

Mr. Gerald Gallegos and The First Tee of Eagle County

During the late 1990's the Beaver Creek and Vail resorts experienced a tremendous amount of growth. In 1997 Gerald Gallegos, along with other local business men and women, were concerned about the welfare of many of the service workers and their families. These hard working families, living paycheck to paycheck, were finding employment in lower paying jobs - the kind of jobs that resort guests and vacationers never saw, but were critical to keeping the local economy moving. It was clear that there was a growing "opportunity gap" between the community's families. The one common area for equal opportunity for all families was education, still there was a tremendous gap in this area as well. Mr. Gallegos along with other successful individuals founded The Youth Foundation and each dedicated themselves to aiding disadvantaged and at-risk youth throughout Eagle County.

As the past Chairman of the Board Mr. Gallegos was an integral part of founding The First Tee of Eagle County. The Chapter became part of The First Tee family in 2005 and has been an outstanding partner. The Nine Core Values are not only stressed in The First Tee program but have spilled over into other programs offered by The Youth Foundation.

The First Tee of Eagle County has been an Ace Level Chapter and has impacted the lives of more than 2000 participants throughout the County. The Chapter continues to support Mr. Gallegos's vision and efforts in supporting educational opportunities for young people of all ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Participants in The First Tee of Eagle County programs are benefitting greatly from the Life Skills Experience and are developing physical, academic and social skills that will empower them to live meaningful and productive lives. Gerald Gallegos has touched so many people in his life and his loss will be felt throughout the entire Colorado community.