

## Draft Minutes of the Thursday, October 22, 2020 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, October 22, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Per Governor Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006 there was no physical location required for this Teams videoconference meeting. Public comments by videoconference are welcome.

Teams meeting: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) click on this link

*Materials:* <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/PGS/>

### **I. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Announcements**

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chair Diane Thorkildson. Connie Lucido took roll call and a quorum of the Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) was confirmed.

#### **Members Present**

Amy Kelley  
Shirley Trummell  
Amber Bosket  
Shayla Holmes  
Diane Thorkildson  
Fernando Serrano  
Tom McCoy  
Fred Schultz  
Stacy York

#### **Members Absent**

Ali Caliendo  
Leslie Bittleston  
Susan Lucia-Terry

#### **Department of Health and Human Services, Grants Management Unit staff present**

Connie Lucido, Chief  
Jen White, Social Services Program Specialist  
Cyndee Joncas, Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Hughes, Administrative Assistant

#### **Others Present**

Lisa Genasci  
Linda Anderson, Nevada Public Health Foundation  
Tina Dortch, Nevada Office of Minority and Health Equity (NOMHE)  
Michael Urban, Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)  
Isabella Yeager  
Karen Van Hest  
Sheila Lambert, Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)  
Karen Senger

There were no additional announcements.

## **II. Public Comment #1**

Chair Diane Thorkildson invited public comment. There were no comments.

## **III. Action Item – Approve minutes of July 16, 2020 Quarterly meeting and August 20, 2020 Special meeting**

Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the July 16, 2020 Quarterly meeting and the August 20, 2020 Special meeting.

A motion to approve both minutes was made by Fernando Serrano and Stacy York seconded the motion.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if there was any discussion. The motion passed without discussion, oppositions, or abstentions. The minutes of the July 16, 2020 Quarterly meeting and the August 20, 2020 Special meeting were approved.

## **IV. Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE), Tina Dortch**

Tina Dortch presented information about the history and current function of the Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (see materials “NOMHE Intro Status” and “ASTHO Health Equity in Grantmaking 2018”). In 1985 a landmark report was released by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) entitled “Report of the Secretary’s Task Force on Black and Minority Health”. The report was also known as the “Heckler Report”, named after former HHS Secretary Margaret Heckler. The report outlined the numbers and causes of deaths attributed to health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities.

In July 2020 Ms. Dortch authored a White Paper to be used by elected officials in legislature to identify health disparities in Nevada’s racial and ethnic minorities as related to Covid-19’s impact. As a result of the Heckler Report, minority health was elevated to a national priority status and the United States Office of Minority Health was established in 1986. The 2010 Affordable Care Act served to reauthorize that Office.

The Nevada Office of Minority Health was established in 2005. Its mission was to improve the quality of and access to healthcare services, disseminate information, and educate the public. There was a period of approximately two years of defunded status (2015-2017). In 2017 the late Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson sponsored Assembly Bill 141. With the passage of that bill the office changed its name to the Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE). The addition of the word “Equity” reflected a redirected focus towards systemic change in the health equity sector. The NOMHE officially adopted the definition of “minority” to include all marginalized communities and demographics including racial and ethnic groups, people who identify as differently abled, and the LGBTQ community. Ms. Dortch became the Program Manager in January 2018. The NOMHE has a 9-member Advisory Committee.

Ms. Dortch shared information regarding the NOMHE signature initiatives including Health in All Policies (HiAP), Diversification of Clinical Trials, and Ally Trainings. The NOMHE capacity including the funding history, current staffing, and programmatic support structure was explained. Specific activities related to Covid-19's disproportionate impact on Nevada's Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), Differently Abled, and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) communities were discussed. The NOMHE is in the process of creating a Covid-19 Toolkit which will serve as a repository of resources to develop equitable Covid-19 responses with long-term resiliency. The NOMHE is addressing coronavirus containment through vaccination and flu vaccine hesitancy. Governor Sisolak's Proclamation Recognizing Racism as a Public Health Crisis and the NOMHE's efforts to support the Proclamation were discussed. Ms. Dortch discussed activating health equity through the grantmaking process.

Amy Kelley asked for the budget figures.

Ms. Dortch said the budget is at approximately \$140,000 and directed attention to page 4 in the materials "NOMHE Capacity".

Ms. Kelley thanked Ms. Dortch and commented that the work seems so much more than the budget.

Mr. Serrano commended Ms. Dortch for the NOMHE's accomplishments given the small budget and will be interested in hearing how the work is progressing.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited any other questions or comments. There were no other questions or comments.

**V. Draft Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fund for a Healthy Nevada (FHN); Independent Living; and Positive Behavioral Support, Diane Thorkildson**

Ms. Lucido said the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Fund for a Healthy Nevada (FHN) funds will be released on November 1, 2020. Questions will be accepted until November 30, 2020 and written responses will be returned by December 10, 2020. The NOFO will close on January 15, 2021. The evaluation teams will be called together in February. The evaluation teams would provide a list of their recommendations to the GMAC in March 2021. A special meeting of the GMAC may be needed, perhaps in March 2021. After the recipients are chosen, the Notice of Subawards (NOSAs) would be written in April 2021.

The Nutrition NOFO will be released the beginning of January 2021 as well as the Child Protective funding. The GMAC will be included in those evaluations and the recommendations will come back to this group. The funds were moved out of the Grants Management Unit during the last legislative session, but the evaluations are still done by the GMAC.

Ms. Kelley asked if the GMAC would see the NOFO before it is officially released.

Ms. Lucido responded they will not see the NOFO before it is released. The GMAC was provided a template example of the NOFO at the last meeting and there was some discussion about the template.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

**VI. Meeting dates for 2021 (January 21<sup>st</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, and October 21<sup>st</sup>), Diane Thorkildson**

Chair Ms. Thorkildson said the proposed dates for quarterly meetings are January 21, 2021, April 15, 2021, July 15, 2021, and October 21, 2021 and there may be a special meeting in March of 2021.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

**VII. FRC Strengths & Sustainability Report, August 2020, Connie Lucido**

Ms. Lucido discussed the FRC Strengths and Sustainability Report Final August 2020 (see material “FRC Strengths and Sustainability Report Final August 2020”). The Report will be posted on the DHHS-GMU website, sent out on the ListServ, and shared with Divisions.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

**VIII. Action Item: New Member Review and Possible Nomination, Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC), Diane Thorkildson**

Chair Ms. Thorkildson asked if Lisa Genasci’s position as Chief Grants Officer for Catholic Charities is a potential conflict of interest which would need to be reviewed by the Deputy District Attorney?

Ms. Lucido said Ms. Genasci’s position shouldn’t cause any conflict of interest problems as long as disclosures and recusals are maintained.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited a motion to approve Ms. Genasci’s appointment to the Grants Management Advisory Committee. Amy Kelley made the motion and Tom McCoy seconded the motion. The motion passed without discussion, oppositions, or abstentions.

**IX. Other Information Items, Diane Thorkildson**

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

**X. Public Comment #2**

Chair Ms. Thorkildson invited questions or comments.

Linda Anderson thanked the Committee for an informative and well-run meeting.

**XI. Additional Announcements and Adjournment, Diane Thorkildson**

There were no additional announcements.

Chair Ms. Thorkildson adjourned the meeting at 10:53 A.M.