

Cheryl Pongratz

Cheryl Pongratz doesn't seek the limelight. She works behind the scenes, writing grants, as the Family Council's "paperwork czar." A charter member of Los Alamos Public Schools Foundation, which has raised and distributed over a million dollars, either she or her husband, Morrie (a Living Treasure in 2011), has served on the board of the LAPS Foundation since its inception.

Arriving in Los Alamos with her young family in 1973, Cheryl worked for 32 years as an educator, who taught science and later became an administrator. As an assistant principal, principal, and assistant superintendent, Cheryl particularly enjoyed working with teachers and children in the classrooms.

Having retired in 1999, Cheryl recommends "retiring on the first day possible and trying something new."

Retirement projects have included working with Kiwanis to raise money for "Senior Appreciation Night" and college scholarships, and providing smoke detectors for new families.

Passionate about the Family Council mission, Cheryl worries about the needs of the working poor and ongoing cutbacks to Medicare.

Other boards on which Cheryl has served include : Family Strengths Network, the Community Health Council, the DWI Planning Council and her Homeowners' Association. A "doer," a problem solver, Cheryl is an organized person who gets things done.



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