­­­Grantee Project Status Summary

FFY’ 19 First Quarter Report

For the period of Oct 1 through December 31, 2018

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 Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

Compiled 2/11/2019

By: Catherine Nielsen

# Integrated Employment

Organization: Family Support Council

Project Director: Steve Decker/Mona Heater

Project Period: Oct 01, 2018 to Sep 30, 2019

Total Grant Funds: $ 40,000

**Goal 3, Objective 2:** A minimum of 10 strategies identified in The Nevada Strategic Plan for Integrated Employment will be implemented through collaboration with major stakeholders.

NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):

* State policies will be created that promote integrated, competitive employment options.
* More people with I/DD will have integrated, competitive wage jobs in Nevada.

Grantee Proposal: FSC will connect with High Schools in Douglas, Carson, and Lyon counties to educate teachers and I/DD students about the program and expand awareness of Integrated Employment Opportunities and educate the public through social media and improve marketing materials for employers. Provide on-going development and maintenance of the Program - HireNV.org for I/DD individuals and use of funding for clients with I/DD work related transportation. FSC also expected to connect 3 school districts, to expose the program to 4,000 public and 26 new competitive employment placements.

Activity Summary:

Activity 1A) Provide ongoing development and maintenance of the HireNV.org program.

 The grantee is contacting potential employers by email or in person for initial presentation of the program and how it could best be used in their organization. They also remove any positions after they’ve been filled. Three (3) new employment opportunities have been posted and one (1) new position has been filled.

Activity 1B) Open up HireNV.org programs to school districts.

 The grantee created a condensed brochure for potential employers/partners of Integrated Employment. Conversations took place with a Douglas High School counselor, who suggested coming back at the beginning of the new year.

Activity 2A) Use social media, career fairs, job posting websites and marketing materials (Integrated Employment brochure) to expand the awareness and educate the public on Integrated Employment opportunities.

 The grantee participated in direct employer contact and job fairs and distributed twenty-four (24) HireNV.org packets, thirty-two (32) potential employers were contacted, eighty (80) people were educated about the HireNV.org program. Currently in the Douglas County area, five (5) clients are seeking employment. Due to the twenty-four (24) packets distributed, three (3) new jobs were posted. Two (2) clients are currently employed.

Activity 3A) Provide transportation to currently employed individuals for 3-6 month period to study feasibility of transportation costs.

 Two (2) individuals with I/DD were transported from their residents to their place of employment. One (1) individual has gained employment through the transportation provided by NGCDD.

Activity 3B) Provide education to individuals with I/DD on transportation options in their area and financial impact of travel.

 Case managers discussed with clients other types of transportation in the area. The mileage between their residence and work place and the costs of transportation services such as Dart, Uber, and Carson Valley Cab Company. The Case Managers also assist the clients in creating a budget for transportation expenses, by putting together spreadsheets.

Activity 3C) Develop a travel spending plan to increase independent long-term transportation for individuals with I/DD.

 Case managers have discussed planning a monthly transportation budget and the money required for the different modes of transportation to/from home and work.

Activity 4A) Provide direct support professionals information and onsite educational opportunities on the importance of case managers, clients being on time, appropriate work attire, good communication skills and keeping clients on task.

 Education has continued for the Case Managers on the importance of teaching clients with I/DD about appropriate attire, being on time, communication skills and keeping clients on task. Employers report that they are very pleased with the work being completed by clients and the conduct of Case Managers. The Employment Case Manager continuously monitors job sites and staying in close contact with the employers.

Activity 4B) Direct support staff will engage clients with I/DD on weekly basis to utilize HireNV.org program for employment opportunities that meet their specific interests, skills and abilities.

 Employment Case Managers have clients log into HireNV.org weekly to look for new employment opportunities and to discuss the possibility of applying for employment that meets their skills, interests and abilities. One (1) individual made the transition to a new job through HireNV.org when his seasonal job ended in Dec 2018.

Additional Narrative:

 The grantee has continued to collaborate with the local Chamber of Commerce, job fairs, and weekly monitoring of indeed, Monster, and employer websites for new job opportunities.

Deliverables Summary:

* Connect with three (3) different school districts. – In Progress
* Provide information on the program to 4,000 members of the public and 26 new competitive employers. – In Progress
* In quarter one, prepare and publish condensed brochures with information for employers about HireNV and Integrated Employment of individuals with I/DD. - Completed
* In quarter two, develop additional social media platforms and client success stories which can be shared publicly. – In Progress
* By quarter three, FSC will connect with and educate staff and teachers in 3 local high schools, from separate districts, about initiating integrated employment programs for young adults with I/DD in Douglas, Lyon and Carson counties. – In Progress
* FSC will expand the ability to place individuals in jobs that meet their desired interests. – In Progress

Of Note:

This grantee quickly responds to emails and requests for additional information. They are on schedule to complete the goals of their grant.

# First Responder Training

Organization: JUSTin Hope Foundation

Project Director: Carol Reitz

Project Period: Oct 01, 2018 to Sep 30, 2019

Total Grant Funds: $ 25,000

**Goal 3, Objective 3**: Develop and/or strengthen a minimum of one system that improves quality of services and access to quality services and supports for individuals with I/DD in their local communities by working with agencies to bring awareness and training to public safety and emergency responder throughout the State of Nevada.

NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):

* More Public Safety Entities will have the information they need to interact effectively with individuals with I/DD.
* Individuals with I/DD in Nevada will experience a decrease in traumatic impacts during an emergency situation, while maximizing a higher level of care and service.

Grantee Proposal: The JUSTin Hope Foundation will help the community of first responder agencies become more informed about developmental disabilities with an emphasis on Autism and how to effectively interact with those individuals. JIH will continue to expand their efforts in training first responders on identifying the signs of people with I/DD. By conducting trainings with the Public Safety entities Emergency Personnel throughout Nevada to provide awareness for a higher level of care and service to individuals with I/DD. In doing so, this allows interactions to be safer and less stressful for first responders, community members, and individuals with I/DD.

Activity Summary:

Activity 1A) Attend CPI training in December and become a trainer in CPI (Crisis Intervention Training).

 Unfortunately, this training was moved to March 2019 and the grantee will be unable to complete this activity until then.

Activity 1B) Provide non-violent restraint techniques and crisis intervention to our first responders.

Unfortunately, this training was moved to March 2019 and the grantee will be unable to complete this activity until then.

Activity 1C) Hold open trainings in the North, South and Rural regions of Nevada.

The grantee has held an open training in December. The invitation went out to all the departments in the North. This allowed departments to view the training and then schedule their own training separately. The training allowed for first responders to learn tools on how to effectively interest with individuals with I/DD.

Additional Narrative:

The grantee has also scheduled a training in which a transgender will be speaking to an agency about their experience with having Autism.

Deliverables Summary:

* Provide the previously developed two-hour training to first responders, that assists in identifying a person with I/DD and how to safely interest with those individuals. – In Progress
* Continue to improve trainings by becoming a trainer in CPI (Crisis Prevention and Intervention). – In Progress
* Continue to work with departments to ensure trainings target all of their questions and concerns. – In Progress
* In quarter one, concentration will be on reaching out to smaller departments to schedule trainings. – Completed, however, will continue throughout grant.
* In quarters two through four, focus will be on reaching out to smaller and rural departments that otherwise were not able to attend the larger open CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) that are held. – In Progress
* Work with smaller and rural departments to implement a dispatch registry system. – In Progress

Of Note:

This grantee quickly responds to emails and requests for additional information. Though they were unable to complete a large goal of their grant in the first quarter, they are on track to complete all goals by the end of the grant cycle.

# Hope with Help

Organization: East Valley Family Services

Project Director: Sharon Saiz/Ann Taylor

Project Period: Oct 01, 2018 to Sep 30, 2019

Total Grant Funds: $ 25,307

**Goal 3, Objective 4:** Annually educate a minimum of 100 persons with I/DD and their families to be able to make informed choices throughout their lifespan.

NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):

* A viable plan to establish Telehealth in Rural Nevada will be developed.
* People with I/DD in Rural Nevada will have greater access to services.
* A minimum of 100 people with I/DD and their families will be able to make informed choices throughout their lifespan.

Grantee Proposal: The grantee proposes to educate 100 people with I/DD and their families in Laughlin and Las Vegas to be able to make informed health choices throughout their lifespan. EVFS will also develop remote communication between Laughlin residents and EVFS support workers. If this proves viable, East Valley will duplicate the program in other rural areas with lack of services. East Valley’s Hope with Help will make concerted effort to serve all disenfranchised populations with I/DD with effort and concern.

Activity Summary:

Activity 1A) Develop remote communication between Laughlin, NV residents and East Valley Family Services Support Workers, to include weekly face to face appointments at the Laughlin CC Center or in home.

The grantee is in the initial planning stages of this activity. The initial contact plan will be a conference call from a central location in Laughlin to EVFS. The second option will be a number given to Laughlin residents to call in from their home. They are currently gathering client interest and have approximately fifteen (15) families in Las Vegas and five (5) families in Laughlin.

Activity 1B) Develop a communications plan including materials for families in the Rurals, to include published timely service announcements in the Laughlin Newspaper, periodic TV announcements on local morning and evening news, dissemination of the materials at local school, Food Bank, Clark County Government Center, Library, churches, and co-operative casinos, and training of staff in Laughlin and East Valley to appropriately inform and assist individuals using the program.

The grantee is in the process of narrowing down a central location to host a local conference call from Laughlin to EVFS. Eventually, they are looking to conduct a teleconference/video meeting and are researching systems in order to do so. Due to the partnership EVFS is establishing with community providers, health care providers such as nurses/care team, will be part of the program providing valuable information to clients during conference calls and soon video calls.

Activity 2A) Develop partnerships with at least 3 Hispanic churches and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

The grantee has attempted to establish partnerships with 2 churches. However, most of the Hispanic churches, hold their services in the evenings, which makes it difficult to invite this population. They have also heard a lot of feedback that this population is hesitant to divulge information or build trust due to the consistent media coverage discussing citizenship and deportation. There is currently a successful grandparent respite group in the area and they are hoping to make connections within that group and mirror after its success.

Activity 2B) Recruit at least 5 individuals with I/DD to assist and advise Hope with Help Family Support Workers.

The grantee has not started this activity yet, however, they have great hope for its success. The grantee currently has a Neighborhood Council and they plan to model the Hope with Help Support Team after the Council. The HWH Support Team will act as role models of achieved success in this area as well as a liaison between Family Support Specialists and clients in addressing areas of need. The grantee reports that in their experience, having various avenues of support, which will include the HWH Support Team, gives clients an outlook of hope vs desperation.

Activity 2C) Develop materials in Spanish and English to educate the public on the goals of the Hope with Help program and have them distributed at all partnership sites by October 30th.

All materials provided by NGCDD and EVFS to clients, will be translated into Spanish. Because documents are continuously being created, this will be an ongoing activity. However, the initial bulk of the documents and information materials, have been created and translated.

Activity 2D) Review current referral process including telephone, written and walk-in inquiries.

The grantee already has an agency referral form. They have since created a new referral form for the Hope with Help Program to be utilized internally and externally. This form will also be translated into Spanish before use. A major part of the HWH Referral form is contacting referred clients back within 5 business days. (However, generally the grantee gets back to the client within 72 hours.) Not only does the initial contact include contacting the referred client, but also including a follow up via email and/or phone call to the referring agency/caseworker. This ensures additional follow-through with the clients and partnering agencies.

Activity 2E) Calendar regular bi-monthly appearances with El Mundo and the local Spanish radio.

The grantee reports being in the process of contacting El Mundo and other Spanish advertising avenues for the Las Vegas and Laughlin areas. Their hopes are this will help build trust from the Hispanic community, if they are working with other organizations they may already have built rapport with.

Activity 2F) Develop meeting calendar, by-laws and recruitment procedures for the Hope with Help Advisory Board consisting of at least 75% of individuals with I/DD.

The grantee reports that all the necessary steps for creating the HWH Advisory Board are in place. They will begin recruiting soon. The HWH Advisory Board will likely assist in creating by-laws and vote on officers such as the Secretary and President. Their hopes are that this board will better assist in maintaining consistency, quality customer service, resources, better marketing and overall seamless avenue of support for the HWH clients and partnering agencies.

Deliverables Summary:

* Develop all printed materials by October 30th. – In Progress
* 25 individuals and families with disabilities in Laughlin, NV will have access to services appropriate to their needs as well as a Family Advocate to assist with activation of services. – In Progress
* 75 individuals and families with I/DD concerns will receive at least 50 appropriate referrals monthly and advocacy to ensure that these concerns are being heard and helped with accuracy and correctness. – In Progress
* Of the 75 individuals and/or family members, 40 will be from the Hispanic Community. – In Progress
* In quarter one, complete Spanish materials and distribute to partnership sites by October 30th. – In Progress. Partially completed. Materials have been translated and distributed, however, as new materials are produced they will continue to translate and send them.
* Schedule face to face appointments weekly at either Laughlin Clark County Center or in-home, between Clark County and EVFS. – In Progress
* Make a concerted effort to serve all disenfranchised populations with I/DD. – In Progress
* Develop an Advisory group representing the I/DD population. – In Progress

Of Note:

This grantee quickly responds to emails and requests for additional information. They are on schedule to complete the goals of their grant.

# N4 Healthy Choices

Organization: Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada

Project Director: Amy Dewitt-Smith

Project Period: Oct 01, 2018 to Sep 30, 2019

Total Grant Funds: $ 24,693

**Goal 3, Objective 4:** Annually educate a minimum of 100 persons with I/DD and their families to be able to make informed choices throughout their lifespan.

NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):

* People with I/DD in Rural Nevada will have greater access to services.
* A minimum of 100 people with I/DD and their families will be able to make informed choices throughout their lifespan.

Grantee Proposal: N4 Healthy Choices project would educate people with I/DD and their families about making informed decisions by implementing a person-centered planning process, referring and guiding the use of existing community health resources, and linking people to N4’s projects. N4 would host a monthly workshop or activity that would educate people with I/DD on various health topics and help foster social connections and inclusion in the community.

Activity Summary:

Activity 1A) Develop communication strategies that support consumer awareness to help people understand their role in person centered planning.

The grantee started the N4 Health Choices workshop series in October. The classes are held at Choices for All, a local jobs & day training service provider. The workshop was open to anyone who wanted to attend. There were eighteen (18) participants. For this workshop the focus was on the person-centered planning process. They reviewed the various “life areas” where participants might want to create goals for themselves. The grantee recognizes that a lot of planning meetings with people with I/DD, has most of the support people sitting around a table with papers and folders about the person. The grantee wanted to make sure that each workshop participant left with their own meeting folder with their goals, dreams and even information about what they don’t want in their lives. The grantee later heard from service coordinators at Sierra Regional Center (SRC) that people were bringing their folders to their team meetings.

The grantee stated that they did have to be mindful of different learning levels and method for communicating information and receiving feedback. Each participant had either an N4 team member or a Choices for All support staff there to go over their plans 1:1.

The only unexpected barrier was the Nevada 2-1-1 site not working as initial planned. The improvised this piece to have an open discussion with participants. They were asked what they would do if they had a tooth ache, if they were feeling really sad for more than a month, if they needed a ride somewhere, etc. They then reviewed how to find resources and help.

Activity 1B) Engage and inform consumers, caregivers, and providers about a No Wrong Door system.

The grantee completed the workshops, one per month in October, November, and December. They have introduced participants to the Nevada 2-1-1 website, where they can be connected to the No Wrong Door (NWD) system. The Nevada 2-1-1 website was not working for the workshop in October but was slightly improved for the November and December workshops.

N4 recently provided feedback to Cheyenne Pasquale of Nevada ADSD, regarding the experience with 2-1-1 and has reached out for additional resource information and instructional materials for utilizing 2-1-1. N4 intends to create accessible and easy-to-use tutorials and instructional materials to help support people with I/DD using 2-1-1 independently.

Activity 1C) In holding monthly activities, N4 will facilitate accessible and appropriate information on healthcare resources to people with I/DD. Topics to include information on rights and responsibilities, home/environmental health, abuse and personal safety, PCP, healthcare and medications, and sexual health/safety.

The grantee’s main priority is to create more learning opportunities for people within the community. A big focus of theirs is to meet with people where they are at by building beneficial partnerships with disability service providers. A student from UNR’s Path to Independence (P2I) attended one of the workshops but the content was a bit below their learning level. N4 offered to come and teach a separate workshop with more complex concepts for the students and staff at P2I.

The grantee held a workshop on Oct 20, 2018, about “person-centered planning”. Notes on this workshop are above.

The grantee held a workshop on Nov 27, 2018, about “Rights & Responsibilities”, where they reviewed basic rights and discussed the importance of then for each individual attendee. They created a take home handout for each attendee to review their rights on a regular basis. They ended the workshop with a review of the NWD System.

The grantee held a workshop on December 18, 2018, about “health cooking”. They researched healthy recipes and how to make the instructions accessible. The group made a delicious and healthy meal and learned about Nevada 2-1-1.

Deliverables Summary:

* Individuals with I/DD and their providers will be knowledgeable about and will utilize the Person Centered Planning process. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will have more knowledge regarding their rights and safety. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will have more knowledge about health resources and where to find health services. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will have more knowledge about physical fitness and nutrition. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will have more knowledge about sexual health and safety. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will be more connected with their community. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will be more satisfied with their social life. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will have more knowledge about which transportation services exist in the community. – In Progress
* Individuals with I/DD will have more knowledge about setting goals for their life and working towards those goals. – In Progress
* Provide Person Centered Planning to each new participant referred to N4 and ongoing. – In Progress
* Grantee will translated all necessary materials into Spanish. – In Progress

Of Note:

After receiving feedback from the grantee that Nevada 2-1-1 was not working properly. Projects Manager, Catherine Nielsen, tested the issue herself and was able to re-create the problem. She reached out to the support team for the Nevada211.org website and they too were able to re-create the problem. They have escalated the issue up the chain and should be able to provide a solution soon.

This grantee quickly responds to emails and requests for additional information. They are on schedule to complete the goals of their grant.

# Glossary Of Terms

**Activity Summary** = A summary of a grantees progress on their activities for that period. Information is summarized from grantee reports and from Project Manager meetings with grantee.

**Best Practice:** A practice that incorporates methods or techniques that has consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means, and that is used as a benchmark.

**Deliverables Summary:** Specific measureable outcomes the grantee said they would accomplish in their application.

**Goal(s)** = Over-all goal(s) identified by the Council in their current five-year state plan that the grantees are helping the Council accomplish through their grant award. Several grantees can be working toward the same goal but through different objectives.

**Grantee Proposal** = What the grantee said they would do to in their application.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s)** = What the Council expects to see as a result of grantee efforts.

**Objective(s)** = What the grantees have specifically agreed to accomplish during their grant period and how they said they would accomplish it.

**Of Note** = Any concerns, issues and/or additional information the Council needs to know. Will include any previous recommendations from the Council and the grantee’s progress toward those recommendations.

**Performance Measures** = Specific number of people effected by Council efforts.

**Promising Practice** = A practice with an innovative approach that improves upon existing practice and positively impacts the area of proactive. The practice should demonstration a high degree of success and the possibility of replication in other agencies or settings, but has not been tested.