



New Directions Flagship Issue

By Marilyn Wills, Deputy Administrator

Welcome to the first edition of the Nevada Grantee Newsletter!

New Directions will facilitate the Resource Development Unit of the Division for Aging Services to do everything possible to assist our grantees in the successful continuation of their programs, and when achievable, increase your ability to meet the growing needs of Nevada's senior population.

Some of the strategies to provide increased support to our grantees will include the following:

- Publishing and distributing a quarterly newsletter with fiscal and programmatic tips to help you better understand our complicated processes and rules
- Streamlining the grant application to make it more user-friendly, and moving to a "Logic Model" design – you will hear much more about this later!
- Improving the grant review process to reinstitute outside reviewers.
- Clarifying reporting requirements for the diverse types of funding.
- Offering training modules designed to assist you in better understanding fiscal monitoring and reporting.
- Providing increased assistance in awareness of additional funding opportunities.

Our Resource Development Specialists have worked extremely hard over the years to provide useful and appropriate technical advice. However, together we are planning changes in some of our policies and procedures to simplify grantee requirements.

As all of you already struggle to operate your programs on limited funds and with minimal staff, every one of us recognizes that federal and state funding streams continue to diminish. In particular, the Independent Living Grant (ILG) funds (on which many of you rely) are decreasing annually.

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Fiscal Update

By Vern Dixon, Auditor III

We are now going on the second year of having a full staff of three Auditors. If you haven't met or know who they are it's because they are assigned programs in their regions. Charlene Foley is assigned the programs in Northern and Northeastern Nevada. Robert Williamson is assigned the programs in Southern Nevada, which also includes programs located in Nye, Eureka and White Pine Counties. Vern Dixon is assigned programs that have unique issues. For fiscal information or technical assistance, please call the following:

- Charlene Foley: (775) 687-4210 ext 257
- Robert Williamson: (702) 486-3560
- Vern Dixon: (702) 486-3550



With a staff of three, we finally have breathing room by catching up on past due Fiscal Monitorings. This allows us to take more time with conducting the Fiscal Monitorings and be available for more technical assistance. For this year, we will concentrate on how the programs document Match, Program Income and Cost Sharing.

The Division just learned from State Purchasing that as of October 1, 2006, the Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) would not include commodities.

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Instead of constantly trying to do more with less, when possible, we want to assist you in creatively locating other possible ways to support your programs.

Part of this will be to share “best practices” from other grantees that have successfully located additional funding streams, have discovered local resources or developed useful collaborations from which to draw additional revenue. We will also attempt to find and share information on federal, state, county and city funding opportunities of which you may not be aware.

Our goal this year is to think “outside the box” in providing assistance. Please let us know if you have ideas you wish to share with other grantees, or issues with which you need some help.

Older Americans Act

By Mel Phillips, Management Analyst II

President Bush signed in to law H.R. 4957 Reauthorizing the Older Americans Act and H.R. 6197 with the Older Americans Act Amendments on October 17, 2006.

The amendment legislation adds valuable new direction to Older Americans Act programs. Some positive steps taken include: provisions that will embed the “Choices for Independence” initiative within the Act; emphasize health promotion and disease prevention activities including new efforts in the area of mental health; establish aging and disability resource centers in every state; increase authorized funding for the caregiver support programs; and enhance elder abuse prevention programs.

The Older Americans Act Amendments of 2006 aim to meet the needs of current and future older Americans. The bill recognizes the strength of the aging network and the importance of the home and community-based services that the network provides to older Americans and their caregivers.

More detailed information will follow soon with updated PINS and Service Specifications that are affected by the new laws.

SHIP Sails into 2007

By Jeanine Pearce, SHIP Director

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program is a federal grant-funded service from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). SHIP provides information, counseling and assistance services to Medicare beneficiaries, their families and others. This information is available statewide through one-on-one counseling by telephone through the Call Center or at various locations and events from the volunteers.

Advisors provide information on Medicare benefits, including the new Part D Prescription Drug Coverage; Medicare supplemental insurance; long-term care insurance; managed care; Medicaid; related health insurance; beneficiary rights and grievance/appeal procedures. Referrals to other community resources are made as needed.

SHIP services are available forty (40) hours per week (8 am to 4 pm) via a toll-free help line, face-to-face counseling sessions in various senior service organizations and at special events such as health fairs and information events.

Staff and volunteers also conduct educational presentations and provide information as requested to community businesses and organizations. Volunteers are recruited continuously throughout the state. Senior and/or disabled individuals throughout Nevada contact SHIP when seeking information or assistance in determining benefits available, the types and amounts of coverage needed and how to apply for medical benefits.

A Division for Aging web site (www.nvaging.net) is available with links to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and other sites that provide services and information. For more information, contact:

SHIP Hotline — 1-800-307-4444 (Statewide)

Las Vegas Office — 702-486-3478

Reno Office — 775-328-2673

Useful Web Sites:

State of Nevada - Division for Aging Services

<http://nvaging.net>

Department of Health and Human Services - Administration on Aging

<http://www.aoa.gov/about/about.asp>



SCSEP Recognition

By Shirley Chantrill, Resource Development Specialist

The State of Nevada Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) grantee, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, received recognition by the U.S. Department of Labor for achieving the highest performance of any state in the nation in placing seniors in employment for the program year ending June 30, 2006. In addition, the program met or exceeded all negotiated performance measures with at least an 80 percent or better. Performance measures included program enrollment, job placement, employment retention, service to the most in need and customer satisfaction.

The Division thanks Dawn Baker, Senior Programs Executive Director, for her support of the program and program staff, Maggie Mendez, Program Manager, and Shakah Hartoonian, Job Placement Specialist, for their hard work and dedication to the program and to their clients.



Congratulations on a job well done. Catholic Charities will receive recognition from DAS at the next Commission on Aging meeting.

(Fiscal Continued from page 1)

So how has this affected the programs, since some programs have already received commodities?

- The cash portion of the amounts allocated to the programs that no longer receive commodities will increase.
- Some increases may be allocated to the programs that receive 100% cash.
- State Purchasing has commodities in stock that can be ordered by the programs that have been receiving commodities. How much in commodities that programs have already ordered will affect the amount of cash.
- For fiscal year 2008, programs will not need to do a Cash/Commodity Agreement, as all programs will receive 100% grant funds based on the number of meals served the previous year.

Just a reminder that grant applications for Title III-B, Title III-D, Title III-E, State Caregiver, State Transportation, State Volunteer and Alzheimer's Demonstration Programs must be received on or before March 22, 2007 by 4:00 p.m. Mandatory application orientation sessions will be held on the following dates at the following locations: Please note that attendance at one of the orientation sessions is MANDATORY for all applicants, including those who have previously received funding from the Division for Aging Services

Las Vegas – Tuesday, January 30, 2007
9:00 am to 12:00 Noon
Cambridge Recreation Center
3930 Cambridge Street, Room D

Reno -- Wednesday, January 31, 2007
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
South Valley Library, 15650 Wedge Parkway
Conference Room

Elko – Tuesday, February 6, 2007
9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Great Basin College, Student Union
1500 College Parkway, Social Room

Comments or Questions

By Shirley Alloway, Resource Development Specialist



As Resource Development Specialists, we are asked to wear many hats. We try and keep in tune with the pulse of what is happening with senior services and grantees. We are hearing the same buzz words you are, such as evidence based prevention programs, leveraging funding, marketing programs, consumer direction and program integration and coordination. We have many challenges facing us to serve our seniors.

You are all the experts in your field and we are inviting you to actively participate in future editions of the newsletter. Our goal is to have *New Directions* be a useful tool for you. Please send us articles you would like to share with other grantees. Also feel free to submit your questions that may have answers all grantees would enjoy reading to sjalloway@aging.nv.gov. *New Directions* provides us with the opportunity to share and communicate to achieve positive outcomes. We at the Division for Aging are excited about bringing this first edition to you. Future editions will be available on a quarterly schedule.



Best Practices Corner

Fundraising example courtesy of Carson City Senior Center

This sample advertisement is an example of a successful method used to supplement federal and state funding for the nutrition program at the Carson City Senior Center. Janice McIntosh, Director of CCSC, reports it has been a wonderful tool! She indicated "when I started it we did well but I thought it just might be a fluke. Every year it has jumped up. Last fiscal year we received \$73,260.23!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Two years ago at the DAS conference I did a segment on fund raising but it is something good to put in your newsletter because there are always new people. The thing I liked about this is it doesn't take all of our time like other fundraisers."

The local newspaper prints this advertisement free of charge as a public service/donation to the Carson City Senior Center.

Adopt-a-Senior

The Carson City Senior Center presently serves over 100,000 meals annually to senior citizens through two nutrition programs, the Meals on Wheels program (MOWs), and our Congregate dining room at the Center. These senior nutrition programs only receive funding of approximately 2/3 of the cost from State and Federal Grants. The MOWs program incurs additional expenses for delivery of the meals such as wages for delivery staff, additional necessary supplies, and specialized equipment. We request a contribution for the other 1/3 of the cost of the meals from program recipients. However, not all seniors are able to afford to pay the full suggested contribution rate. As a not-for-profit organization, you can see why our senior nutrition program depends upon the caring support of community partners such as you.

The cost is figured based on one meal, five days a week. For many program participants, meals are provided for seven days a week.

2007

Yes, I would like to Adopt-A-Senior for:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One Month - \$44.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Six Months - \$264.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One Quarter - \$132.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> One Year - \$528.00 |

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Daytime Phone _____

I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to Carson City Senior Center, 911 Beverly Drive, Carson City, NV 89706

