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HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES

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GRANTS MANAGEMENT UNIT ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2008 – JUNE 30, 2009

Jim Gibbons, Governor
Michael J. Willden, Director

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS and STAFF

Grants Management Advisory Committee members provide review and recommendations for grant programs funded through the following sources: Children's Trust Fund, Community Services Block Grant, Family Resource Centers, Family to Family Connection, Fund for a Healthy Nevada and Social Services Block Grant.

Ron Flores, Chair	Lyon County School District
Merlinda Gallegos, Vice Chair	MGM Mirage
Terri Clark	Communities in Schools, Elko
Paul Ernst	Representing Persons with Disabilities
Jeff Fontaine	Nevada Association of Counties
Dan Fox	Pershing County School District
Jan Gilbert	Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
Michael Husted	City of Henderson
Michelle Kling	Representing Health Services for Children
Bruce Mcannany	Representing Senior Citizens
Pauline Salla	Division of Child and Family Services
Pat Zamora	Nevada State Bank
Vacant	Representative from the Nevada Commission on Aging
Vacant	One member with knowledge of services to persons or families who are disadvantaged or at risk
Vacant	Director of a local agency providing services for abused or neglected children

Grants Management Unit Staff

Laurie Olson	Unit Chief
Gary Gobelman	Program Specialist, Community Services Block Grants Lead
Toby Hyman	Program Specialist, Children's Trust Fund, Family Resource Centers Lead and Differential Response Co-Lead
Earline Robertson	Program Specialist, Social Services Block Grants Lead
Jodi Tyson	Program Specialist, Problem Gambling Lead and Family Programs Support
Vacant	Program Specialist, Fund for a Healthy Nevada Lead
Betty Weiser	Program Specialist, Family to Family Connections Lead and Differential Response Co-Lead
Pennie Stone	Administrative Assistant
Erik Wingfield	Administrative Assistant

GRANTS MANAGEMENT UNIT OVERVIEW

Background Information

The Grants Management Unit (GMU) is an administrative unit within the Department of Health and Human Services, Director's Office that manages grants to local, regional, and statewide programs serving Nevadans. The GMU ensures accountability and provides technical assistance for the following programs: Children's Trust Fund, Community Services Block Grant, Family to Family Connection, Family Resource Centers, Differential Response, Fund for a Healthy Nevada, Social Services Block Grant (Title XX of the Social Security Act), and Problem Gambling Prevention and Treatment (separate report).

The GMU was created in July 2003 to streamline and standardize administrative procedures and reduce administrative costs by bringing together multiple grant programs and advisory committees.

SFY09 Activities[1]

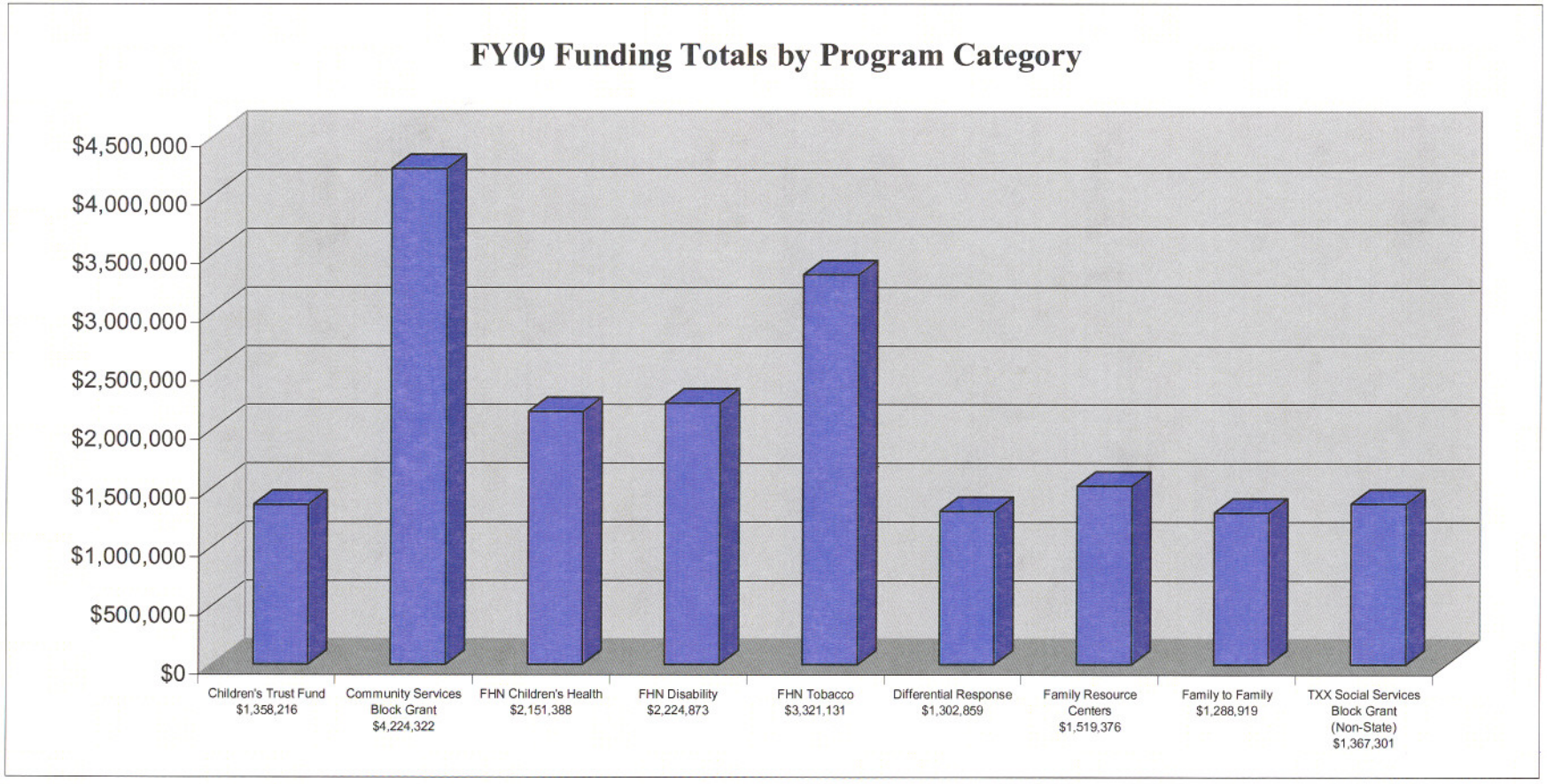
- Provided administration and technical assistance for 183 grants.
- Coordinated four Advisory Committee, eight Subcommittee, and four Steering Committee meetings to review grantee progress, review and revise priorities and strategies, recommend budget cuts in response to diminished funding, and develop policies and procedures.
- Coordinated four regional meetings to provide coordination and training for Family to Family programs and Family Resource Centers throughout the state, and provided personal training to new staff to help support these programs.
- Negotiated budgets and processed grant agreements for 164 grants in the second year of a two-year funding cycle.
- Accepted $5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds and worked with designated community action agencies to create or augment programs that address economic distress factors such as unemployment and emergency services.

[1] Activities related to problem gambling treatment and prevention will be reported separately.

- Accepted $4,640,930 million in federal Disaster Relief Funds to support community recovery following the Fernley flood of January 2008.
- Updated Grant Instructions and Requirements (GIRS) and related forms to enhance grantee understanding of fiscal processes and clarify expectations across all funding sources.

Planned Activities for SFY10

- Issue Request for Applications to solicit proposals and award grants for FY11 and FY12 for all funding sources (with the exception of Problem Gambling).
- Ensure that community action agencies expend ARRA funds by the federal deadline and that all reporting requirements associated with the ARRA funds are met.
- Ensure that agencies awarded federal Disaster Relief funds expend the funds by the federal deadline and that all reporting requirements associated with these funds are met.
- Complete site visits with grantees that did not have a site visit in FY09.
- Continue to work with Committees to develop strategy for grantee accreditation and technical assistance.
- Coordinate with Nevada State Health Division and County Health Districts to transition administration of tobacco control funding.
- Schedule training in GIFTS for new employees and refresher training for employees already familiar with the system.


FY09 Funding Totals by Program Category
$4,500,000
$4,000,000
$3,500,000
$3,000,000
$2,500,000
$2,000,000
$1,500,000
$1,000,000
$500,000
$0
Children's Trust Fund $1,358,216
Community Services Block Grant $4,224,322
FHN Children's Health $2,151,388
FHN Disability $2,224,873
FHN Tobacco $3,321,131
Differential Response $1,302,859
Family Resource Centers $1,519,376
Family to Family $1,288,919
TXX Social Services Block Grant (Non-State) $1,367,301

CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND SFY 09 SUMMARY

Background Information

In 1985 Chapter 432 of Nevada Revised Statutes was amended to create a Children's Trust Fund (CTF). Monies from the account are used to fund programs and services designed to prevent abuse and neglect of children. Revenues for CTF are derived from a $3.00 fee on Nevada birth and death certificates and from federal Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) funds. Through SFY 05, the seven-member Committee for the Protection of Children allocated the CTF funds. The 15-member Grants Management Advisory Committee assumed responsibility for funding recommendations in SFY06.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

Funds are distributed through a competitive application process for a two-year grant cycle. The first year of the two-year grant cycle for CTF SFY 09 ended June 30, 2009. In May 2008, the Grants Management Advisory Committee awarded $936,768 for 12 child abuse prevention programs throughout Nevada.

- $336,965 was allocated for seven programs to provide parenting classes.
- $330,821 was allocated for two programs to provide statewide public awareness for child abuse prevention.
- $92,209 was allocated for two programs to provide skills-based curricula to school aged children.
- $176,773 was allocated for one program to provide respite care for families with children with special needs.

Unallocated SFY 09 CTF funds were added to unspent SFY08 funds and were used to fund the following programs.

- $244,633 was allocated to Family Resource Centers (FRCs) to provide baseline support for FRCs statewide.
- $100,000 was allocated to the Institute of Applied Research of St. Louis, MO, to provide an evaluation of the Differential Response (DR) program.
- $50,000 was allocated to the Division of Child and Family Services to support the Domestic Violence program of the Nevada Outreach Training Organization in Pahrump, NV.
- $26,815 was allocated to Positively Kids to provide respite care for families with medically fragile children.

Each grantee is required to submit a Quarterly Report with information about their program's progress on their goals and objectives, the number of unduplicated participants in their programs, and results of "client satisfaction" surveys.

SFY09 Statewide Activities

Two organizations were awarded funds for statewide programs.

- *Area Health Education Centers of Southern Nevada* is the Nevada Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America.
- *Washoe County District Health Division* coordinated a statewide media campaign for child abuse awareness and prevention.

Both organizations, with the support of a committee, coordinated the statewide "Pinwheels for Prevention" in April 2009 for Child Abuse Prevention month. To draw attention to the impact of child abuse, approximately 33,860 mylar and students' handmade pinwheels were "planted" in 27 displays in the 17 Nevada counties, Nellis Air Force Base, and two Indian Reservations. Public awareness events were held in the communities and were covered by television stations and newspapers. Proclamations from the Governor, County, and Town Boards were issued designating April as child abuse prevention month.

Collaborative Efforts and Leveraging

All of the grantees that received CTF grants used the funds to enhance and/or expand existing programs. Seven of the organizations used CTF monies for specific programs they would otherwise not have been able to provide.

The 12 CTF grants awarded through the competitive process expended 96% of the $936,768 awarded for SFY 09. Most of the grantees met or exceeded their stated goals and objectives.

Program Anecdotes

1. A participant of a parenting class, a soon to be divorced working mother of a 1-year-old and a 3-year-old, couldn't figure out why she was exhausted all the time. The instructor asked her when the last time was that she did something for herself

or put herself first. The mother thought that always putting your children first was what good parents did. The instructor explained the "Emergency Landing" guidelines: When the oxygen mask falls down, if you first put on yours, you can help yourself and many others. "When you put it that way, I understand!" she said. The instructor and the mother came up with some ways to get some "M&M Time" (Me and Meditation). She found another mother who needed some personal time and worked out a day once a week for each of them to watch the others' child and once a month to get a relaxing pedicure. This, combined with some homemaking tips, made her feel less overwhelmed. She now feels rested and spends more of her time bonding with her children and less time exhausted.

2. From a Family to Family Connection (F2F) program that provides parenting education to pregnant and parenting teens: One aspect of our teen programming that we enjoy most is the connections that are made with these families, especially the teen mothers. Nearly all of the mothers maintain contact with the staff after taking the classes and after having their babies. Some take F2F classes, others call or come to the office to get advice about parenting or baby care, or to weigh their babies or get supplies if needed. Many return to visit, to show off their babies and share their happiness. Many also visit to share & discuss their challenges – life as a single mother, frustration with babies' fathers, frustration and concern over their own parents' involvement in their parenting decisions. Those who live with their parents often struggle finding the balance between their own dependence on their parents and their independence in parenting their babies. Nearly all struggle with their feelings of disappointment with the babies' fathers. Few provide the level of support that the mothers anticipated. Many come back for help and support with breastfeeding. Nearly all plan to breastfeed for the cost and health benefits, but a lot of them struggle with the feedings and have challenges when they return to work or school. One teen mother and her mother come regularly to visit and bring the baby boy. The teen girl's mother has been so pleased with the support and information she and her daughter have received that she has joined the women's group at her church and convinced them to choose our teen program for their charitable work. They have volunteered to help with meals and to donate diapers and baby supplies for our classes. Three teens have written thank you notes to the staff. One teen wrote: "I just wanted to thank you for everything that you have done for me. I really appreciated the time you took to teach me about being a mom. The parenting classes really helped a lot. I hope that you will keep in touch."

Planned Activities for SFY10

Grantees who receive funds to provide parenting programs will continue to be required to use the Protective Factors Survey (PFS) for pre/post assessments. The PFS was developed by FRIENDS National Resource Center in collaboration with the University of Kansas Institute for Educational Research and Public Service. The PFS is a standardized tool that contains 20 statements. Respondents rate how often each statement is true. The PFS indicates areas of improvement in family function, nurturing and attachment, emotional support, and concrete support. Each of the protective areas have been researched and determined to be valid measures of child protection and family well-being. PFS has an accompanying database that allows grantees to house their own data and easily transfer quarterly data information to the GMU. The use of the PFS will allow the grant administrators to get the same information from all the grantees who are presenting parenting programs.

Because of a CBCAP grant requirement for grantees to be part of a statewide network, all CTF funded programs are required to participate in Prevent Child Abuse Nevada meetings, which are videoconferenced four times a year. In SFY09 many of the CTF grantees participated in the planning and implementation of the "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign in April. A goal for SFY10 is to have all the grantees take an active role in their communities. The grant managers will work with grantees to ensure the goals and objectives are measurable and the reporting accurately reflects the funded program.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT NARRATIVE

Background Information

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is a federal program that provides funding to local Community Action Agencies (CAAs) designated by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in the State CSBG Plan. The mission of CAAs is to reduce community poverty. Funds are used to provide direct services to low-income families and individuals and to develop collaborative strategies with key stakeholders in the community. In SFY 2009, there were 12 designated CAAs in the state organized into county service areas. Funds are provided to the designated CAAs on an ongoing, non-competitive basis provided that they continue to meet grant requirements and performance standards.

The federal requirements for the program are contained in the CSBG Act (http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/csbg/). The Act establishes the goals and regulations for CSBG. The role of DHHS is to insure accountability for the federal requirements, assist CAAs to develop their capacity to provide services, and coordinate statewide strategies to maximize the impact of CAAs.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

CSBG funds are distributed to designated CAAs based on a funding formula that is established through a public hearing process. The formula includes three main factors: 1) a basic level of capacity funding to all CAAs to insure that all agencies are able to meet federal program requirements, 2) an allocation based on the number of people below poverty in each county, and 3) an economic distress factor based on the unemployment rate in each county.

There are several key accountability measures that guide CAAs in administering CSBG funds and delivering services.

- CSBG recipient agencies are required to submit a full application every two years, which includes a needs assessment, a plan for delivering services, a budget, and goals.
- Agencies are required to submit quarterly progress reports based on the outcome measures contained in the national CSBG reporting system.

- Fiscal expenditure reports are required monthly.
- CSBG specific program policies have been established and incorporated into the grant assurances signed by agencies.
- On-site program monitoring is conducted every two years to review agency records and management procedures.

Key Statewide Activities in SFY 09

DHHS received an additional $5 million for the CSBG program as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in April 2009. The state CSBG program manager and the CAA directors began meeting in January 2009 to plan a new employment assistance initiative. Program criteria were developed and initial training was provided to CSBG agencies to assist them to develop and implement employment training and placement programs in their local communities. In June 2009 funding was awarded to ten of the twelve CAAs for employment service programs. Approximately $4 million of the ARRA funds were allocated for employment assistance services; the other $1 million was awarded for safety net and other basic supportive services.

The DHHS Grants Management Unit (GMU) facilitated the formation of the Frontier Community Action Agency, a new non-profit agency serving Elko, Humboldt, Lander, and Pershing Counties. This project started in SFY 2008 and was completed on October 1, 2009, when the Frontier CAA officially started operating as a non-profit organization. Throughout SFY 2009, the Frontier CAA strengthened its fiscal and management oversight of the CSBG program and continued to expand services to low-income families. The Frontier CAA has been instrumental in forming local coalitions in Humboldt and Pershing counties that are focused on identifying and addressing the priority needs of low-income families.

DHHS partnered with the Governor's Office, the Department of Employment and Training, and the Nevada Community Action Association to apply for a discretionary grant from the Office of Community Services (OCS) focused on building the capacity of the non-profit agencies. The project is designed to connect non-profits with ARRA initiatives and opportunities, provide a series of technical assistance workshops to community and faith-based organizations, and provide in-depth technical assistance to a select group of at least 10 non-profits to strengthen their organizational systems and capacity. The NCAA prepared and submitted the proposal to OCS in July 2009. The NCAA was notified that its application was accepted for $250,000 for FFY 2010 and FFY 2011, for a total of $500,000.

Collaborative Efforts and Leveraging

One of the primary goals of the CSBG program is collaboration at the community level. All CAAs are engaged in collaboration with local human service coalitions, where available, and on specific collaborative projects with other service providers operating in the community. On the SFY 2008 annual report, the CAAs listed a total of 352 agencies that they regularly work with to coordinate services to low-income families. The annual CSBG report for SFY2009 is still in progress, but this data is not expected to change significantly.

The CAAs in the state manage multiple funding sources and a significant amount of the state's social service resources. CAAs spent almost $3.4 million in CSBG dollars in SFY 2009. CAAs reported on the SFY 2008 report that they managed $21.4 million in federal, state, local, and private funding in addition to CSBG funding. As noted previously, the annual CSBG report for SFY2009 is still in progress but, with the exception of additional funding through ARRA, the outcome is not expected to change significantly.

Seven CAAs have completed strategic plans that refocus their agency on the core mission of CSBG to move people out of poverty and to engage the wider community in addressing the needs of low-income families.

Most of the CAAs in the state participate in local, regional or statewide coalitions and workgroups such as the Rural Continuum of Care (focuses on homelessness issues), the Nevada Housing Coalition, and the Nevada Community Action Association. Participation on these types of coalitions provides opportunities for CAAs to take a leadership role in defining poverty issues, influence the work of other organizations and coalitions, and work with the community at large to leverage and focus new resources on the priority poverty-related issues in each community.

Grantee Performance

CAAs are engaged in a wide variety of services in their communities. The full annual CSBG report for SFY 2009, which includes client demographics and financial data, is due March 31, 2010, and is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2009. The following is a summary of the data that is available at this point in time:

- Emergency services – Emergency services were provided to 3,275 families who were in crisis. Emergency services included short term rent and utility assistance, medical assistance, and food vouchers.
- Case Management – 8 CAAs provided case management services to 1,919 families.
- Employment – 460 individuals found employment with the assistance of CAAs
- Employment Supports – 2,211 families obtained employment supports (e.g., food, health care, affordable housing, childcare assistance).

Client Demographics:

- Total number of individuals served statewide: 16,765
- Total number of families served statewide: 7,658
- Percent of Hispanic individuals served: 28%
- Percent of minority individuals served: 42%
- Single parents: 21% of the families served were headed by a single parent
- Level of income: 75% of families served were below the federal poverty level and 45% were below 50% of the federal poverty level
- Housing: 8% of the families served were homeless and 57% were renters

Program Anecdotes

The following two examples illustrate the types of services that are provided to assist families to achieve self-sufficiency.

1) This past year we served a single parent family with two teenagers that was previously a "revolving door" family through Lyon County Human Services' (LCHS) emergency services program. The mother continuously made poor money decisions and would regularly request LCHS to help her pay utility bills and rent. After starting the Circles Initiative and completing the 15-week Getting Ahead sessions, this mother began to realize how her poor decisions were often causing her family's crises. However, she also learned how community factors also play a role in her situation and how important it was for her to become engaged in her community. When she began the Family

Enhancement Program, the Case Manager focused on developing budgeting skills for the family, as this was an area the mother wanted to address first. Over the course of several months, this family gained substantial budgeting skills and through organization and planning, are now able to remain current with bills. This mother also secured stable, living wage employment that provides health benefits to her family. Most importantly, the family has worked on communication skills and participates in counseling to develop a better relationship. They participate in the Circles Initiative and have been matched with three allies that will continue to work with the family on their goals. Instead of feeling helpless and disempowered, they now have the initiative to take control of their future and make the changes necessary to make a better life for themselves. (Lyon County Human Services)

2) A single male in a seasonal job with the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) was released from the position and was without work. His supervisor at NDOT indicated that a full-time position would be available, but it required a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). The individual contacted the Job Opportunities in Nevada (JOIN) office in Winnemucca for possible financial assistance. The CDL training (in Reno) enrollment fee was $1,800. CSBG contributed $600, JOIN contributed $600, and the individual paid $600. The individual received the CDL within three months of being laid off. He obtained a permanent position with NDOT as Construction Aide at $11.46 per hour. The CDL not only allowed the individual to obtain the job to take him out of poverty status, but also provided him with the potential for better paying jobs in NDOT.

The JOIN contribution of $600 is their maximum. With that, we agreed that an equal share of the training fee would be reasonable, to assure that the individual was committed to the training. The individual had no savings, but borrowed the remaining $600 from a friend. Without the CSBG contribution, the individual probably would not have been able to get the CDL. The individual also had to pay for his travel to and from Reno and for expenses while there. (Job Opportunities in Nevada)

Planned Activities for SFY 2009

- The GMU will work with CAAs to ensure that ARRA dollars are fully and effectively spent on programs that help low-income families obtain employment and other related supportive services.
- The GMU will work with the NCAA to identify an affordable software solution to handle the quarterly reporting data that CAAs are required to collect.
- The GMU will provide technical assistance and support to the new Frontier Community Action Agency to ensure that the agency builds an effective grants management system and supports the effective delivery of services in the four county service area.
- The GMU will work with the Nevada Community Action Association on collaborative projects, including the new $500,000 non-profit capacity building project awarded by the Office of Community Services, and other projects to assist CAAs to sustain themselves in the current challenging economic environment.

FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA NARRATIVE

Background Information

The Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) has been the oversight authority for the Fund for a Healthy Nevada (FHN) Grants since July 1, 2007. In order to appropriately address FHN funding priorities, the GMAC includes four members with knowledge, skill, and experience in the areas of tobacco cessation, services to persons with disabilities, health services to children, and senior citizens. The revenue in the fund represents 50 percent of the money received by Nevada pursuant to the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement reached in 1998 between multiple states and tobacco manufacturers.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

In SFY09, $7,697,392 of the Master Settlement Agreement dollars Nevada received were awarded via competitive applications through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Grants Management Unit (GMU) as listed below.

Grants		
Disability Services		$2,224,873
Children's Health		$2,151,388
Tobacco Prevention/Cessation/Treatment		$3,321,131
	TOTAL	$7,697,392

All grantees must submit quarterly progress and financial reports to the GMU. Summaries of these reports were provided to the GMAC and Subcommittees in SFY09. The meetings are subject to the Nevada Open Meeting Law and agendas are available on the GMU website at http://dhhs.nv.gov/Grants/GrantsManagement.htm.

SFY09 Statewide Activities

- FHN issued 55 grant awards in SFY09 under the following three funding categories: 21 grants to Disability Services, 19 grants to Children's Health, and 15 grants to Tobacco Prevention, Treatment and Cessation.

- GMU staff completed 15 site visits to promote accountability and enhance program performance.

Grantee Performance

The majority of grantees in SFY09 met or exceeded their goals. Staff has been working with all grantees to improve outcome measures in addition to reporting outputs.

Program Highlights and Anecdotes

1. Tobacco Prevention: When asked for ways to refuse cigarettes when offered, one TATU youth said he would tell his peer, "I'll smoke you on the basketball court, but I'm not smoking that!" This youth also said his best friend was beginning to smoke and that he would tell him about what he had learned at TATU. One Little Brother's parent said that he thinks his son knows what tobacco can do to the body as he heard the youth counseling his grandmother, a smoker. One Little Sister reported that she has talked to her sister about not smoking and also her cousin on several occasions. Another TATU youth reported that her mother smoked and lost all her teeth and that she would never try it.

2. Disability Services: A woman living in a transitional housing environment exhausted her money before the end of each month. She was given the opportunity to participate in a Life Skills program and is now living independently in an accessible and affordable apartment. She had no healthcare or healthcare insurance but now has Medicare. She is now receiving much needed physical therapy and occupational therapy services to maximize her functional independence and to increase strength and overall mobility. Medicare is going to provide her with a hospital bed and shower chair, which will allow her to shower safely and independently. She was assisted in applying for Social Security and was approved. She attends and participates in the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) support group, and has access to a food pantry.

3. Children's Health: Twelve FHN Children's Health grantees exceeded one or more of their goals during SFY09. Among other successes, 9,033 additional children received EPDST exams, 2,524 additional students received oral cancer screenings, 5,784 additional entries were made into the WEB IZ immunization registration system, an additional 509 children received dental screenings and/or oral health care, and an additional 824 children received medical assessments or screenings. These achievements are particularly significant in an atmosphere of diminishing resources.

Funding Levels

During SFY09, a GMAC ad hoc subcommittee was created to make recommendations for diminished funding levels expected in SFY10. The subcommittee considered reductions amounting to 16.9% for Tobacco Control grantees and 10.5% for Children's Health and Disability grantees. The GMAC agreed with the subcommittee's recommendation for across-the-board cuts with two exceptions. Wells Family Resource Center and RAVE were able to retain their already modest FY09 funding levels thanks to sacrifices made voluntarily by two other grantees. Overall, FHN funding for FY10 was reduced from $7,832,816 to $6,789,898.

Legislation

The 2009 Nevada Legislature adopted SB340, which will move the administration of FHN tobacco control funds from the DHHS GMU to the Nevada Health Division beginning in SFY11. Targeted funds are those supporting programs that prevent, reduce or treat the use of tobacco and the consequences of the use of tobacco. The bill requires that the money be allocated for programs that are consistent with the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services relating to evidence-based best practices. The following allocations are required:

1. To the district board of health in each county whose population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) for expenditure for such programs in the respective county;

2. For such programs in counties whose population is less than 100,000 (all counties other than Clark and Washoe Counties), and

3. For evaluations, statewide tobacco cessation programs and other statewide services deemed necessary by the DHHS Health Division and district boards of health.

Planned Activities for SFY10

- Site visit reviews will continue with the FHN grantees.
- Staff will work with the DHHS Health Division to ensure the smooth transition of tobacco control funds.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS NARRATIVE

Background Information

Family Resource Centers (FRCs) were established by legislation in 1995 (NRS 430A). The state is divided into 18 Service Areas with a FRC providing information, referrals, and case management to residents in each Service Area. FRCs collaborate with local and state agencies and organizations to help individuals and families access needed services and support.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

In SFY09, $1,519,376 was granted to 22 organizations that serve as fiscal agents for FRCs in 18 Service Areas throughout Nevada. In SFY 08, the Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) approved the allocation of funds to the fiscal agents. A funding allocation formula was used based on demographic data for each of the 18 Service Areas. The demographic data used as the basis for funding included, population, percent of people living in poverty, and child abuse statistics.

Each grantee is required to submit a monthly report with information about the number of unduplicated individuals served, the number of case files opened, the number of referrals made, the number of clients with a "Goal Worksheet," and the number of times a case manager met with a client to review progress toward achieving their goal(s). Quarterly reports are required that focus on program accomplishments, challenges, staffing, staff training received, technical assistance requested, in-kind/cash donations received, and anecdotal stories that demonstrate the impact of the program.

State staff worked closely with the FRCs in SFY 09 to ensure that clients accessing FRC services were provided with appropriate referrals and support to help them achieve goals, and 80% of the FRC programs received a site visit in SFY 09.

SFY09 Statewide Activities

- Four FRC/F2F regional meetings were held in SFY 09 – two meetings for southern Nevada FRC/F2F program staff in Clark, southern Nye, and Lincoln counties, and two meetings for northern Nevada FRC/F2F program staff in Washoe and northern rural counties. The focus of the meetings was on strengthening the collaboration between the FRC and F2F programs and the increased emphasis on data collection. In addition to the regional meetings, the grant administrators worked with FRC staff in the 18 Service Areas to strengthen their documentation of clients setting and achieving goals.
- Statewide, FRC staff attended trainings for Nevada Check-up and Medicaid programs and other meetings with state and local agencies in their Service Areas to ensure appropriate resources are available for their clients.

Collaborative Efforts and Leveraging

The FRC programs are working closely with the F2F programs. Seventeen FRC fiscal agents are also fiscal agents for F2F programs and have co-located services. In Las Vegas, the Service Areas' geographic boundaries correspond with Neighborhood Family Service Centers, which provide services to families involved with Nevada Division of Child & Family Services, Clark County Department of Family Services, Nevada Early Intervention Services, and Nevada PEP (a statewide parent training and information center for families who have children with disabilities). FRCs throughout the state collaborate with school districts, Nevada State Welfare, Division of Child and Family Services, Aging and Disability Services Division, and many other local and state agencies. Statewide, FRCs received more than $556,000 in cash and in-kind donations.

The FRC programs partner with the Energy Assistance program of the Nevada Department of Welfare and Supportive Services to help clients accurately complete Energy Assistance Applications to streamline the process of clients receiving assistance

Grantee Performance

- Statewide, FRC programs served 27,120 unduplicated adults, children, and seniors with referrals, resources, and support to meet their immediate needs.

- Statewide, FRC programs opened 9,483 case files; 7,432 clients had Goal Worksheets as part of their case file and 87% of them (6,467) achieved a minimum of one goal.
- Statewide, FRC programs made 64,682 referrals to community support organizations.

Program Anecdotes

1. A single mother with two children went to a FRC seeking assistance. She had been fired from her job because her car was unreliable and she was financially unable to fix it. She was looking for work but not having any success. Her unemployment claim had been denied because her previous employer stated that she had quit. This client had never before asked for assistance from any organization. She had been able to pay the rent and utilities, but was unable to provide food for her family. Through the FRC, this client and her family were connected with the local food pantry, referred to the energy assistance program, given vouchers for winter clothes from a thrift store, and were adopted in the Holiday Giving and Adopt-A-Family Programs. In addition, the client was referred to Job Opportunities in Nevada (JOIN) for employment assistance. The FRC Case Manager assisted the client in obtaining legal representation to appeal the Unemployment Insurance decision. The family was able to have warm clothes, food, and gifts for the holidays. The client is currently working with JOIN to find employment, and the family is not in danger of homelessness or hunger.

2. A FRC helped a client fill out applications to the "ReStart" program to help her move out of a house into a smaller, more affordable apartment. The house was too big and the power bill was very large. The FRC staff advocated and "ReStart" approved the client for the first month's rent. The FRC secured funding for the security deposit and the client was able to move into her new apartment the following week.

3. An 81-year-old man went to an FRC and said he was two days away from being homeless. The man had worked at the same job for more than 60 years, owned four homes and had a very healthy retirement. About a year ago, the client's wife became ill and eventually passed away. In an effort to pay her medical bills, he lost all of his property and worldly belongings. The client had been living with his son and his family, but they asked him to move out as they did not have the resources to take care of him. The man's only income was from Social Security Disability. With two days

before eviction from an $800 per month weekly motel, the FRC case manager was able to find reasonable accommodations at a monthly rental motel for $600 per month including utilities. Unfortunately the client had to take a loan out on his car and until that debt was paid off, he couldn't afford to move into the apartment. The case manager worked out arrangements with the Senior Services Network to pay the first half month's rent, give him food bank privileges and provide a gas voucher to get to his doctor appointments. The case manager also worked out an arrangement with the apartment manager to allow the client a special rate on his room and pay the overdue amount in small increments. Currently the client is living close to services to save gas and is receiving food bank services on an ongoing basis.

Differential Response

The Differential Response (DR) pilot project is a partnership between the FRCs and the three child welfare agencies – Clark County Family Services (CCDFS), Washoe County Department of Social Services (WCDSS) and Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). Differential Response procedures are used when reports alleging child abuse or neglect are reviewed by staff at the child welfare agency and a determination has been made that the family is likely to benefit from early intervention. This determination is made through a family assessment that considers their unique strengths, risks and individual needs, rather than through the traditional, more intrusive investigative approach. Reports assigned to a DR program are limited to Priority 3 reports in the following categories: Educational neglect; environmental neglect; physical neglect; medical neglect, and/or improper supervision.

Background Information

The DR pilot project was initiated in the spring of 2006 when the DHHS Director met with FRC representatives to discuss program expansion that would address increasing rates of child abuse and neglect. Discussions over the summer led to the creation of a Statewide Steering Committee to include the State Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), Clark County Department of Family Services (CCDFS) and the Washoe County Department of Social Services (WCDSS). A joint plan was developed to implement the DR pilot project to reduce lower risk caseloads through referral to FRCs, which would provide assessment and case management to families who are willing and able to benefit from community-based services.

A budget proposal was developed to implement DR training in early 2007, with a request for state general funds beginning late in 2008 to support three to five pilots in urban and rural areas around the state. Subsequently, the federal requirement to implement DR in Clark County in February 2007 spurred a revision of the original timeline and budget. Funds from Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) were used to implement two pilot DR programs in Clark County.

A proposed FRC budget to phase in the DR program statewide was submitted and approved by the 2007 Nevada Legislature. In addition to state general funds, Casey Family Programs is providing funds to support the Nevada Differential Response Pilot Project.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

In SFY 09, $1,247,859 was granted to 11 Family Resource Centers throughout Nevada to provide the Differential Response Program (DR). Each DR grantee is responsible for hiring staff who work in partnership with Child Protective Services (CPS) to provide assessment and services to Priority 3 reports that are referred by the CPS agencies. Each grantee is required to submit monthly reports indicating the number of cases referred from CPS, and the number of families who have received a family assessment and the number who have a case plan.

Also in SFY09, the DHHS Grants Management Unit contracted with the Institute for Applied Research (IAR) to evaluate the effectiveness of the DR pilot program. FY09 funding for the contract included $55,000 from DR.

SFY09 DR Activities

- Eleven FRCs were funded to hire staff to be the first responders to cases assigned to DR assessment tract. DR programs are serving the following communities: Las Vegas and Henderson, Reno, Elko, Carson City, Churchill County, Pahrump, Fernley, Silver Springs, Dayton, Yerington, and Hawthorne. In addition to the FRC DR programs, the Children's Cabinet has been funded by Washoe County Department of Social Services to also provide DR services in Washoe County.

- Twenty-three staff hired to provide DR services were trained in using the North Carolina Family Assessment Scales, General (NCFAS-G), safety training and DR case management.

- Child Protective Service (CPS) agencies referred 912 families to DR. Of those, 147 cases were returned to CPS for the following reasons: Unable to locate family; family moved; family refused DR services; child in home under the age of 5 and reported to be unsafe, and/or new allegations of abuse or neglect.

- 664 families were served by DR.

- The Statewide Steering Committee continues to meets quarterly. All the agencies involved have worked collaboratively to ensure the development of a system that can be expanded statewide if funding is approved. The level of commitment from all partners has been exemplary with additional staff assisting the committee with information technology, training, assessment tools, policy documents, and legal guidance.

- Thirty-six DR and Child Protective Service Agency staff attended a four-day training workshop on Safety Assessment, Child and Family Team Meetings and the Gatekeeper Training presented by the State of Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention.

Planned Activities for SFY 10

FRC and F2F programs will be encouraged to be the lead organizations in their communities for the statewide "Pinwheels for Prevention" campaign for Child Abuse Prevention month in April 2010. Continued support will be given to the FRCs to access additional funding sources to expand their programs and services.

FAMILY TO FAMILY CONNECTION NARRATIVE

Background Information

Family to Family Connection (F2F) was established by the 1997 Legislature to provide information, parenting classes and support to all Nevada families of infants and toddlers. Services are provided at New Baby Center Sites throughout Nevada.

Family to Family Connection provides information on child safety, health, nutrition, infant CPR, and other resources to create the best environment possible during the first crucial years of a child's development. The program also assists families in developing support networks with other parents and provides a link with appropriate community support agencies when there are additional needs in the family. Providing this support to families of young children not only creates a safer, more nurturing environment for the child, but is also a pro-active approach to preventing child abuse and neglect.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

In SFY 09, $1,288,919 was granted to 21 F2F programs throughout the state. Funds were allocated based upon birth statistics, child abuse statistics and families at or below 200% of poverty. The Grants Management Advisory Committee reviewed the performance of each program and approved the allocation formula. Nineteen of the 21 programs are co-located with Family Resource Centers (FRCs). Family to Family Connection Centers are located in Battle Mountain, Caliente, Carson City, Elko, Ely, Fallon, Fernley, Hawthorne, Henderson, Laughlin, Las Vegas (four service areas), Lovelock, Mesquite, Minden/Gardnerville, Overton, Pahrump, Reno, Silver Springs, Winnemucca, and Yerington.

Each grantee is required to submit monthly F2F data forms, which provide demographic data and visit information on the families that have been served. In addition, each grantee submits a quarterly report on program accomplishments, challenges, training activities and technical assistance requested. All new F2F community program staff is required to attend eight hours of curriculum training on providing family centered, developmentally appropriate services to families with young children. In SFY 09, GMU staff provided four F2F core curriculum training classes to 40 attendees.

SFY09 Statewide Activities

The F2F programs throughout the state have emphasized outreach to at-risk families who may need more help in developing positive parenting skills. All F2F programs are working collaboratively with the FRCs to provide classes and support to families with young children who access the Family Resource Centers.

Statewide 68% of the families served were considered at risk. Adults who received F2F services are considered "at risk" if they met one or more of the following criteria in the F2F database: Income less than $15,000; ethnicity other than White/Caucasian; primary language listed as Spanish or other; marital status marked single; 18 or under at time of visit; baby had low birth weight of four pounds or less; baby's medical insurance marked None, Nevada Check-up or Medicaid. Each F2F program has an outreach plan that addresses how the program will provide F2F classes and services throughout their service area.

Collaborative Efforts and Leveraging of Funds

The F2F programs are working closely with the FRCs. In Las Vegas, the Service Areas' geographic boundaries correspond with Clark County Department of Family Services service centers. The F2F programs throughout the state have strong collaborative relations with the Women, Infants and Children's Program (WIC). F2F programs also collaborate with school districts, Nevada State Welfare, Division of Child and Family Services, the Public Library system and many other local and state agencies.

There has been a strong statewide effort to partner with Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS).

Grantee Performance

- Statewide, F2F provided services to 8,227 unduplicated adults with infants and toddlers through a total of 31,995 visits.
- 6,329 classes were provided on topics related to infant toddler health, safety, development and parent support. These classes were provided to 29,038 participants.
- 3,112 car seats were inspected and installed.
- Each F2F program developed and conducted individual surveys of the families utilizing their program. The responses ranged from 80% to 100% of the families indicating that F2F helped improve their parenting skills.

Program Anecdotes

1. F2F provided services to a young father that was going through a divorce. He has an infant daughter and a 2-year-old son. F2F provided one-on-one services as well as classes on infant and toddler care. In addition to the classes, F2F staff was able to provide information which helped him understand the importance of maintaining a positive relationship with his soon-to be-ex-wife for the benefit of the children.

2. One of the F2F programs holds weekly classes at a shelter for women in recovery and their children. These classes include a range of topics from tips to raising a happy, well-behaved and secure toddler, to household budgeting, to tips on preparing fresh, homemade baby food. During the one-hour per week that the group meets, the women are not reminded that they are in a shelter because of an addiction that has affected their lives and the lives of their children. Instead, they receive support and information in their transition back into society. One resident in particular was extremely grateful to Family to Family Connection for having such a fresh approach to teaching classes to women in recovery. "Most of the other classes we are offered here are always reminding us of the negative we have done to get here, but F2F doesn't focus on the fact that we are in recovery. We are treated as normal mothers with normal mother issues." All of the residents are assured of one fact – that Family to Family Connection is an agency in full support of preserving their families and breaking the cycle which led to their current situations by providing support from the moment that their baby is born to helping them nurture their infant well into their toddler stage. The women know that they have a long road ahead of them in their transitional period, and they are also aware that Family to Family Connection is there to support them every step of the way.

Planned Activities for SFY10

In SFY 10 programs will continue to focus on providing outreach and services to areas of the community that have the highest rates of child abuse reports. Many of the F2F programs have purchased the Shaken Baby Curriculum and Shaken Baby Simulator Dolls. A goal for SFY 10 is to have the curriculum and a stimulator doll in each F2F site.

There are plans to strengthen the partnership between the F2F programs and WIC (Women, Infants and Children's) Nutrition programs. Staff is working on guidelines for a Memorandum of Understanding.

- Assure cross-referring of families among WIC and F2F staff.
- WIC will be aware of the ASQ screening and parenting classes offered by F2F so they can refer when appropriate.
- WIC staff and F2F staff will receive in-service training from each other about their specific programs and will develop an action plan to maintain the cross-referring effort.
- F2F will offer breastfeeding education in their parenting classes.
- WIC will supply F2F with breastfeeding education materials and breast pumps when appropriate.
- WIC Breastfeeding Coordinator will offer breastfeeding orientation/training to F2F staff at their twice a year face-to-face meetings.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (TITLE XX) NARRATIVE

Background Information

The Social Security Act, Title XX (Social Services Block Grant) is an annual Federal funding source allocated to each state since 1981 for services directed toward one or more of the following five national goals:

I. Achieving or maintaining economic self-support to prevent, reduce or eliminate dependency;
II. Achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency;
III. Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interests, rehabilitating or reuniting families;
IV. Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community-based care, home-based care or other forms of less intensive care; and
V. Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions.

Distribution of Funds and Accountability

In FY09, $12,575,953 (90 % of available Title XX dollars) was distributed to state programs under the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department's goal was to achieve a 10% funding level for non-state grants. To that end, the balance of $1,377,234 (10 %) was made available to distribute to non-state entities through a competitive application process. (All but $9,933 was actually awarded to non-state entities; those funds will be allocated to programs as needed within the two-year Title XX limitations.)

The competitive application process is implemented through publication of a Request for Applications, which includes funding priorities established by the Grants Management Advisory Committee. Typically, the grants are funded on a two-year cycle. New grants were allocated in FY08 for the SFY09-10 cycle.

Grants are monitored through quarterly progress reports and fiscal reports when funds are drawn. On-site auditing was performed based on a risk-analysis of the grantees. Staff completed on-site program monitoring with four Non-State funded agencies and one State funded division during FY09. On-site program and fiscal technical assistance was provided to six State funded divisions and nine Non-State funded agencies.

SFY09 Statewide Activities

Title XX non-state grantees completed the first year of programming of a two-year cycle. Narrowed Areas of funding allowed Title XX funds to be used to leverage other sources toward achieving better outcomes. The flexibility of Title XX funding allows a variety of uses programmatically, which enables the Department to respond to emergent issues. In addition to regular funding, special funds were made available in FY09 for disaster relief which helped support a range of services for victims of the Fernley Flood.

Collaborative Efforts and Leveraging

Title XX has benefited the Department of Health and Human Services because of the flexible nature of its intended purpose and liberal rules of use. This fund is often pooled with resources from other agencies in a collaborative manner ensuring the State is meeting the immediate needs of its residents.

Because Title XX funds are intended to help states operate and coordinate all social services, agencies receiving Title XX funds are required to report total service numbers from all funding sources, as part of an aggregate report submitted to the federal Office of Community Services. FY09 figures will not be available until later this fall, but total service numbers for Title XX funded programs in FY08 were as follows:

- Title XX funding in the amount of $15,049,913 combined with $121,776.285 in other statewide funding was utilized to serve 158,359 Nevadans in 16 different service categories.
- Title XX funds were expended at a rate of 96% with a remaining balance of $698,925. Because the state has two years following the grant year to expend these funds, they can be reallocated to programs as needed.

Grantee Performance

As shown in the following grantee progress report, most grantees substantially met or exceeded their goals.

As noted previously, the full post-expenditure report for SFY 2009, which includes client demographics and financial data, will not be completed until later in the fall of 2009. The following is a summary of the data that is available at this point in time.

- Adoption services to 224 children
- Case Management services to 6,003 children
- Counseling services to 723 children
- Day Care services to 2 children
- Employment and Job Training to 917 individuals
- Foster Care services to 7,393 children
- Health Related and Home Health services to 25,727 individuals
- Home Based services to 1,574 individuals
- Independent and Transitional Living services to 61 individuals
- Information and Referral services to 67,692 individuals
- Prevention and Intervention services to 23,966 individuals
- Protective services to 2,881 adults
- Residential Treatment services to 110 children
- Special disability services to 504 individuals
- Substance Abuse services to 59 adults
- Transportation services to 746 individuals

Total Estimated Services provided to individuals with Title XX funds at this point in time is 138,582 Nevadans statewide for SFY 2009.

Planned Activities for SFY10

Monitoring visits are planned for eight Non-State Title XX grantees in FY10 along with frequent informal program site visits and technical assistance. Members of the Grants Management Advisory Committee will continue to be invited to participate in the site visits. This process will increase program understanding and assist to identify statewide need for services and funding as well as ensure program accountability.