

Approved Minutes of the Thursday, April 15, 2021 meeting

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC)

The Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) held a public meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2021, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Per Governor Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006, there will be no physical location required for this teleconferenced meeting; public comments by teleconference are welcome.

Agenda and/or Materials: http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/Advisory_Committees/GMAC/GMAC/

I. Call to Order

(Welcome, Roll Call, Announcements) Chair, Diane Thorkildson

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Chair Diane Thorkildson. Connie Lucido took roll, and a quorum of the Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) members was confirmed.

Members Present

Amy Kelley
Ali Caliendo
Amber Bosket
Leslie Bittleston
Shayla Holmes
Diane Thorkildson
Fernando Serrano
Tom McCoy
Fred Schultz
Stacy York
Lisa Genasci

Members Absent

Susan Lucia-Terry
Shirley Trummell

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Grants Management Unit (GMU) staff present:

Beth Handler, Deputy Director, DHHS
Connie Lucido, Chief, GMU, DHHS
Julieta Mendoza, Social Services Program Specialist, GMU, DHHS
Cyndee Joncas, Administrative Assistant, GMU, DHHS
Jennifer Hughes, Administrative Assistant, GMU, DHHS

II. Public Comment # 1

Public Comment will be taken during this agenda item regarding any item appearing on the agenda. In consideration of others, who may also wish to provide public comment, please avoid repetition, and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes. No action may be taken on a matter discussed under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken.

Chair Diane Thorkildson invited public comment. There was no public comment.

III. Approve October 22, 2020, February 25, 2021, March 1, 2021, and March 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes
(Discussion, Possible Action) Diane Thorkildson

Action - Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited a motion to approve the October 22, 2020 meeting minutes. Fernando Serrano motioned to approve the October 22, 2020 meeting minutes and Tom McCoy seconded the motion. Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion and all voted Aye. The motion passed with no discussion, oppositions, or abstentions. The minutes of the October 22, 2020 meeting were approved.

Action - Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited a motion to approve the February 25, 2021 Independent Living NOFO workgroup meeting minutes. Mr. McCoy motioned to approve the February 25, 2021 meeting minutes and Fred Schultz seconded the motion. Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion and all voted Aye. The minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting were approved.

Action - Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited a motion to approve the March 1, 2021 Respite NOFO workgroup meeting minutes. Lisa Genasci motioned to approve the March 1, 2021 meeting minutes and Leslie Bittleston seconded. Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion and all voted Aye. The minutes of the March 1, 2021 meeting were approved.

Action - Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited a motion to approve the March 2, 2021, Positive Behavior Supports NOFO workgroup minutes. Leslie Bittleston motioned to approve the March 2, 2021 meeting minutes and Shayla Holmes seconded the motion. Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion and all voted Aye. The minutes of the March 2, 2021 meeting were approved.

IV. Independent Living - Department of Health & Human Services – Fund for a Healthy Nevada (FHN)
– Funding Recommendation - (Discussion, Possible Action) Diane Thorkildson with Julieta Mendoza

Ms. Lucido said the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Independent Living, Respite, and Positive Behavior Supports, Fund for Healthy Nevada funds was released in early November 2020. An amendment was released December 15, 2020 as a result of the Question-and-Answer session. The NOFO closed on January 15, 2021. Evaluation occurred through the working groups during February and March of 2021. The document titled Evaluation Summary- IL-Respite-PBS 4.14.2021 shows the evaluation results. The three funding programs must target Nevadans with disabilities. The first program for discussion, Independent Living, is meant to increase access to independent living services and support for the targeted population. Eight proposals were received with requests totaling \$762,916. Each proposal is listed with individual evaluator scores, averaged scores, and rankings according to the average score.

The GMU funding recommendation is on page four: Fund proposals to the average score of 60%; in this category, this would be reflective of all proposals submitted. GMU will complete technical adjustments to ensure the budget and program parameters of the NOFO are in compliance. Funding as recommended will ensure regional coverage statewide and will obligate all of the

\$550,000 in the Fund for Healthy Nevada and \$212,671 in Title XX funding annually for SFY 22 and SFY 23.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was any discussion.

Action - Ms. Bittleston motioned to approve the funding recommendation in the Independent Living subcategory, Stacy York seconded. There was no further discussion, ten members voted aye, no opposed, Ms. Holmes abstained, motion passed.

V. Respite - Department of Health & Human Services – Fund for a Health Nevada (FHN) - Funding Recommendation - (Discussion, Possible Action) Diane Thorkildson and Julieta Mendoza

Ms. Lucido presented the NOFO evaluation summary and funding recommendation for Respite Services. Nine proposals were received totaling \$1,140,936. The evaluators' scores, average scores, and rankings are displayed in the Evaluation Summary. The GMU funding recommendation is on pages 23 and 24. Fund proposals to average score of 60%; in this category, this would be reflective of the first seven ranked proposals. GMU will complete technical adjustments to ensure the budget and program parameters of the NOFO are in compliance. Funding as recommended will ensure regional coverage statewide and will obligate all of the \$640,000 in Fund for Health Nevada and \$166,617 in Title XX funding annually for SFY 22 and SFY 23.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited any discussion. There was no discussion.

Action - Ms. York motioned to approve the funding recommendation in the Respite subcategory, Ms. Bittleston seconded. There was no further discussion, nine members voted aye, no opposed votes, Mr. Schultz and Ms. Holmes abstained, motion passed.

VI. Positive Behavior Supports - Department of Health & Human Services – Fund for a Health Nevada (FHN) - Funding Recommendation - (Discussion, Possible Action) Stacy York, Vice Chair and Julieta Mendoza

Chair Ms. Thorkildson abstained from leading this section. Vice Chair Stacy York invited Ms. Lucido to speak.

Ms. Lucido said the original NOFO contained errors in the Positive Behavior Supports program description which were corrected in an amendment posted to the website in early December 2020. Four proposals were received totaling \$756,189. Ms. Lucido presented the funding recommendation for the Positive Behavior Supports subcategory as presented on the Evaluation Summary document. Included on page 30 – A public commenter at the end of the meeting drew the reviewer's attention to the December 2020 amendment made in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Positive Behavior Support and indicated it did not appear all proposals complied with the amendment.

Staff reviewed proposals to determine alignment with the amendment, and to ensure target population were disabled individuals accompanied with a problem behavior by expanding behavior repertoire and redesigning environments. Three of the four proposals did not align with

the Amendment. Page 31 of the Evaluation Summary includes the language included in the NOFO Amendment.

The GMU funding recommendation is to fund the proposals in alignment with the NOFO; in this category, this would be reflective of one (1) proposal, the UNR Board of Regents. GMU will complete technical adjustments to ensure the budget and program parameters of the NOFO are in compliance. Funding as recommended will ensure Statewide coverage and will obligate all of the \$320,000 in Fund for Healthy Nevada funds.

Vice Chair York asked if there was any discussion.

Ms. Holmes commented the subcommittee identified benefits in all of the proposals and the proposals were quality applications but due to the NOFO Amendment the subcommittee was limited in the ability to recommend funding.

Ms. Bittleston agreed with Ms. Holmes and said it must be put on the record that each of the applications was well written and contained strengths. Unfortunately, the proposals will not be able to be funded.

Ali Caliendo asked for clarification as to who made the decision the three applications did not meet the requirements of the NOFO Amendment.

Ms. Lucido replied the Grants Management Unit staff during the staff review.

Action - Ms. Bittleston moved to approve the funding recommendation in the Positive Behavior Supports subcategory, seconded by Ms. Holmes, no further discussion, ten members voted aye, no opposed votes, Diane Thorkildson abstained, motion passed.

VII. Wellness/Hunger Services - Department of Health & Human Services – Fund for a Healthy Nevada (FHN) – Funding Recommendation - (Discussion, Possible Action) Diane Thorkildson and Laura Urban

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited Laura Urban to present.

Ms. Urban, Office of Food Security shared the Fund for a Healthy Nevada Wellness/Hunger Services NOFO summary and funding recommendations. Ms. Urban said the abstract summary, reviewer comments, and a map showing coverage are posted on the GMAC website. The total award amount is \$2,000,000 annually. Ms. Urban said the current NOFO supports multiple goals of the 2018 Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action and shared the purpose and objectives. Seventeen proposals were received with requests totaling approximately \$4.1 million. Ms. Urban shared the score summary, ranking summary, disqualification recommendations, funding recommendations, and State coverage. Ms. Urban also shared the funding recommendations which were discussed and voted on by the subcommittee.

Funding Recommendation Pt 1 – Disqualify Money Management International and Jewish Family Services for lack of signed partner agreements. Disqualify Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada for proposing initiatives only serving older Nevadans.

Funding Recommendation Pt 2 - Proposals Three Square Food Bank and Food Bank of Northern Nevada funded at 100%; Nye Communities Coalition, Washoe County Human Services, Dignity Health: St. Rose Dominican, Northern Nevada Dream Center, UNR, Communities in Schools, and Desert Springs Methodist Church funded at 90% of request. Due to the high request amount, fund Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada at 90% of half of the request amount contingent on a required focus on rural counties not being served through the other sub-awardees funded by Funds for Healthy Nevada including Lander and White Pine counties. The funding totals \$1,918,803.00. Award Three Square Food Bank the remaining \$81,197 funds contingent on enhancing services/capacity in Sandy Valley and extending reach to Bunkerville. These additional funds would increase Three Square Food Bank's total award to \$490,619.00. Five of the committee members voted in favor of this recommendation.

Funding Recommendation Pt 3 – Additional \$200,000 funding available via Title XX funds be added to the Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada funding, bringing their total award to \$490,558, which is about 71% of the original request amount.

Ms. Urban stated there is regional coverage based on the existing definition. It is recognized due to the minor decrease in funding for the applicant's coverage per county may change.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson said this funding cycle included much passionate discussion and thanked the subcommittee for their efforts. Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited discussion.

Amber Bosket commented the subcommittee voted twice. The initial vote was to distribute the majority of the funding and the second vote was to determine how to distribute the remaining funds (\$81,197). Ms. Bosket commented she voted approval for the first vote and voted disapprove for the second vote. The recommendation to fund Three Square Food Bank with the remaining \$81,197 funds Three Square at above 100%. Both of the areas which Three Square would be required to support submitted proposals. The remaining \$81,197 should be used to fund Keystone Enrichment Foundation as a way to reach regional coverage. The area has special circumstances including being located in a low income, low access USDA food desert with no food resources. Ms. Bosket discussed the food insecurity statistics with regards to Clark County. The Keystone Enrichment Foundation proposal received a score three points lower than the threshold set by the committee for funding. Ms. Bosket recommended Keystone Enrichment Foundation proposal be fully funded as the agency can provide services in a more efficient manner than Three Square Food Bank.

Amy Kelley acknowledged and appreciated the criteria in terms of the 60% score threshold as that has been consistent in all funding recommendations and would like to endorse Ms. Bosket's recommendation to make an exception for the Sandy Valley community-based organization, Keystone Enrichment Foundation.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson said as a member of the subcommittee this was a point which was extensively discussed. The subcommittee agreed with Ms. Bosket that Sandy Valley does have unique needs although Sandy Valley is not the only area with those needs. The concern was if an exception is made to fund the Keystone Enrichment Foundation and not fund applications who scored higher than Keystone, keeping in mind the historical aspect and feedback from applicants, it could be viewed as a continued tendency to not follow the rules as set forth in the NOFO. The bulk of the subcommittee felt it was important honor score thresholds. The compromise was to

provide additional funding to Three Square Food Bank with the asterisk that they must serve Sandy Valley and Bunkerville (food desert, highly isolated communities in the State).

Ms. Bosket acknowledge other areas have similar conditions; however, Keystone Enrichment Foundation submitted a proposal to expand existing food services in their community. The Just One Project and Reno Food Systems, who scored higher than Keystone Enrichment Foundation, were to be excluded as they both serve urban areas which have other services available. The Keystone Enrichment Foundation request amount is well below remaining funds and serves an area not served by other agencies.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited a motion.

Action – Ms. Bittleston motioned to fund the top ranked proposals, including the Title XX funds as listed in Funding Recommendation Pt 2 and Funding Recommendation Pt 3, excluding the remaining \$81,197, seconded by Ms. Kelley.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited discussion. There was no discussion, ten members voted Aye, no opposed, Lisa Genasci abstained, motion carries.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited discussion and a motion to recommend distribution of the remaining \$81,197 funds.

Action - Ms. Bosket motioned to fund the Keystone Enrichment Foundation at the full requested amount, Ms. Bittleston seconded.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited discussion.

Ms. Bittleston said in her position as the Juvenile Justice Representative she has visited jails and police stations across the State and expressed the need to include the rural areas as much as possible. The GMAC talks a lot about unfunded areas and while Ms. Bittleston is not a big proponent of making exceptions in general, however, as this area submitted a proposal this exception should be made. Ms. Bittleston appreciates the subcommittee's due diligence.

Ms. Kelley said subcommittee members are always trying to calculate for capacity of proposals from frontier and rural communities. One challenge is to ensure equitable funding is going to rural and frontier communities and to determine who is the best organization to provide services. Organizations that are by, for, and of the community are the best. Ms. Kelley supports this exception to fund the Keystone Enrichment Foundation proposal.

Ms. Caliendo asked if the subcommittee discussion to request Three Square Food Bank support the areas in question is outside the scope of their proposal.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson said Three Square Food Bank named Sandy Valley as an area they planned to work with.

Ms. Bosket said the Keystone Enrichment Foundation included Three Square Food Bank as one of their key partners, but the Keystone proposal specifically targets Sandy Valley.

Ms. Caliendo said she supports funding the Keystone proposal and would be concerned with asking Three Square to support Keystone if that's not how they wrote their proposal.

Ms. Urban clarified the Three Square Food Bank Proposal did not mention Keystone Enrichment Foundation specifically although they did state they were going to be working with Sandy Valley.

Action - Ms. Bittleston made an amended motion to fund approximately \$26,000 to the Keystone Enrichment Foundation with the remaining funding going to Three Square Food Bank, Ms. Bosket seconded.

Ms. Kelley asked if Three Square Food Bank would be funded over 100% of their request and asked about the expectation concerning their scope of work.

Ms. Bosket suggested funding the City of Mesquite at roughly 33% of their request as they serve Bunkerville.

Ms. Kelley asked if there were any concerns with the City of Mesquite proposal and where the proposal falls in the ranking. Thus far there is a logical justification for funding the Keystone Enrichment Foundation proposal. Ms. Kelley clarified the emphasis is on place-based providers.

Ms. Lucido stated there is an amended and seconded motion to fund Keystone Enrichment Foundation at 100% of the request and the remaining funds to go to Three Square Food Bank. That motion would either need to be voted on or amended.

Action - Ms. Bosket made an amended motion to fully fund Keystone Enrichment Foundation at \$26,819 and allocate the remaining funds to the City of Mesquite proposal, Ms. Bittleston seconded.

Ms. York invited discussion, there was no discussion. Nine members voted Aye, no opposed, Lisa Genasci abstained, motion carries. Chair Diane Thorkildson was not present for the vote (due to technical difficulties). When Ms. Thorkildson rejoined the meeting, she stated for the record her vote would have been no as it is important to follow the rules set forth by the NOFO.

VIII. Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) & Children's Trust Fund (CTF) -
Division of Child & Family Services – Funding Recommendation - (Discussion, Possible Action)
Diane Thorkildson and Kelsey McCann Navarro

Kelsey McCann-Navarro, Chief, Division of Child and Family Services, Grants Management Unit presented the document titled DCFS-GMAC Funding Recommendations 4.14.2021. Total available funding is \$1,068,278 (Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) - \$140,000; Children's Trust Fund (CTF) - \$928,278). Twenty-seven proposals were received totaling \$2,920,560.10 (CBCAP - \$733,889.34; CTF - \$2,186,670.76). Ms. McCann-Navarro presented the average reviewer scores, GMU scores, rankings by total score, and evaluator funding recommendations. Funding recommendations were broken out by sub-categories including Child Self-Protection Training, Case Management and Visitation, Respite, and Parent Education - Clark County, Parent Education – Washoe County, and Parent Education – Rural Counties. Pages 16 and 17 showed the total funding recommendations. The funding distribution provides regional coverage throughout the State.

Ms. Bittleston asked what factors were used by the subcommittee to determine partial funding?

Ms. McCann-Navarro replied an effort was made to fund everyone at partial funding to ensure services are provided statewide and within sub-categories. Instead of funding from a top-down method an allocation was determined based on total score and region/area served.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited discussion, there was no discussion.

Ms. Bittleston motioned to approve the funding recommendation as presented, seconded by Mr. Serrano, nine members voted Aye, no opposed votes, Ms. Holmes and Ms. Genasci abstained, the motion carries.

Ms. Thorkildson asked if the motion was for both funding categories?

Ms. McCann-Navarro said yes.

IX. Other Information Items

(Discussion, Possible Action) Diane Thorkildson

Chair Ms. Thorkildson said the GMAC will need to meet in the near future to address the Tobacco Program funding recommendation.

Ms. Lucido will send a Doodle poll in the next two weeks to the GMAC members.

Ms. Bittleston commended the Grants Management Unit for the incredible documents provided to the committee members containing the NOFO recommendation information. The reviewers' input was greatly appreciated. Ms. Bittleston acknowledged the applicants for their efforts.

Ms. Kelley thanked the GMU for the supporting documents and said it was a huge improvement from previous NOFO cycles.

Mr. Serrano thanked the GMU, the DCFS staff, and the other supporting staff for their efforts.

X. Public Comment #2

Public Comment will be taken during this agenda item regarding any item appearing on the agenda. In consideration of others, who may also wish to provide public comment, please avoid repetition, and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes. No action may be taken on a matter discussed under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited public comment.

Korine Viehweg, Northern Nevada RAVE Foundation asked if the amount awarded is indicated?

Ms. Lucido said she would discuss the amount awarded with Ms. Viehweg outside of the meeting.

There was no further public comment.

XI. Announcements and Adjournment.

(Information, Discussion) Diane Thorkildson

There were no announcements other than the Divisions will be in touch with the NOFO applicants.

Ms. Bittleston motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McCoy, Chair Ms. Thorkildson adjourned the meeting at 11:29 am.

This notice was mailed to groups and individuals as requested and posted on the DHHS website at:

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/GMU/> and on the State of Nevada Public Meeting Notice website at <https://notice.nv.gov/>.

Meeting materials will be available to the public online prior to the meeting or contact the Grant Management Unit via phone at 775-684-3470 or by email: gmu@dhhs.nv.gov.