

**CARSON CITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
APPLICATION REVIEW WORKGROUP**

Minutes of the March 1, 2006 Meeting

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A meeting of the Carson City Community Development Block Grant Application Review Workgroup was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2006 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Shelly Aldean
Abby Johnson
Javier Ramirez
Steve Shaw
John Walker

STAFF: Joe McCarthy, Economic Development / Redevelopment Manager
Angela Barosso, Economic Development / Redevelopment Officer
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is available, in the Clerk-Recorder's Office, for review during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER (1-0007) - Chairperson Aldean called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0010) - None.

3. APPLICATION REVIEW (1-0022) - Chairperson Aldean introduced Mr. McCarthy and Ms. Barosso. Ms. Barosso reviewed the responsibilities of the workgroup, the purpose of the meeting, and available funding, as outlined in written documentation distributed to the workgroup members, staff, and the applicants prior to the start of the meeting. Chairperson Aldean introduced the item.

3-A. COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER - METHAMPHETAMINE COUNSELOR - \$49,703 (1-0063) - Steve Burt advised of having received approximately \$19,000 in CDBG funding last year. The original request was for sufficient funding to hire a full time counselor; however, the awarded funding was only sufficient for a part-time position. He requested funding for a full-time counselor position to assist with case management. He advised that Community Counseling Center representatives have been participating in the Methamphetamine Coalition. He further advised that grant funding is also being pursued for other staff positions. He further advised that the Community Counseling Center served 1622 different Carson City residents last year. Fifty-five percent of those people indicated they had used methamphetamine. Mr. Burt anticipates treatment needs will increase.

In response to a question, Mr. Burt advised the position will exist into the future because of need. He reviewed various funding sources, including client fees, United Way, and Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. In response to a further question, Mr. Burt advised the existing part-time position has been funded by the CDBG grant allocation received last year. In response to a question, he advised that anyone who meets the criteria of chemical dependency and substance abuse qualifies for the program. Approximately

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95% of the clients are court ordered, from the Nevada Rural Regional Drug Court system, the Justice Court, or the Department of Parole and Probation. In response to a further question, Mr. Burt advised that the Community Counseling Center offers free substance abuse evaluations for the Justice Court.

In response to a question, he explained that the application delineates the number of people one person could treat over a period of one year. He acknowledged that most of the clients are presently in the system and that the counselors are licensed to treat alcohol and drug abuse clients. He advised that the counselor salary is below current pay standards in Reno and Las Vegas. Consideration is being given to increasing the salary range. Mr. Burt responded to additional questions regarding the salary scale. Ms. Barosso advised the current part-time counselor earns \$19 per hour. In response to a question, Mr. Burt advised there are no current employee turn over problems. In response to a further question, he advised that approximately ten contract employees conduct group sessions. There are approximately 27 full-time employees. Contractors are paid by group. In response to a further question, Mr. Burt advised that the Community Counseling Center serves residents across the region. He reiterated the various funding sources and responded to questions regarding fees received from the drug court system.

3-B. NEVADA HEALTH CENTERS, INC. - ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR THE UNINSURED - \$98,403 (1-0193) - Development Director Shirley Hampton clarified a misunderstanding as to the amount of funding requested in her application. She provided background information on Nevada Health Centers, Inc. and its sliding fee schedule. She reviewed the application for funding to hire an eligibility worker at Sierra Family Health Centers in Carson City where approximately 4,000 patients are seen annually. There are two physician assistants and two physicians on staff. The eligibility worker would enroll eligible children in the Nevada Checkup program. Ms. Hampton acknowledged her intent to amend the amount requested to cover hiring one eligibility worker rather than two. She advised that the eligibility worker will also work with adults who may be eligible for Medicaid benefits. She anticipates that, with the eligibility worker, revenue will increase so that over an approximately two-year period, the position would be self-sustaining.

Ms. Hampton reviewed the request for funding a marketing campaign in order to increase community awareness of the Sierra Family Health Centers. She distributed to the work group members a brochure. She advised of having recently received a federal grant for the purpose of expanding the medical center. Relocation to a larger facility was scheduled for March and Ms. Hampton advised that another physician would be hired.

In response to a question, Ms. Hampton estimated that 35% of the total number patients seen annually are Hispanic. At Chairperson Aldean's request, she described the sliding fee schedule which is federally established and the emphasis on preventive care. In response to a request to prioritize the requests, she expressed the opinion that both the marketing campaign and the eligibility worker would "work hand-in-hand." Ms. Barosso advised the revised figure for one eligibility worker would be \$30,201, for a total request amount, including the marketing campaign, of \$68,201. Ms. Hampton advised that less funding for advertising would work. She responded to questions regarding the Sierra Family Health Centers association with Great Basin Health Care. She acknowledged that patients from outside Carson City can

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also receive care. She further acknowledged the advertising would be targeted to Carson City. She responded to additional questions regarding the proposed salary for the eligibility worker, training, existing staff, and the funding for the marketing campaign portion of the request.

3-C. NEVADA HISPANIC SERVICES - CARSON CITY - LA PUERTA ABIERTA (THE OPEN DOOR - \$63,200 (1-0500) - Chairperson Aldean noted there was no representative from Nevada Hispanic Services at the meeting.

3-D. NEVADA RURAL COUNTIES RSVP PROGRAM, INC. - LIFELINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS - \$25,200 (1-0507) - Mike Hughes introduced Barbara Brownlee, and reviewed the funding request for the Lifeline Program. In response to a question, Mr. Hughes advised there are 100 residents enrolled in Carson City enrolled in the program. Seventy of those are subsidized through funding allocated from the Division of Aging Services. In response to a further question, he advised that the source of the Division of Aging Services funding has been tobacco settlement monies. These are diminishing 15 to 20% each year and will eventually be used up. Mr. Hughes acknowledged the subject funding request was to sustain the existing program, not add units. He advised that Nevada Rural Counties RSVP is seeking to add a line item in the Governor's budget for the Lifeline Program. He acknowledged that all 100 program participants are Carson City residents. He responded to additional questions regarding the request to add a line item in the Governor's budget. He acknowledged that a line item in the Governor's budget would make the program available statewide. Ms. Brownlee advised that some of the area hospitals have lifeline programs; however, low income participants are referred to the Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Program. She responded to questions regarding program fees and subsidizations. Mr. Hughes acknowledged that any amount of funding would be helpful. In response to a further question, he advised that presentations have been made to various service clubs and community organizations to request funding.

3-E. RURAL CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING, INC. - STABLE HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS - \$34,487 (1-0695) - DeeDee Foremaster provided background information on the Do Drop In Center in Carson City which has been in operation since August 2005. She advised that the Do Drop In Center provides services to an average of 250 people per month. She reviewed extensive statistical information on the people served by the Center. She advised that the Center represents a "community investment" and provided additional statistical information on the number of hours invested by volunteers. She reviewed the request for funding to hire a coordinator to assist the homeless and "those in danger of becoming homeless." She estimated a potential \$4,851,000 savings to the City by hiring a coordinator.

Ms. Foremaster acknowledged the requested funding would provide for her salary. She further acknowledged that the Rural Center for Independent Living will be subsidizing the Do Drop In Center, but anticipates a two-year time period before funding is actually allocated. She discussed other potential funding sources, and advised of having been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Development Disabilities Services. In response to a question, she advised that the Do Drop In Center works "hand-in-hand" with FISH. In response to a further question, she described the interface between FISH and the Do Drop In Center. She advised of having recently moved into a new building, and that the Center hours are 9:00 a.m.

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to 3:00 p.m. She responded to questions regarding the tax return included in the work group members' agenda materials, funding for the bookkeeper's and grant administrator's salaries, funding for health care. In response to a further question, she explained the process for assisting one homeless person. She acknowledged that the Do Drop In Center refers people to the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation.

(1-1096) Chris Bayer of CASA referred to discussions at last year's meeting regarding the mental health model versus the disability model in conjunction with a homeless day shelter. He related a specific example in favor of the disabilities model. Discussion followed, and Mr. Bayer expressed the hope that the City would work with Ms. Foremaster to structure the Do Drop In Center's accounting system, as appropriate.

Chairperson Aldean thanked the applicants for their presentations.

4. STAFF COMMENTS (1-1185) - Ms. Barosso thanked the applicants for their attendance and participation.

5. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1184) - Member Walsh moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:01 p.m. Member Shaw seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the March 1, 2006 Carson City Community Development Block Grant Application Review Work Group meeting are respectfully submitted this 11th day of May, 2006.

ALAN GLOVER, Clerk-Recorder

By: _____
Kathleen King, Deputy Clerk / Recording Secretary