



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
TASK FORCE FOR THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA
(Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 439.625)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The fourth meeting of the Nevada Legislature’s Task Force for the Fund for a Healthy Nevada was held on May 4, 2006, at 10 a.m. in the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, in Room 4401. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 3138 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. A copy of this set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report,” including the “Meeting Notice and Agenda” ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature’s Webs site at www.leg.state.nv.us/73rd/Interim. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau’s Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Senator Maurice E. Washington, Chairman
Assemblywoman Kathy McClain, Vice Chair
Senator Joe Heck
John Ellerton, M.D.
Elizabeth Fildes, Ed.D., R.N.
Greg Griffin
Thomas May
Paul Stewart, M.D.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Carla Sloan

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Barbara S. Dimmitt, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division
Leslie K. Hamner, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Sara Partida, Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Richard S. Combs, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division
Jeannie Claussen, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Washington called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., and the secretary was asked to call roll. Chairman Washington reminded the Task Force members, as they consider grant applications, to declare for the record any conflict of interest they may have before a vote is taken. He welcomed Tom May, President, HCA Far West Division, to the Task Force. Mr. May replaces Dr. James Swift.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2006, AND FEBRUARY 10, 2006, MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA, MEETING

- The Committee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

DR. ELLERTON MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2006, AND FEBRUARY 10, 2006, MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA, HELD IN LAS VEGAS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL BY NEVADA HEALTH CENTERS, INC. (MILES FOR SMILES) TO SELL A VAN USED AS A MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC AND UTILIZE THE PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIXED-SITE DENTAL OUTREACH FACILITY

- Terri A. Clark, Director of Dental Operations, Nevada Health Centers, Inc., and Steve Hansen, CEO, Nevada Health Centers, Inc., discussed the need to increase access and services for care. The Task Force for the Fund for A Healthy Nevada awarded Miles for Smiles a mobile dental van, which has been operating successfully, but there are restrictions, such as travel time and limited services. By purchasing a fixed location, this would increase the quantity and the types of services. They have found a building and are considering purchasing it. Nevada Health Centers is requesting permission to sell the van and use the proceeds toward the purchase of a fixed site.
- Ms. Clark gave the following responses to questions posed by the Task Force members:
 1. The location of the proposed clinic is on Eastern and Sahara in Las Vegas. This location was selected due to the high concentration of children and easy access by public transportation.

2. The market value of the mobile dental van ranges from \$150,000 to \$210,000. The van would be sold as a complete dental set up. The manufacturer, American Dental Industries, has six interested buyers.
 3. Mobil services will continue to be provided to children and senior citizens to outlying areas on a rotation basis by using the second van.
- Chairman Washington voiced concern about the legality of taking an asset purchased by grant funds and selling it to use it for another purpose. He also asked if the proceeds from the sale of the van would be reverted back to the General Fund or how these funds would be redistributed.
 - Leslie K. Hamner, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, (LCB) advised it was permissible to sell the van as long as the grant contract did not contain a condition prohibiting this action, and any proceeds from the sale of the van would remain with Nevada Health Centers.
 - Laura Hale Chief, Grants Management Unit, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), confirmed that the grant contract contained no condition prohibiting the sale of the van.
 - The Task Force **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

DR. ELLERTON MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE SALE OF THE MOBILE DENTAL VAN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SENATOR HECK MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO ADD THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE NEVADA HEALTH CENTERS WILL REPORT TO THE TASK FORCE THE SALE PRICE OF THE VAN AND REPORT ON THE EXPENDITURE OF THE PROCEEDS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORT ON FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION FROM THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA FOR THE 2006-2007/2007-2008 GRANT CYCLE

- Richard S. Combs, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB, reported on funds available for distribution for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-2008 grant cycle. The Fund for a Healthy Nevada can expect reduction in revenues due to the withholding of payments by tobacco companies participating in the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA), based on their interpretation of certain provisions of the MSA. Mr. Combs presented three options for allocating funds for FY 2008, depending upon what

revenues are received. The Fiscal Division is recommending Option Two. Mr. Combs distributed information showing the revenues available under the three different options ([Exhibit B](#)).

- Mr. May asked what the implications would be if Nevada prevailed in the federal lawsuit, and what would be the downside if Option One was chosen. Mr. Combs responded that if Nevada prevailed in a lawsuit against the tobacco companies that were withholding payment, there would be two choices: (1) allow any additional funds to roll forward; or (2) allocate the funds upon availability. He added that selecting Option One could result in drastic reductions in allocations to grantees in the second year of the grant cycle, if revenues anticipated under this option are not received.
- The Task Force **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF OPTION TWO AND INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE IN THE FY 2008 GRANT CONTRACTS INDICATING THAT GRANT AMOUNTS MAY REQUIRE MODIFICATION IF ANTICIPATED REVENUES ARE NOT ACHIEVED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR HECK AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES COMPRISED JOINTLY OF MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE FOR THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA AND THE GRANTS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GRANT ALLOCATIONS FROM THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA FOR THE 2006-2007/2007-2008 GRANT CYCLE

Laura Hale, previously identified, briefly summarized the grant application and review process and stated that a representative of each Subcommittee would report on that Subcommittee's recommendations for grant allocations.

Discussion ensued regarding procedures for allowing grantees to provide additional information to the Task Force, either verbally or in writing. Ms. Hale stated that the grant application process is a long and arduous one; therefore, deadlines must be followed to provide fairness to all grantees. However, allowing grantees to provide additional information or answer questions is at the discretion of the Chair.

A. Subcommittee No. 1, Independent Living, Housing/Homelessness, and Positive Behavior Support

- Assemblywoman Kathy McClain, Vice Chair, Task Force for the Fund for a Healthy Nevada, and Member of Subcommittee No. 1, announced she was representing Carla Sloan, Chair of Category 1 Subcommittee. She gave an overview of the grant allocations recommended by this Subcommittee.
- Ms. Hale provided information describing the recommended allocations for Subcommittee No. 1, FY 2007-2008 Proposed Allocations ([Exhibit C](#)).

Ms. Hale also presented a table providing additional details concerning recommendations for grant allocations by Subcommittee No. 1. This table included staff technical notes and responses to questions the Subcommittee had posed at its final meeting ([Exhibit D](#)).

- Assemblywoman McClain expressed concern about New Vista Community's statement that all clients served are considered at poverty level because they have been diagnosed with mental retardation. She commented that because a person is diagnosed with retardation does not mean the person is poor.
- Kelly Deguzman, Executive Director, New Vista Community, clarified that the incomes for individuals they support do not exceed \$603 a month. This amount provides for food, room and board, and various services. She said that the Desert Regional Center provides funds to New Vista Community to assist clients in improving their living skills and extra costs not covered by the State are paid out of New Vista Community's overhead. Ms. Guzman agreed to provide Ms. Hale a written statement clarifying her verbal explanation.

B. Subcommittee No. 2, Health, Fitness, and Nutrition

- Senator Joe Heck, Chair, Subcommittee No. 2, and Task Force Member, gave an overview of grants that were processed. In addition, he discussed the Subcommittees goals to provide equity for the areas of: (1) immunizations; (2) health literacy and access; (3) oral health; and (4) fitness and nutrition.
- Ms. Hale provided information describing the recommended allocations for Subcommittee No. 2, FY 2007-2008 Proposed Allocations ([Exhibit E](#) and [Exhibit F](#)). She added that most of the grantees responded positively to the Subcommittee's questions concerning whether they would be able to operate their program at the recommended funding levels. She pointed out that Saint Rose Dominican Health Foundation has been asked to submit an updated memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Nevada Health Centers Miles for Smiles because the MOU submitted with the initial application will expire in June 2006.

C. Subcommittee No. 3, Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention, Including Tobacco

- Elizabeth Fildes, Ed.D., R.N., Chair, Subcommittee No. 3, and Task Force Member, reported on the Subcommittee's priorities for the State's Tobacco Control Plan. Priorities included prevention of initiation of tobacco use, elimination of exposure to second hand smoke, and treatment and support to those attempting to discontinue tobacco use. Senator Washington and Dr. Fildes recommended that any available funds remaining in balance be allocated proportionately to the following groups, using the same guidelines that were used during the Subcommittee process:
 1. Washoe County Health District;
 2. Clark County Health District;
 3. Certification of health care professionals, substance abuse, and mental health professionals, as indicated in the Health Smart proposal; and
 4. New Frontier Treatment Facility.

In addition, recommendations were made concerning procedures and guidelines to be observed by various grantees, as follows:

1. To encourage the Nevada Cancer Institute to focus on Native Americans Initiative;
2. To have the Nevada's State Health Division focus on gathering data on what works, what they encounter, and social marketing in the rural areas;
3. To encourage Clark County Health District and Saint Mary's to work with health care professionals, using evidence-based measurement tools such as those used by the University of California, San Francisco;
4. To provide that middle school and high school interventions focus on teaching life skills and measuring competencies in information taught as part of the intervention; and
5. To require that all programs use the same evidence-based measurement tools, particularly including the American Lung Association and Crackdown on Cancer.

Ms. Hale offered to provide more detailed information in writing to all grantees that will be affected by the recommendations summarized by Dr. Fildes. She also furnished information describing the recommended allocations for Subcommittee No. 3, FY 2007-2008 Proposed Allocations ([Exhibit G](#) and [Exhibit H](#)).

- Ms. Hale noted that an unallocated balance of approximately \$284,000 remained in the Reduce Tobacco Use grant category. Discussion ensued on the interpretation of “proportionately” and how to allocate the \$284,000 to Washoe County Health District, Clark County Health District, Health Smart, and New Frontier over the biennium. Ms. Hale questioned if the funds were to be distributed proportionately by the State’s population and indicated that Clark County currently makes up 68 percent of the State’s population, Washoe County accounts for 17 percent, and the rural areas represent 15 percent.
- In response to Ms. Hale’s questions, Dr. Fildes proposed distributing \$25,000 per biennium to New Frontier, which is partnering with Churchill Community Coalition, and \$62,000 per biennium to Health Smart. She suggested the unallocated balance be distributed proportionately between Washoe County Health District, Clark County Health District, and the rural areas, as noted above.
- Chairman Washington responded to Assemblywoman McClain’s concern about low funding recommended for the Carson Advocates for Cancer Care. He said their score was 71, which did not meet the 75 score threshold. However, the Subcommittee made an exception to the threshold since it was felt this was a viable program.

During additional discussion, Mr. Combs suggested it might be appropriate to use an 80/20 percentage instead of the 68/17/15 percentages of total population when funding Clark County and Washoe County Health Districts, since these programs did not have a strictly rural component. He explained that on this basis, Clark County Health District would receive \$157,600, and Washoe County Health District would receive \$39,400 over the biennium.

- Assemblywoman McClain suggested that an additional \$25,000 per year, or \$50,000 over the biennium, be allocated to Carson Advocates for Cancer Care, with the funds coming out of allocations from the two largest health districts. Mr. Combs indicated that Clark County Health District then would receive \$117,600, and Washoe County Health District would receive \$29,400 over the biennium. Dr. Fildes concurred with this proposed funding change. Mr. Combs indicated that he and Ms. Hale would recalculate the dollar amounts pursuant to Task Force discussions and provide the Task Force with a revised spreadsheet showing the funding changes.

D. Subcommittee No. 4, Child Abuse Prevention, Family Support, and Respite

- John Ellerton, M.D., Member, Subcommittee No. 4, and Task Force Member, discussed this Subcommittee’s deliberations and recommendations. He explained that applications receiving a score below 70 percent were eliminated. He referred to spreadsheets for the recommended grant allocations. ([Exhibit I](#) and [Exhibit J](#)).

- Ms. Hale stated that grantees indicated they would be able to work with the funding that had been recommended for allocation. She said that in reference to how they would sustain their programs, grantees responded they would employ strategies such as decreasing the number of vouchers issued, the number of hours of service provided, or the number of people served.
- Ms. Hale stated that an additional \$12,000, which accrued to this grant category due to interest payments, could be carried forward or distributed at this time.
- Dr. Fildes disclosed she is the founder and current Educational and Research Director of the Nevada Tobacco Users Help Line. She stated that her participation on Subcommittee 3 did not include scoring the applications of, or making recommendations for allocating grant funds to, grant applicants involved in cessation or treatment related programs.

OVERVIEW OF RECOMMENDED GRANT ALLOCATIONS BY SUBCOMMITTEE AND BY FUNDING CATEGORY

- Ms. Hale reviewed the layout and several details of a draft worksheet titled “Agenda Item VI – Combined Worksheet for Final Approval,” ([Exhibit K](#)). She explained that this draft worksheet contained recommendations for allocations made by Subcommittees No. 1, 2, 3, and 4. She said the recommendations were organized by the three funding categories for which the Task Force is responsible: Disability, Children’s Health, and Tobacco. She noted that the worksheet also contained recommendations related to Title XX and the Children’s Trust Fund, but these recommendations fall under the purview of the Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC). Ms. Hale added that staff would be revising this draft worksheet to reflect the corrections and changes discussed by the Task Force today.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF QUALIFIED GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED, AND DECISIONS ON WHICH GRANT APPLICATIONS WILL RECEIVE A GRANT OF MONEY FROM THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA FOR THE 2006-2007/2007-2008 GRANT CYCLE

- Ms. Hale and Mr. Combs presented a revised worksheet, also titled “Agenda Item VI – Combined Worksheet for Final Approval,” that reflected the Task Force’s deliberations ([Exhibit L](#)).
- Chairman Washington advised the Task Force that there would be a separate vote taken on these revised recommended allocations for each funding category.

A. Programs Related to Improving the Health of Persons with Disabilities

- The Task Force **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

DR. ELLERTON MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE ALLOCATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR GRANTEES UNDER THE DISABILITY FUNDING CATEGORY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN MCCLAIN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Programs Related to Improving the Health of Children

- The Task Force **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR HECK MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE ALLOCATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR GRANTEES UNDER THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUNDING CATEGORY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DR. ELLERTON AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Programs Related to Tobacco Use

- Senator Heck declared that he was a contract consultant with the Clark County Health District in the areas of emergency medical services and public health preparedness. He explained although he will receive no direct funding from the grant to Clark County Health District, he will abstain from voting on allocations for this category.
- Dr. Fildes abstained from voting.
- The Task Force **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

DR. ELLERTON MOVED FOR APPROVAL OF THE ALLOCATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR GRANTEES UNDER THE TOBACCO CATEGORY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MAY AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, WITH SENATOR HECK AND DR. FILDES ABSTAINING.

PRESENTATION OF BILL DRAFT REQUESTS PROPOSED BY THE DHHS FOR POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION BY THE TASK FORCE FOR THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA

- Chairman Washington announced that Agenda Item VIII would be considered at the July 13 work session meeting.

SOLICITATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION BY THE TASK FORCE FOR THE FUND FOR A HEALTHY NEVADA AT A WORK SESSION SCHEDULED FOR JULY 13, 2006

Chairman Washington stated that proposals for possible action would be considered at the Task Force work session meeting in Las Vegas on July 13. He asked that all Task Force members and other interested parties submit their bill draft requests to staff before the scheduled meeting.

- He also indicated the Task Force will consider options and ideas to streamline the grant application and review process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Michele Oke, Executive Director, Family Resource Centers of Northeast Nevada, Elko, requested an opportunity for grant applicants to submit their input and constructive comments in writing concerning the application process before the July 13 work session meeting.
- Chairman Washington concurred and indicated the Task Force would welcome written comments and suggestions submitted prior to the work session. He also invited interested parties to attend the July 13 meeting and participate in Public Comment.
- Barbara Dimmitt, Research Analyst, Research Division, LCB, stated that copies of a memorandum ([Exhibit M](#)) soliciting recommendations for Task Force action were distributed to the names on the mailing list. She said copies of the memorandum are available to all interested parties. She also added that written comments must be submitted to staff no later than Friday, June 23, 2006.
- Assemblywoman McClain expressed concerns about the MSA and the lawsuit against participating tobacco manufacturers for withholding payments to the State. She also inquired about the status of the escrow account for nonparticipating tobacco companies. She requested that someone from Nevada's Office of the Attorney General provide a report at the next meeting.
- Chairman Washington concurred and advised staff to request a presentation by the Office of the Attorney General office for the July 13 meeting.
- Charlene Herst, Manager, Chronic Disease Section, Health Division, DHHS, asked about the status of the request for proposals (RFP) for evaluation of and technical assistance to grant-funded tobacco programs. Ms. Hale stated that plans call for publishing the RFP in two weeks and presenting proposals from bidders at the July 13 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further public comment or further business to come before the Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Claussen
Senior Research Secretary

Barbara S. Dimmitt
Senior Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Senator Maurice E. Washington, Chairman

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda” provided by Barbara S. Dimmitt, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

[Exhibit B](#) is a spreadsheet titled “Estimate of Funds Available for Allocation for FY 2007 and FY 2008 (Option 1), (Option 2), and (Option 3),” submitted by Rick Combs, Program Analyst, Fiscal Division, LCB.

[Exhibit C](#) is fiscal information titled “Agenda Item V.A. - Category 1, FY07-FY08 Proposed Allocations,” submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

[Exhibit D](#) is a document titled “Subcommittee No. 1 Recommendations, Independent Living and Positive Behavior Support, Agenda Item V.A. - Category 1,” dated April 17, 2006, submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit E](#) is a document titled “Agenda Item V.B - Category 2 FY07-FY08 Proposed Allocations,” submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit F](#) is a document titled “Subcommittee No. 2 Recommendations, Health, Fitness and Nutrition, Agenda Item V.B. - Category 2,” dated April 18, 2006, submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit G](#) is a document titled “Agenda Item V.C. – Category 3 FY07-FY08 Proposed Allocations,” submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit H](#) is fiscal information titled “Subcommittee #3 Recommendations, Tobacco Control, Agenda Item V.C. – Category 3,” dated April 26, 2006, submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit I](#) is a spreadsheet titled “Agenda Item V.D. – Category 4 FY07-FY08 Proposed Allocations,” submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit J](#) a document titled “Subcommittee No. 4 Recommendations, Child Abuse Prevention, Family Support and Respite, Agenda Item V.D. – Category 4,” dated April 24, 2006, submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit K](#) is a document titled “Agenda Item VI – Combined Worksheet for Final Approval,” submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS.

[Exhibit L](#) is a document titled “Agenda Item VI – Combined Worksheet for Final Approval,” submitted by Laura Hale, Chief, Grants Management Unit, DHHS, and Rick S. Combs, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, LCB.

[Exhibit M](#) is a document titled “Solicitation Recommendations for Possible Consideration,” dated April 6, 2006, submitted by Senator Maurice E. Washington, Chairman, Task Force for the Fund for a Healthy Nevada.

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits, other materials distributed at the meeting, and the audio record are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or telephone: 775/684-6827.