion.



**Gary & Jan Burley.** Since moving to Buckley in 1999, Gary & Jan have been active in the community. Gary served as a volunteer firefighter and volunteers at the food bank on a regular basis. Jan is a quilter and uses her talent to give back to others through the Hands Touching Hearts and Quilts of Valor quilting groups.

As members of the church, Gary & Jan volunteer together for the Weekend Backpack Food Program, doing the shopping and coordination of the program that currently serves 83 children in the White River Schools. They serve together for the Winter Shelter Program, are spiritual leaders, and are volunteer for many projects and at events. Gary and Jan are involved with Plateau Outreach Ministries and are members of the newly-formed Affording Housing Coalition. Jan is an inspirational participant at the White River Families First Coalition each month. Gary & Jan Burley's commitment to the community springs out of a genuine love and compassion for people and they live out their faith daily with authenticity.

In 2011, the White River Families First Coalition established the White River Communities Champion Award as a way to recognize the service and dedication of those who make our communities better. Each year, many wonderful individuals give of their time and talent to help others and make both small and large contributions to communities within the White River School District. For many, it is their life's work. The award recipients were nominated by members of our community because they have made a powerful difference and have served above and beyond what is expected.