



UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO  
Honorary Degree Nomination – Stacie Mathewson

The University of Nevada, Reno is pleased to nominate Stacie Mathewson for the Honorary Doctorate of Letters in proud recognition of her significant contributions to the University and the state of Nevada.

Mathewson's dedication to the cause of addiction awareness and treatment has made an indelible impact on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. Since losing her son, Josh Montoya, to a heroin overdose in 2013, Mathewson has worked tirelessly to promote addiction awareness, recovery, prevention and education at the local, state and national levels. Much of her work has focused on her own community in Reno, where the Stacie Mathewson Foundation supplied funding to create the Nevada Recovery and Prevention (N-RAP) program on the University campus in 2011. N-RAP provides a supportive environment for students who choose sobriety for any reason. The Stacie Mathewson Foundation also funded the construction of the new Northern Nevada HOPES Stacie Mathewson Community Wellness Center near downtown Reno in 2016, allowing HOPES to expand its services to include addiction treatment, recovery support, rehabilitation and assistance for those in recovery to transition to a sober life.

Mathewson founded the nonprofit Doors to Recovery with the mission to remove the shame and stigma surrounding addiction and to build a sustainable system for supporting recovery in northern Nevada. Among the organization's projects is the development of an online community asset map, which helps those suffering from addiction and their family members to identify and access the full range of recovery resources available to Nevadans.

Looking beyond Reno, Mathewson founded another nonprofit, Transforming Youth Recovery, to lead the establishment of campus recovery programs, like N-RAP, at schools in other states. She initially awarded 100 grants of \$10,000 each to establish these programs on college campuses across the nation and has now helped to establish and support sobriety programs at more than 150 schools. She has invested significant time and resources in restructuring, rebranding and developing the accreditation process for the Association of Recovery Schools (ARS). As a result of these efforts, ARS is recognized by the Office of National Drug Control Policy and is mentioned in The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2014, the largest bill for recovery support.

Mathewson has received numerous awards for her innovative efforts from national, state and local organizations in the areas of recovery advocacy, education and evidence-based research. In 2013 Mathewson was honored with the Humanitarian of the Year Award by Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) and in 2016, George Washington University awarded her the prestigious Recovery Philanthropist of the Year Award. She has served as a board member of the Betty Ford Foundation since 2012. She is a 2015-2106 inductee in the nation's leading networking organization for professional women, the National Association of Professional Women VIP Woman of the Year Circle.

In recognition of Mathewson's philanthropic support of the University through the creation of N-RAP, the Stacie Mathewson Foundation has been recognized in the University's Honor Court as a Gold Benefactor.