

**Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)  
Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC)  
Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect**

**Draft Meeting Minutes March 4, 2019**

**Meeting Locations**

Division of Health and Human Services, 4150 Technology Way, Room 303, Carson City NV 89706  
Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4220 S. Maryland Pkwy, Building D Suite 810, Las Vegas NV 89119

**Members Present**

Allison (Ali) Caliendo  
Amy Kelley  
Fernando Serrano  
Fred Schultz  
Jeff Fontaine

**Members Absent**

None

**Others Present**

Connie Lucido, Chief, Cathy Council, Julieta Mendoza, and Kayla Jacobs, Office of Community Partnerships and Grants (OCPG), DHHS Director's Office.  
Ariel, Wells Family Resource Center  
Daniele Dreitzer, Rape Crisis Center  
Dustin Howard, The Children's Cabinet  
Erika Lera, Ron Wood  
Janice Davies, The Children's Cabinet  
Jacqueline Kleindler, The Children's Cabinet  
Judy Andreson, Elko Family Resource Center  
Jesse Kleinedler, The Children's Cabinet  
Jesse, Boys Town  
Koring Viehueg, RAVE  
Lauren Brown, UNR, Nevada PBIS  
Lauren, Boys and Girls Club Truckee Meadows  
Lisa Lee, Advocates to End Domestic Violence  
Lisa Yesitis, Ron Wood  
Marty Elquist, The Children's Cabinet  
Rebecca LeBean, Child Assault Prevention  
Sarah Beers, Clark County DFS  
Tara Phebus, Prevent Child Abuse

**Call to Order**

Fernando Serrano, chair, called the Prevention Child Abuse and Neglect Committee meeting to order at 2:00PM. Mr. Serrano took roll call and a quorum was confirmed.

## Public Comment #1

None

### Discussion of 2020-2021 Grant Award Request for Application(RFA) Reviews

Mr. Serrano opened the discussion with an overview of the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (PCAN) [scoring sheet](#). Mr. Serrano went over the top six ranking application in order of descending.

1. Ron Wood,
2. Tahoe Safe Alliance,
3. Olive Crest,
4. UNR, Dice Center,
5. Wells Family Resource Center,
6. Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows,
6. UNR, Healthy Home.

Mr. Serrano stated within the top six there is a good cross-section throughout Nevada. Mr. Serrano then asked the committee on their thoughts.

- Allison (Ali) Caliendo spoke regarding the need for looking at grant application if they are crisis intervention, child protection, or parent training.
- Fred Schultz stated to commend those who put the work into their application whether they scored high or low, it is a lot of work.
- Jeff Fontaine commented that geographic distribution of funds should be considered. Some applicants might not have scored high but are needed within the communities.
- Amy Kelley wanted to acknowledge all the work that was done within each application and wanted to second what Mr. Fontaine had stated; that geographic location is important to make sure the needs are met of the communities.

Mr. Serrano stated there will be tough decision to be made in have \$7 million requested and only 1.5 million available to distribute. In terms of geographic locations there is a good cross-section, but a little lite in Clark county. Mr. Serrano stated if the funds could be distributed down further to Boys Town, to Clark County DFS that would cover more of Clark County. Mr. Serrano asked the committee for their thoughts on how to distribute the funds to have full coverage of Nevada.

- Mr. Fontaine commented to look at what is being requested by the applicants. The amounts being requested could be reduced, but the current top counties are a good coverage.
- Ms. Caliendo stated it is still important what the applicants are asking for and what will be provided; as of the current top applicants there are no parenting classes that will be provided in Clark County.
- Mr. Serrano stated there are 33 applicants and the discussion is talking in adding the top ten applicants.
  - Ms. Kelley agreed that distributing funds to more partners would be beneficial and to look at funded at a certain percentage to be able to fund more applicants.
  - Mr. Schultz commented the big dollar amount was going to be awarded to #3 (Olive Crest) and #4 (UNR, Dice Center) applicants to provide more funding to other partners.

Ms. Kelley had a question for Boys Town in the intervention application that it was a home visitation program that had a strong parenting program for families that had high-risk factors in it?

Ms. Stapler, Boys Town, responded Yes, it is a home visiting program.

Mr. Fontaine stated that Nye Communities Coalition was only requesting \$13,000 and Wells Family Resource Center was also very modest in requesting \$13,000. UNR, Mineral was also not requesting as much as some of the other applicants with \$50,000 for one year.

Judy Andreson, Family Resource Center of Northeastern Nevada (FRCNN) interjected that the amount shown on the spreadsheet in FY21 request was incorrect and should be \$65,069. Ms. Andreson stated the service center is all of Elko county.

- Ms. Council stated that it would be corrected.
  
- Ms. Kelley requested clarification on the spreadsheet and the amount requested from FRCNN. Ms. Anderson, FRCNN, that the FY21 requested should be \$65,069 instead of \$130,138. MS. Anderson confirmed that was correct.
- Mr. Fontaine asked the applicants in the Elko area if their services were all of Elko or just the city of Elko? Ms. Anderson responded it was all of Elko. Mr. Fontaine asked if there were overlapping services between Wells FRC and FCNN? Ms. Howell stated their service areas were Wells, Jackpot, and West Windover; FRCNN does provide services in all of Elko county.
- Mr. Serrano recommended to keep Wells and FRCNN in the grant funding.

Mr. Serrano gave an overview of the current discussion already had thus far and the importance of looking at Clark county and parenting classes.

- Ms. Caliendo stated the importance of all areas not just Clark county and parenting classes. Making sure crisis intervention and child protection are just as important.
- Connie Lucido commented that the staff does not have the additional information on-hand with which applicants are under what category and that is something that could be provided.
- Mr. Serrano spoke on Clark County DFS fitting the need of geographic and being a parenting class.
- Ms. Kelley commented regarding Ms. Caliendo's concern with the balance of crisis intervention, parenting classes and parent training and stated that they committee needs to pull the applications and have more of a discussion and a reformatting of funds. Ms. Kelley requested an asset map to show where the lack of services are based off counties.
  - Ms. Lucido commented that DHHS staff can provide an asset map.

Mr. Serrano discussed the asset map stating that it was a good idea and wanted to know what the top six applicants to include the ties of sixth place, Nye Communities Coalition, UNR Mineral, FRCNN, Wells FRC, and Clark County DFS would be if awarded and how much funds would be left if any.

- Mr. Fontaine requested additional information from a Clark County DFS representative regarding their resources and programs that are in Clark County.
  - Ms. Beers, Clark County DFS, responded the organization provides parent education and receive funding from multiple agencies, the application is requested for five programs.

- Mr. Schultz asked for the total that was being asked to provide to add Rape Crisis Center, due to their success.
- Ms. Lucido gave the total of \$1,176,603.00 with the funding that is available to award being \$781,942.00
  - Ms. Caliendo asked if the higher ranks were being skipped over and in fairness the applicants to be chosen should be over a certain percentage.
  - Mr. Serrano stated if going through the rank, the top six and ties surpass the awarded amount.
  - Mr. Fontaine stated in looking at the difference in scores between the top six and the top nine, there is not much of a difference. The scores are too close.
  - Ms. Caliendo agreed all the scores are so close and to be careful of interrater bias.
  - Ms. Kelley commented that the costs of the programs are calculated by the programs, a different amount may be granted to the applicants and geography needs to be weighted in the decision and to encourage going down the list to fund as many as responsible.
  - Ms. Caliendo and Mr. Serrano agreed with Ms. Kelley.

Mr. Serrano asked the committee for recommendations on the best way to fund as many applicants as possible. Another discussion ensued.

- Ms. Kelley provided a recommendation by percentages; to reduce everyone by a certain percentage, but to set a threshold and to keep modest request from the reduction. Ms. Kelley suggested Nye Communities Coalition and FRCNN from the reduction.
- Mr. Serrano asked DHHS staff to total the amounts with a reduction to the scores of 77.5 or higher.

Mr. Serrano called a break. A seven-minute break ensued.

- Mr. Serrano commented after the break \$1.3 Million would be the total of the applicants discussed with a reduction; which would still be over the amount to be able to fund.
  - Mr. Schultz recommended looking at Olive Crest and UNR- Dice Center for reducing as they have a larger request and have additional funding resources verses applicants that do not have addition resources.
  - Ms. Kelley commented that she does not want to punish reducing applicants because they have had success in finding additional resources. Ms. Kelley's preference would be a reduction across the board to be fair to the top applicants that are decided upon.
  - Ms. Kelley asked what the total is for the top nine grants up to UNR Mineral county minus Nye Communities Coalition and FRCNN with a reduction of 70%.
    - Ms. Lucido stated it would be \$1,061,194.00. To exclude Nye and FRNN from the total would be \$1,047,700.00, 70% of that total would be \$733,390.00. The amount available to fund is \$781,942.00. The variance between those is \$48,552.00 available.

- Ms. Caliendo asked what the location is for UNR-Dice Center, while waiting for the answer Ms. Caliendo wanted to put on record that she is uncomfortable with moving forward and not looking at what services that are going to be provided across the state.
  - Ms. Lucido stated the DHHS staff will do the asset map and provide the map to the GMAC on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ms. Lucido stated that UNR-Dice Center is mainly Northern Nevada, but the location doesn't specify what counties.
  - Ms. Caliendo stated the last RFA the applications were stand alone and the applicant wasn't requested to come.
  - Mr. Schultz stated the applicants should be required to come to the RFA meetings in case questions arise.
- Ms. Kelley suggest to not single out any application to not create bias and to create a threshold.

### **Approve Grant Award Recommendations**

Mr. Serrano suggested for a motion to fund the top nine including ties and excluding FRCNN adn and Wells FRC applications, reduce balance by 30% leaving \$48,552, DHHS staff will work on methods to allocate remaining funds.

- Ms. Caliendo stated that she was uncomfortable recommended any applicant without looking at the services that will be needed in parenting classes, crisis intervention, and child abuse prevention.
- Ms. Kelley commented that the committee was not given direction to fund based off the services that are being provided, the committee was directed to rank the applicants.
  - Ms. Caliendo stated that she understood, and the process needs to be looked at, so that it would be in consideration.
  - Ms. Lucido stated that she would like to create a RFA process and bring it for approval to the GMAC.

Ms. Kelley stated that she was not comfortable jumping down the list. The funds to award need to go in order with who is ranked in the top positions recommending those get placed in an asset map and look at 70% funding amount and based on the asset map we can fund one more program. The appropriate program would be the next funded partner in the line which would be Boys Town and the possibility could exist they could not deliver their program on \$50,000 we should look at asset mapping in the first 11 with ranking ties apart from the two FRC. If the assets map comes back with gaps, then look at other grantees.

- Ms. Caliendo suggested going to the top 13 ranked; which would be Rape Crisis Center.
- Ms. Kelley and Mr. Serrano agreed.

Mr. Serrano motioned to recommend funding with a reduction of 30% to the top nine to include the ties and exclude the two rural FRCs from the reduction. DHHS to create and asset map for ranks 1 through 13.

- Ms. Kelley motioned, Mr. Schultz 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried unopposed.

## **Public Comment #2**

Las Vegas-

- Daniel Dreitzer, Rape Crisis Center, asked if the Social Security Block Grant would be allocated towards child abuse prevention and underfunded applicants in the children's trust fund pool. Who determines the allocation?
  - Ms. Lucido stated that is in the RFA and will be decided upon at the GMAC meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ms. Dreitzer asked if that will be for other applications that could be applied to that money?
  - Ms. Lucido stated the money is used to fund various programs to include tobacco, wellness, and disability.
  
- Tara Phebus, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada, commented she is concerned with the reviewing process and having only two reviewers with such a large gap in the scores.

Carson City-

- Marty Elquist, Childrens Cabinet, commented that she concurs with Ms. Phebus's comment. The discrepancy of the reviewer's scores. Douglas the variance is 50 points. Ms. Elquist stated when looking at asset mapping to look at the variances because most of them are over ten points; Look at the range of your reviewers and how they were scoring. Some kept scoring high as to some scored low.
- Korine Viehueg, RAVE, stated she was concerned about the same big difference in scores. RAVE also wrote a Respite Grant. The subcommittees are very different on how they are spreading the funding out there is a lot of personal beliefs on how the money should be funded.
- Rebecca LeBean, Child Assault Prevention, stated she was also concerned that child self-protection was not looked at and each category is super important and with the scores the way they are the ruling the way it is, it would leave three counties without child protection. Ms. LeBean stated she was under the impression when writing grants, they would look at by category and not lumped in together.

## **Additional Announcements and Adjournment**

Mr. Serrano asked for additional comments.

Ms. Caliendo recommended to look at category and all committee members evaluate going forward to not have interrater bias.

- Meeting adjourned at 4:00PM.