

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE NETWORK PROJECT ABSTRACT

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Access to health care in Washoe County, as well as in the rest of the state, is a well-documented problem. Based on federal designations of provider shortages, lack of insurance, and other barriers to utilization, Nevada ranks 49th in the country in access to medical, dental, and mental health care.

To address this issue, a group of community-collaborators held a series of Community Forums to develop a single, unified strategy for improving health care in Washoe County. This evolving collaborative planning process led to the successful attainment of a Healthy Communities Access Program (HCAP) grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This funding has facilitated the development of the Access to Healthcare Network.

Access to Healthcare Network is a comprehensive network of hospitals and primary, specialty and ancillary health care professionals offering their services to the working uninsured at a reduced fee. Access to Healthcare Network is not an insurance program. Members must pay cash at the time services are provided.

Accesses to Healthcare Network Members receive a primary care provider and are:

-  working uninsured Nevada residents,
-  unable qualify for Medicaid, Medicare, or Nevada Check-Up,
-  not covered by employer insurance,
-  under 250% of the federal poverty level (for example, a family of four earning \$50,000 or less a year would qualify),
-  screened for eligibility and required to provide proof of income and Nevada residency,
-  assigned to a Care Coordinator to ensure continuity of care and,
-  educated in health care literacy.

At Access to Healthcare Network we are currently building a comprehensive Network of hospitals, specialists and other health care professionals including cardiologists, neurologists, urologists, endocrinologists, otolaryngologists, radiologist, pathologists, pharmacists, radiological and laboratory services. We plan to begin to enroll members by the summer of 2006.

This alternative health care delivery system is a viable a long-term solution to an on-going problem and has the potential to impact thousands of uninsured Nevada residents.

EXHIBIT O Health Care Document consists of 1 page

- ☒ Entire document provided.
☐ Due to size limitations, pages ____ provided.

A copy of the complete document is available through the Research Library (775/684-6827 or e-mail library@lcb.state.nv.us). Meeting Date: March 15, 2006