

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: NATALYA AND GALEN TOWNSON, PMP

Natalya and Galen Townson both work in education and are passionate about the potential that contemporary teaching approaches offer. They also have a strong desire to make an impact on the world their young daughters will inherit.

One of the ways these active members of the PMI Western Australia Chapter live their values is by supporting PMIEF.

“PMIEF’s mission naturally resonates with us both. We see the value in enabling social good and student engagement and self-determination through projects and project-based learning,” says Galen, who taught project management at the MBA level and currently leads a child safety project for a system of 160 Catholic schools. Natalya oversees strategic planning and projects at the University of Western Australia’s Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences.

The couple learned about PMIEF’s mission five years ago and became energized by the idea that project management skills can transform lives and communities.

Galen recently volunteered on a PMIEF ad hoc team as the Region Mentor representing Asia-Pacific. He helped develop an upcoming chapter guide to help encourage and support chapter leaders to partner with community organizations and engage volunteers and members for social good.

Seeing PMIEF’s work up close inspired Natalya and Galen to become Leadership Society members in 2016 and 2017. PMIEF’s Leadership Society recognizes individuals who have made a generous annual gift of US \$1,000 or more.

“We decided to make that commitment as we learned more about PMIEF’s increasingly innovative approaches to supporting students in learning life and professional skills in project management,” Natalya says.

The decision was also part of their efforts to model leadership with examples for their children to consider others and their impact in the world.

“Each year we identify a number of personal causes and charities to support with our time/treasure/talent — either donations and/or volunteer support,” Natalya says.

From a practical standpoint, the couple makes their annual gift through 12 automatic payments — one each month. The approach works for this busy family.

“It’s both efficient and effective,” Galen says. “If you divide what you can give into monthly payments, you don’t have to think about it. Plus, PMIEF gets a regular and reliable revenue stream to support their programs.”

Best of all is knowing they are furthering PMIEF’s mission. Galen encourages other PMI members to “recognize our strengths as leaders who bring structured hope to teams and organizations, and to reflect on the opportunities and positive experiences we’ve benefited from that might also enable so many others and the greater good.”

As the new year begins, why not make a resolution to give to PMIEF as Natalya and Galen do? To leverage project management for social good[®], PMIEF relies on the generous and continuing support of PMI members. You can renew your commitment to PMIEF by making a gift [here](#) today. Thank you!

NEW ANIMATED VIDEO HELPS TEACH THE TEACHERS

Did you know that by 2027, employers will need 87.7 million individuals working in project management roles? That means today's students must learn critical 21st-century skills in order to compete for those jobs:

- Collaboration and teamwork
- Creativity and imagination
- Critical thinking
- Communication
- Time management
- Resource management
- Organization and planning



To help schools prepare students for successful futures, PMIEF offers a number of no-cost tools and resources for both teachers and administrators. Get an overview in a fun new video PMIEF has created: "Project Management for Education." Be among the first to watch it [here!](#)

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A GREAT WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR

January is the month for new goals and plans. In the year ahead, why not make it a priority to champion project management knowledge and application as a way to improve lives worldwide?

When you give to PMIEF today, you'll be helping bring transformational learning resources to nonprofits, NGOs, youth, teachers and classrooms all year long.

It's easy to give. Just **click below** to make your donation now.



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