Prevention & Treatment of FASD

Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention Subcommittee

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NRS 442.137 include language mandating: • The identification of the most effective

- The identification of the most effective methods of preventing fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS).
- Collecting information relating to the incidence of fetal alcohol syndrome in this state.
- Prevention of the consumption of alcohol by women during pregnancy.

NRS442.137 Continued

 Assisting the Health Division to develop and carry out a program of public education to increase public awareness about the dangers of fetal alcohol syndrome and other adverse effects on a fetus that may result from the consumption of alcohol during pregnancy.

NRS 442.137 Continued

 Assisting the University of Nevada School of Medicine in their development of guidelines that will assist health care providers serving pregnant women who are at a high risk of consuming alcohol during pregnancy; and children who are suffering from fetal alcohol syndrome.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
- Partial Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (PFAS)
- Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAE)
- Alcohol-Related Birth Defects (ARBD)
- Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder (ARND)

Town Hall Meetings Attendance

- Seven parents (all either foster- or adoptive parents), and one adolescent with an FASD
- Twenty-one health care professionals
- Eleven social workers
- One representative from a Nevada school district
- Three state leaders from the Senate and/or judiciary

Policy Recommendations & Priorities

- Implement Training and Outreach Programs, and provide "Best Practice" recommendations
- Create, train, and support an FASD advocacy corps
- Fund and train social workers to function within Welfare, Medicaid, and judicial systems as FASD case managers

Policy Recommendations & Priorities Continued

- Pass amended statutes requiring child welfare agencies and other licensed child placement agencies to investigate the likelihood of prenatal exposure to alcohol and other drugs
- Create fellowships for geneticists, pediatricians, and child- and adolescent-psychologists to do rotations with Special Needs children; hire and support the community work (diagnostic assessment) and research of geneticists
- Encourage or require state systems of care across the life span to recognize FASD as a disability

Promote legislative allocations of seed monies for the following separate projects

- following separate projects
 Creation and support of a statewide non-profit whose mission would be to establish an advocacy and education center
- A pilot project, with outcome measures, which creates a "center" for FASD Family Services

Legislative allocation of seed monies continued

- Create, fund, and support a pilot program which works purposefully with children with an FASD, and whose outcomes and experience can be used in the creation and mentoring of other child care programs
- Creation and support of FASD Campus for Adolescents and Adults where individuals with an FASD have opportunities to learn, in an appropriate environment, life- and job-skills
- Funding is also needed to coordinate a <u>continuing</u> prevention campaign

"Special Needs Status"

 The PSAP Subcommittee recommends that the legislature deem FASD's suitable to "Special Needs" status within Child Welfare agencies, and consider passing amended statutes requiring child welfare agencies and other licensed child placement agencies to investigate the likelihood of prenatal exposure to alcohol and other drugs.