

NEVADA CARE CONNECTION

Quarterly Meeting
September 14, 2005
9:30 am
Legislative Counsel Bureau
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV. 89701
(775) 684-6800

PARTICIPATING: Sara Brower (Lyon County), Linda Bond (Mineral County Care & Share), Dan Clarke (Washoe County I.T.), Carolyn Gillis (Mineral County Care & Share), Cindy Martinez (Home Health Services), Diane Ross (The Continuum), Teresa Sacks (Sanford Center for Aging/UNR) Larry Weiss (Sanford Center for Aging/UNR), Shirley Wright (Lyon County Human Services), Janice McIntosh (Carson City Senior Center), Diana Higgs (EOB) Gary Pfeiffer (EOB) Sylvia Elexpuru (CornerStone Health Management), Karen Smouse (CornerStone Health Management) Claudia Collins (UNR Cooperative Extension), Bob Pettit (County Social Services).

DAS STAFF: Mel Phillips, Carol Sala, Kristi Martin, Deborah Cormier, Yolanda Pitts, Marcia Cuccaro, Tina Gerber-Winn, Dale Ann Luzzi, Donna Fowlkes, Becky Boatwright, Wanda Brown, Shirley Chantrill.

1. **Welcome and Introductions- Tina Gerber-Winn**
2. **Reports from Partners**

Mineral County Care & Share- Carolyn Gillis

Mina's project NEON site is up and running. Mineral County was awarded a grant from the World Doc Foundation. This will enable seniors to go on line and see all their prescriptions. They will have the option of printing out the information to take to their health care professional for evaluation. MCCA is also in the process of updating their resource list and are always looking for new resources. Any new resources will be forward to Diane Ross at The Continuum.

The Continuum- Diane Ross

Nevada Care Connection website has been revised. There are now more resources, it is more user friendly and the search feature has been improved. The Continuum was awarded grant funds for marketing. With the funding, they produced the NVCC DVD and mailed out one hundred fifty DVDs to Legislators, public officials and other community organizations. They are in the process of doing a mass marketing of the new brochure, which will include all senior centers and grantees. Diane has a new hire that will take over the phones and handle the information and referral. The new I & R specialist has never used the web site, which is good. She will be a good resource for Diane and her Webmaster in developing a more user-friendly site.

Washoe County Senior Center- Dan Clarke

Dan said the kiosks have been received well. To date they have had 4,444 hits on the Kiosks. The information from the Washoe County kiosk has been downloading to the City of Reno sites. To date, there have been one-hundred and one hits. Dan attended the AIRS Annual National Conference in Tucson. He conducted a workshop on the use of the technology for I & R. Tricia Beaupre has successfully passed the AIRS certification test. She is the first Social Worker in Nevada to be awarded the Certification for Information and Referral Specialist for Aging. Washoe County is in the final process before signing their contract with Synergy. Dan also attended the Synergy user conference in Vermont. He learned more about Synergy and how it will meet Washoe County's needs. Washoe County has a new hire, Mindy Gonzales. Her responsibilities will include kiosk maintenance, organizing the volunteers to assist with the maintenance, and the Synergy installation.

Carson City Senior Center- Janice McIntosh

Carson City Senior Center is a project NEON site. This was Janice's first meeting with NVCC. CCSC is in the process of updating their website. They are currently bidding on new software. The Senior Center recently hosted Wal-Mart's job fair. This brought in many seniors who had never been to the center before. The Senior Center worked in conjunction with Janice Ayres at RSVP, to distribute food coupons for the Farmers Market. Over three hundred new seniors became familiar with the center. The Senior Center has fifteen computers and most of senior population doesn't have much computer experience. So the senior center has made available computer classes to assist them. CCSC has applied for an Adult Day care license. Janice is working closely with the Bureau of Licensure and Certification to ensure they receive the license. The Senior Citizens' affordable housing complex is currently under construction. CCSC had already received approval for a second unit. Construction will start as soon as the first one is completed.

Sanford Center for Aging/UNR- Larry Weiss and Teresa Sacks

Teresa has completed the partner training. She has traveled across the state conducting training on the Instructor Training manual. Teresa has trained one-hundred twenty nine participants to date, which represents three hundred and eight seven-contact hours. The State of Nevada Board of Examiners approved the training curriculum for 2.75 continuing education units for Social Workers. The Sanford Center has completed the fourth informational portal newsletter for the year.

Lyon County Human Services-Shirley Wright

Shirley said that Nevada Care Connection is a great success in the rural areas. They have had their hands in the areas of Dayton, Fernley, and Silver Springs. Shirley is currently branching out to the Yerington and Mason Valley area. The Nevada Care Connection resources have doubled in the last quarter. NVCC is a great resource for elders and their caregivers by providing them with the information on the types of resources that will enhance their life styles and help them stay home longer. In addition, Lyon County is updating their web page, and they are adding Nevada Care Connection as a link.

Home Health Nevada Care Connection- Cindy Martinez

The call volume has increased with advertisements in the newspaper. The call volume has increased over the last quarter NAPIS report. When they advertise in the newspaper, the call volume increases dramatically over marketing with brochures. HHCC has appointed a staff member as a director coordinator for the program. Cindy said the call volume is good for a small community.

UNR Cooperative Extension-Claudia Collins

Claudia emphasized the need to "train the trainer." Teresa is not available to continually train over and over again. The UNR Cooperative Extension has received a lot more interest in the training now that CEUs are available.

Clark County Social Services-Bob Pettit

Clark County has a new acting director, Nancy McClain. Daryl Martin has moved on to Assistant County Manager. CCSS' major accomplishment in the last quarter is expanding. As of today, they have a full contingent of Social Workers and Eligibility workers. They will be able to process clients more effectively and efficiently. This was the result of a lot of effort from the entire department. They have new equipment and have had some integration problems. They are in the process of trying to resolve those issues.

EOB-Dianna Higgs and Gary Pfeiffer

EOB has had staff changes in the last quarter. Gary Pfeiffer has taken over the Nevada Care Connection from Jennifer Shipley. They are in the process of relocating him to a more accessible place. There will be a lot more walk-ins from the visibility of the location. EOB has been participating in many Senior Fairs. This has given more visibility to Nevada Care Connection. This in turn provides more access for seniors.

3. Division for Aging Services-Mel Phillips

The Division for Aging Services was awarded a three-year, two-hundred-fifty thousand per year, grant for Aging and Disability Resources Centers (ADRC). The award is to develop an information and referral system for long term care. The grant intention parallels Nevada Care Connection efforts. During the first year of the grant, DAS will establish a resource center in Las Vegas. The second year one will be established in Reno, and third will be in Elko during the final grant year. There will also be a website possibly named "Nevada Long Term Care Connection." This grant is jointly sponsored by the Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare.

4. Funding for next year

The information for NGA will be released soon from Vern Dixon. The funding level will be equivalent to the current year.

5. Revised NAPIS reporting

For those grantees already involved in National Aging Program Information Systems (NAPIS) reporting, the reporting process remains the same for the next quarter. For those new to NAPIS reporting, please advise Lisa Cyr in the Reno DAS office if you require training. All reporting should be on the established paperwork system. Grantees will be given access to Synergy for reporting purposes after the first of next year.

6. Open Discussion/Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be a video conference between Carson City, Las Vegas and Elko on December 7, 2005. Details of the meeting will be emailed as soon as they become available.