

## - Keynote Speakers -



### **Chip Johnson, Mayor, Hernando, MS**

Chip Johnson is currently serving his third term as Mayor of the City of Hernando, Mississippi, having previously served a term as an alderman for the City. Chip previously served one year as President of the Mississippi Municipal League and two years as Legislative Chairman. Hernando is progressive about helping its community get and stay healthy, being the first city in the state to be named the 'Healthiest Hometown' (in 2010) by the BCBS of MS Foundation. The award is given to the city in the state that is doing the most to promote a culture of health, especially through sustainable policy changes.

Chip Johnson served with distinction in the United States Submarine Service for six years during the Cold War and is a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He owned a franchise for 20 years and was awarded the Dwyer Group's North American Franchisee of the Year award in 2004.

Chip plays an active role in his community, serving as a Board Member of Bike Walk Mississippi, the state's bicycle and pedestrian advisory group. He is a member of numerous other organizations, including the Desoto Economic Council where he serves on the Governmental Affairs Committee & the Tax Advisory Committee; The National Trust for Historic Preservation; The North Mississippi Land Trust and the First Presbyterian Church of Hernando.

Championing community health and wellness initiatives, Hernando is home to the state's largest and best Farmers Market and a community garden which partners with disadvantaged groups in the city, as well as Head Start children and faith communities. The City further supports the health of its citizens through planning and development initiatives supporting sidewalks, signage, Complete Streets, Safe Routes to School, and joint-use agreements.

Chip served as a panelist at the CDC's inaugural *Weight of the Nation* Conference in Washington D.C. in 2009 and has since become a wellness champion across the nation, speaking about community health and quality of life initiatives that can be promoted by local governments. In 2010, he was one of only two mayors in the United States selected to help Michelle Obama kick off her *Let's Move* campaign, designed to reduce childhood obesity.



### **Sana Chehimi, MPH, Program Director, Prevention Institute**

#### ***Sponsored by the Treasure Valley United Way***

Sana Chehimi, Program Director at Prevention Institute, oversees projects related to healthy eating and active living, developing tools and strategies to promote healthier, more equitable food environments. She manages Prevention Institute's technical assistance and training work for Communities Creating Healthier Environments, a national initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supporting diverse, community-based organizations and tribal groups in developing local policies that build food and recreation equity and address social injustice. Sana oversees national media advocacy efforts supporting prevention and health reform. She provides guidance and support for Strategic Alliance, and its statewide Rapid Response Media Network, providing tools and resources for effective media advocacy to promote healthy eating and active living. Sana is co-editor of *Prevention Is Primary: Strategies for Community Wellbeing*, one of the first academic texts on primary prevention. Prior to joining Prevention Institute in 2003, Sana worked in the HIV field. She speaks fluent Swedish and French as well as conversational Tunisian. She received her MPH in Health and Social Behavior from UC Berkeley.

## - Breakout Session Speakers -



**TJ Thomson, Boise City Council**

TJ Thomson was elected to the Boise City Council in November 2009. TJ serves as a council representative on the Boise Audit Committee, Public Works Commission and Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS). TJ's top priority on Council is healthy initiatives with a goal of making Boise the "Healthiest City in America." TJ believes it will take bold policy action at the local level in order to 'move the needle' and reverse the trends on childhood obesity in Idaho.

TJ is a proud Idaho native and Air Force Veteran. Following military service, TJ attended Boise State University (BSU), becoming heavily involved in both the Boise community, through volunteer service activities, and the university policy making process, as BSU Student Body President. TJ graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science and then continued his studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, attaining a Master of Public Affairs (MPA) Degree in Policy Analysis and Public Management. TJ is also a Certified Internal Auditor with the Institute of Internal Auditors.

TJ has built over a decade of experience as a steward of fiscal responsibility at the federal, state, and private levels. At the federal level, with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington D.C., he worked as a Space Policy Analyst on NASA programs – focusing heavily on finding tax payer savings on costly government initiatives, as well as improvements to Space Shuttle safety. Upon returning to Idaho, TJ worked for the Idaho Office of Performance Evaluations (OPE) as a Program Evaluator. Presently, TJ works for Idaho Power Company as a Certified Internal Auditor – a role that focuses on the efficient use of resources and the integration of controls to promote ethical and open company practices. TJ lives in West Boise with his wife, Alisha.



**Bill Butticci, Mayor, Emmett, Idaho**

Appointed to the Emmett City Council in October 2007, Bill Butticci completed two years of his term on the council before running for Mayor, unopposed, in 2009. Emmett is participating in the Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties initiative, a perfect platform for Mayor Butticci's goal to promote health and wellness and keep the community engaged in healthy activities. Following the path laid out by the Let's Move Cities, Towns and Counties project, Emmett earned a bronze medal for establishing an interagency collaboration on early care and education programs.

In addition to its Let's Move efforts, the city is working with the Gem County Community Health Connection committee to improve the county's health ranking. The Committee has been working to provide opportunities for local families to participate in healthy activities and reduce tobacco use. Changes include a smoking ordinance, establishment of a 'food hub' for those needing emergency food assistance, installment of walking paths, benches, and water fountains, and a community health fair providing access to free health screenings.

A comparison of the County Health Rankings from 2010 to 2013 showed the city's efforts are paying off. Gem County moved from 42<sup>nd</sup>, the last ranked county in Idaho, to 38<sup>th</sup>.



**Nancy Chaney, Mayor, Moscow, Idaho**

Mayor Chaney was elected to the Moscow City Council in 2003 and has served as the city's Mayor since 2005. She serves on the Board of Directors for the National Leagues of Cities, Association of Idaho Cities, including as President in 2011-12.

Mayor Chaney introduced the Let's Move! Cities, Towns, and Counties Initiative to the City Council in November 2010. Moscow became a Let's Move! City in January 2011, and was recognized by Mrs. Obama at the White House in July for their efforts to promote healthy foods and facilitate active lifestyles. In response to Let's Move! Moscow Parks and Recreation Department is developing a family cooking class.

During Mayor Chaney's tenure, the City has embarked on a multi-modal transportation study (nearing completion), a sidewalk repair program in which the City partners with private property owners to incentivize repairs, bike rack and artful bike rack programs, and the City's recent partnership with Moscow School District for joint development of shared playfields on School District property. In addition, the City worked with Idaho Smart Growth and teams of volunteers on the Active Living Task Force to document non-motorized modes of transportations and recreation through bike-pedestrian counts. The Moscow Farmer's Market has been recognized nationally and was the first in Idaho to accept SNAP benefits. The City Council passed an urban agriculture ordinance in August 2013, to help community gardens generate wholesome produce for families, shelters, schools, markets, and food banks. The City is working closely with the school district, healthcare providers, the local business community, and the University of Idaho to help families make healthy choices.

Mayor Chaney's education includes: Registered Nurse (Boise State University 1977); Certificate, Archaeological Field School (Oregon State University, 1979); BA Psychology (BSU, 1979); MS Environmental Science (University of Idaho, 2002).



**Greg A. Weitzel, Director of the Division of Parks and Recreation, Idaho Falls, Idaho**

Greg is a graduate of Penn State University and received his Masters from Illinois State University in Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Park Administration. Greg was the former Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Allentown, PA where he served on the ACHIEVE team and is an advocate of Complete Streets policies. Over the past several years, Greg has spearheaded the formal adoption of "Connecting Our Community" – a plan for a network of on-road and off-road bicycle and pedestrian trails both in Allentown and Idaho Falls. Mr. Weitzel works tirelessly to improve Idaho Falls parks, recreation and trails as a resource for its citizens to achieve a physically active lifestyle.



**Leah M. Clark, Trade Specialist and Manager, Idaho Preferred® Program, Idaho State Department of Agriculture**

Leah joined the Marketing division of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture in May 2004 as a Marketing Consultant. She now works full time for the Department managing the Idaho Preferred® program. Idaho Preferred® is a program designed to identify and promote Idaho food and agriculture products through advertising, public relations, retail and foodservice promotions and Farm to School programs. Prior to joining the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Leah served as the Executive Director of the Idaho Beef Council for 15 years. She has a Bachelor's degree in Agribusiness Management from Arizona State University and a Master of Agriculture degree in Marketing and Finance from Oklahoma State University.



**Julie Willems Van Dyke, RN, PhD, Associate Scientist,  
University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute  
Sponsored by the Treasure Valley United Way**

Julie is an Associate Scientist and the Deputy Director for the Robert Wood Johnson funded County Health Roadmaps project at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI). Julie also serves as the Community Engagement Director for the Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) team at UWPHI. She has worked with numerous partners across the nation to understand and promote the *County Health Rankings* as a tool for taking action to improve health. Her research interests focus in the area of quality of community health improvement planning processes.

Prior to joining the Population Health Institute, Julie worked in local public health for 21 years as a public health nurse, director of nursing, and a health officer. Julie has served on numerous community boards, including the Aspirus Wausau Hospital Board of Directors, the Wausau School District Board of Education, the Wausau Child Care Board of Directors, the Marathon County United Way's Local Initiatives for Excellence (LIFE) committee, and the Wausau/Marathon County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Wausau program.

Julie received a doctorate degree in Nursing with an emphasis in Public Health Leadership from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She also holds a M.S.N. from UW-Oshkosh and a B.S.N. from UW-Eau Claire. Julie is a graduate of the Robert Wood Johnson Nurse Executive Fellows program and the National Public Health Leadership Institute.