

Transition to Stability and Self-Sufficiency
A Nevada ROMA Report on the Impact of CSBG Funded Programs and Services on Nevada's
Low Income Population
July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017

Background

The Nevada Community Action Network is comprised of 12 Community Action Agencies that provide a range of social services to Nevada's low income population. Each agency receives Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds in addition to funds from other public and private entities.

The Network provides services based on client income and need. Eligible clients cannot have income greater than 125% of the federal poverty level and need is determined by initial placement on 12 scales of well-being. These 12 scales collectively are known as the Nevada Primary Assessment and are administered to all clients as part of the initial Intake and Assessment process. These scales in alphabetical order are:

- Early Childhood Education
- Education-Adults/Youth (Over 18)
- Energy and Utilities
- Employment
- Food and Nutrition
- Household Budgeting
- Housing
- Health Insurance-Children
- Health Insurance-Adults
- Human Services
- Primary Healthcare
- Transportation

The first or initial assessment is the baseline from which all change is measured. A client's placement on the initial assessments helps determine whether a service is provided and the type of service. A follow-up assessment is either conducted immediately after provision of the service (known as the quick assessment) or no longer than 90 days after the service is provided. It is from these reassessments using the same 12 scales of Nevada Primary Assessment that impact is measured.

What is Impact?

Impact is defined as a positive change in status measured by movement from initial placement below to above the Prevention Line. In the sample Food and Nutrition scale, one of the 12 scales of the Nevada Primary Assessment, there are five benchmarks separated by a Prevention Line:

- Thriving
 - Safe
 - Stable
- Prevention Line
- Vulnerable
 - In-Crisis

Benchmarks below the Prevention Line are considered measures of dependence and benchmarks above the Prevention Line are considered measures of independence. The goal of the CSBG program is to provide services to persons in a state of dependence with the expectation that they move above the Prevention Line to Stability and possibly Self-Sufficiency measured by subsequent placement in the Stable, Safe and Thriving benchmarks.

Benchmarks	Food and Nutrition	Score
Thriving	Able to afford any food choices without food programs	10
Safe	Able to afford most food choices without food programs	8
Stable	Able to obtain basic food through enrollment or re-enrollment in SNAP, WIC or participation in other public food programs	6
	Prevention Line	
Vulnerable	Has SNAP, WIC or other public food programs; needs to reapply to continue benefits	4
	Unable to afford food; uses a food bank, pantry or vouchers	3
In-Crisis	Unable to afford or obtain sufficient food	1

For example, positive impact occurs when the client moves from below to above the Prevention Line upon receipt of a food service.

The Methodology

The report methodology consists of two questions:

- How many clients came in below the Prevention Line on the initial assessment? This is denominator.
- How many of the same clients that came in below the Prevention Line on the initial assessment, moved above the Prevention Line following receipt of a service? This is numerator.

$$\frac{\text{\# of same clients below Prevention Line that moved above the Prevention Line}}{\text{\# clients below Prevention Line on initial assessment}}$$

For example, to measure positive change, a percentage was calculated using the above equation.

$$\frac{\text{30 same clients below Prevention Line that moved above the Prevention Line}}{\text{100 clients below Prevention Line on initial assessment}}$$

The above calculation indicates that 30% of persons initially assessed below the Prevention Line moved above the Prevention Line indicating movement from a status of dependency to stability and/or self-sufficiency, fulfilling the mission of Community Action.

Impact data for this report is based on 33,206 reassessments conducted by the 12 Community Action agencies across the entire state of Nevada during the period July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017.

Findings

Positive change was found across all 12 scales of the Nevada Primary Assessment. The percent changes are in descending order beginning with the largest percent change. The 12 scales are in four groups because of the similarity of the numbers.

Group One

- 35.10%-Energy and Utilities
- 33.20%-Early Childhood Education
- 33.02%-Human Services (See Attachment One-Human Services)

These three scales are grouped together since their percentage change is virtually identical, all around 33%.

Group Two

- 20.70%-Housing
- 15.00%-Food and Nutrition
- 13.74%-Employment

These three scales are grouped together as they constitute a close range.

Group Three

- 8.54%-Health Insurance-Children
- 8.53%-Health Insurance-Adults
- 8.47%-Primary Healthcare

These three scales are grouped together since their percentage change is virtually identical, all around 8.5%.

Group Four

- 7.82%-Household Budgeting
- 5.49%-Education-Adults/Youth (Over 18)
- 5.14%-Transportation

These three scales are grouped together since their percentage change is in a narrow range.

The actual numbers are in the table on Attachment Two.

Conclusion

The State of Nevada's CSBG program is able to demonstrate the positive impact it has on the lives of its low-income population. A next step would be a subsequent report on the services that supported clients in their positive change from dependency to stability and transition to self-sufficiency.

Attachment One-Human Services

Human Service Provided Directly by Nevada's Community Action Agencies or by Referral to Other Community Based Organizations

Programs, Services and Basic Needs

- Angel Tree-Christmas gifts for children
- Annual Memberships
- Application Assistance-Protective Order
- Aging & Disability Services
- Backpack Program-Back to school supplies
- Basic Needs
- Birth Certificate
- Car Seats
- Children's Disability Support Services
- Child Protection Services
- Class Fees/Expenses (Cost of class or training)
- Class Required Supplies
- Clothing
- Cribs for Kids
- Community Service
- Computer Lab Access
- County Abandoned Body Burial
- Cremation
- Diapers
- Disconnect Assistance
- Domestic Violence
- Elder Protective Reports
- Enrollment Fees
- Furniture
- Guardianship
- Home Visiting Service
- Homemaker Services
- Informational Seminars on community access
- Intergenerational Activities
- Jacket Program-Jackets for children or adults
- Life Skills Workshop
- Legal Assistance
- Life Skills Coaching
- Life Skills Workshop
- Mentoring

- Outreach
- Public Guardian
- Senior Community Opportunities
- Recreation
- Resource Liaison
- Thrift Store Vouchers
- Utility Assistance- Water/Sewer
- Veteran Burial Services
- Veterans Support Services
- Victim Assistance
- Victim Support
- Walmart Gift Card

Attachment Two-Transition to Stability and Self-Sufficiency		
Nevada Primary Assessment Scales	State	% Change
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Energy/Utilities	569	
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line-Energy/Utilities	1621	35.10%
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Early Childhood Ed	402	
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line-Early Childhood Ed	1211	33.20%
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Human Services	602	
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line-Human Services	1823	33.02%
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Housing	393	
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line-Housing	1898	20.70%
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Food/Nutrition	467	
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line-Food/Nutrition	3115	15.00%
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Employment	417	
Number of clients who came in below the Prevention Line-Employment	3036	13.74%
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Health Insurance, Child	49	
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line-Health Insurance, Child	574	8.54%
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Health Insurance, Adults	129	
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line-Health Insurance, Adults	1512	8.53%
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Primary Healthcare	78	
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line-Primary Healthcare	921	8.47%
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Household Budgeting	292	
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line-Household Budgeting	3736	7.82%
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Education-Adults/Youth	67	
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line-Education-Adults/Youth	1220	5.49%
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line and moved above the Prevention Line-Transportation	53	
How many clients came in below the Prevention Line-Transportation	1030	5.14%