



Minutes of the Thursday, September 8, 2022, meeting

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Grants

Grants Management Unit (GMU)

The CSBG State Plan was held on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda and/or Materials: [Community Services Block Grant \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov)

Present:

Jodi Qualls

Lawrence Beasley

Erik Schoen

Jennie Martin

Heather Benson

Leslie Colbrese

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

Erika Pond

Tawny Chapman

Ashley Fondi

I. Discussion – Erika Pond

The Community Service Block Grant state plan is submitted on an annual basis. This year was submitted on a 2 year basis, not too many changes but wanted to give an opportunity for feedback.

II. Comment – Leslie Colbrese

Ms. Colbrese stated she had some questions regarding the census as it may impact on CSBG. She asked if we are anticipating additional dollars to put into the plan because of the census.

Ms. Pond stated she would investigate it. What has been done in the past and looks like the allocation percentages need to be updated, but we've been taking them from what was previously done, so I don't think that will impact this federal fiscal year, but it could potentially impact the next federal fiscal year.

Ms. Colbrese stated that her recommendation would be to look at it, because it will most likely impact Washoe County.

Mr. Beasley stated that with Elko's case, their allocations is reduced just make sure that everybody else gets a piece of the pie. He asked if anybody has any indication of what's happening with HR5129 in the Senate?

Ms. Pond responded that she hasn't had any updates regarding HR5129 recently, but she will follow up.

Mr. Beasley stated that his real concern was that if it was a two-year plan, that there will be political turnover in the next two years and not sure how adaptive and responsive to those changes.

Ms. Pond stated that there weren't many updates to our state plan from the Senate. Ms. Pond if there were any areas where there needs to be additional training?

Ms. Colbrese responded that's part of the beauties of Nevada because we are all part of the NCAA, so we have a mechanism in which to provide that information in terms of technical assistance as in a collective group that we can all participate because part of the opportunity is some states will individualize that and not necessarily all of us ar participating or being able to participate, but having the opportunity to participate in and gain that technical assistance is really important. Maintaining that opportunity through NCAA is beneficial for all of us in the state of Nevada. It is a good mechanism and takes some burden off the state to ensure that we can provide that technical assistance where needed.

Ms. Pond asked if there had been previous conversations of improving those relationships regarding other agencies working together regarding housing.

Ms. Colbrese stated that the biggest opportunity from NCAA is to be the voice and the seat at the table in terms of individuals are low income. Anything that deals with poverty should be part of the discussion. As CSBG we are charged to meet those needs of the community throughout the entire state of Nevada, and it is really important that the state of Nevada recognizes us as an entity in which we provide those services. A lot of other states in the country have a lot of additional services under CSBG that coincide with that, whether it be weatherization, etc. Wea re looking at some other options with AARR funds. Those individuals that are poverty stricken, whether it be through COVID or not, the CSBG organizations need to bring those silos down. In terms of that as well as be recognized of who we are and what we do, because were the best kept secret in the state of Nevada.

Ms. Pond invited further discussion. Ms. Pond stated that the draft will be posted online for further review and that anyone can follow up via email if they think of something after this meeting.