



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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M E M O R A N D U M

To: Members, Grants Management Advisory Committee

From: Laura Hale, Social Services Chief, Grants Management Unit (GMU)

Reference: Grantee Accreditation Requirement

The GMU has required grantees to obtain accreditation for several years, in order to help ensure proper internal controls and administrative procedures. We would typically refer grantees to one of the three United Way offices in Nevada as a primary service provider for accreditation of non-profit organizations.

Two years ago, we were prepared to fund a pilot with United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierras to specifically serve our grantees with accreditation and the corresponding technical assistance. Following a review with their Board of Directors, they declined to accept the funds due to liability concerns.

United Way of Southern Nevada (UWSN) has also offered this service to health and human service providers in Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral and Nye Counties, on a somewhat limited basis, requiring the following:

- 3-year non-profit status,
- annual revenues over \$500,000,
- annual independent audit,
- 25% of revenues or less in administrative costs,
- local board of directors, and
- willing and able to sign an affiliation agreement with UWSN

In the current cycle, there are grantees that have been unable to locate providers for accreditation. Consequently, it is an unenforceable requirement. However, we continue to value this service and recommend some level of investment to ensure that grantees will have the ability to obtain accreditation, **as well as technical assistance to support accreditation.**

Given the level of funding allocated through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), and the amount of time GMU staff spend on oversight for some of the larger CSBG grants, we believe this is a critical area to be addressed. In order to access the available CSBG funds, the formula must be adjusted, which requires a public hearing. We recommend starting the process for a public hearing as soon as possible, with a 30-day advance notice.

Due to the limited funding for Family to Family and Family Resource Center programs, and the recent cuts to the Fund for a Healthy Nevada, there are no available funds through these sources to support accreditation and technical assistance. However, balances from Title XX Social Services Block Grant and the Children's Trust Fund could be used because the programs are consistent with the purposes of these funds.

Staff recommendation is to develop a request for proposals (RFP) to fund one or more service providers to offer accreditation and technical assistance for grants administered through the GMU. For the CSBG grants, up to \$50,000 could be allocated through the formula. For the remaining grants, the available TXX balance of \$41,000 could be used to support general service programs, and up to \$50,000 of the available Children's Trust Fund could be used to support child and family services programs.

We welcome input from the GMAC members and can schedule future discussions as deemed appropriate.