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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES  
NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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**NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
July 3, 2014**

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**July 3, 2014-- Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order at 8:49 a.m.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Danny Gonzales, Dawn Lozano, Ivet Santiago

Members Excused: Fernando Serrano

Staff Present: Pauline Salla, J. Alice Mueller

**Approval of Minutes from May 6, 2013 and May 7, 2013 Meeting**

Chairman Lozano requested extra information concerning some sections of the Minutes from May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Specialist Salla gave explanation with the clarification to be added to the minutes. Chairman Lozano then moved to approve the May 6, and 7, 2014 minutes as amended, with a second from Commissioner Gonzales. This motion was passed by the Committee.

**Update on Federal Funding- Pauline Salla**

The Formula Grant is now the only federal money for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 since the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) is no longer given out. Although informed that additional money would be included in the Formula II grant to cover the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requirements and to make up for the loss of JABG, so far the amount is the same as last year, which was \$400,000.00. It is hoped that when the final awards come, there may be additional money in them. The actual grant application was about a month late, not arriving until the end of April instead of March 31<sup>st</sup> and was due June 2<sup>nd</sup>. In addition to

## **DRAFT**

this, the FFY 2015 funds will be 5% less because the governor certified that Nevada was working towards PREA compliance. In order to receive the full amount, the facilities would have to be 100% compliant.

The committee asked where the greatest difficulty is in becoming compliant. Specialist Salla noted two areas. One is the cost of video camera equipment and the other is educating youth about PREA. The latter is so comprehensive, that she has applied for a separate grant to specifically fund a statewide PREA youth education trainer. This would incorporate some of the Change Companies journaling, such as what are appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, setting boundaries, coping with conflict and being under pressure.

With the 5% decrease anticipated, Specialist Salla is applying for different funding streams to bring in additional money to help replace JABG. Both Clark and Washoe Counties and the rural counties have lost nearly \$200,000.00 which it previously funded.

In past years, 20% of the JABG Grant was used for state facility and youth parole activities such as statewide training to which all the counties were invited. These were evidence based curriculum like the Shield of Care suicide prevention program which focused on issues unique to secure juvenile facilities. It addressed not using room confinement and isolation but putting the youth back into the general population.

Forward Thinking is another program being used by many of the counties. It was implemented at the Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) on April 1, 2013. It has now been in place for over a year with the data collection processes just beginning. Since its start, use of force situations have dropped by 47%. There have of course been other mitigating factors, one of which is the reopening of Summit View for high risk youth. This is seen as a more positive program than Thinking for a Change, since there is not as much required prep time and it's materials are more understandable to youth, many of whom have only a third grade reading level. Both staff and youth are positive about the new program which has eight different journals in addition to a plan for when they leave the facility. Part of this plan includes employability skills involving interactive work on how to interview for jobs.

Another thing to remember about the new applications is that they have some additional requirements to meet. The first is how they are working towards becoming compliant with PREA if they are a juvenile detention facility. Also, for facilities, is having a disaster plan on file at the Juvenile Justice Programs Office. The last, applies to everyone seeking a grant, and that is identifying a civil rights liaison for their organization.

### **Review/Score Formula Grant Applications**

The first item discussed was the late submittal of the Douglas County grant application. When on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, it appeared that this application had not arrived, Vickie Sawyer Lamb assisted in trying to determine where it was. She provided a tracking number which showed it had been delivered on Tuesday morning but actually was not picked up from the post office box until Wednesday morning. After some discussion and phone calls, it was determined that the application had been mailed on Monday June 30<sup>th</sup> whereas the Request for Proposals (RFP) clearly stated that the grant application was due in the Winnemucca office at the close of the business day on June 25. This was as much time as possible under the circumstances since there were a few added requirements in the RFP.

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Whereas there is some flexibility with due dates on sub-grantees reports, this is not the case with RFPs. There was further discussion on the possible repercussions of accepting the late submittal including references to a similar discussion from the last Grant Review Meeting which resulted in the very clear declaration of time on the current RFP. It was finally determined that if additional money became available, there would be another RFP which Douglas County could then apply for.

### Carson City Juvenile Probation Department

- Forward Thinking Interactive Journaling Series

Amount Requested: \$17,600.00

Last Year's Funding: \$6,642.00

The program area is under the Alternatives to Detention and is the same journaling curriculum that is at NYTC. Ten assistant head group supervisors recently had this training from the Change Companies which is a nationally recognized company. The Forward Thinking Interactive Journaling Series is for children who are incarcerated. It is based on cognitive behavioral theory and motivational interviewing. The journals are interactive, colorful and written so the individuals can understand it. There is individual work and group process work. They intend to have five on going group sessions using these journals.

They have served 99 youth so far with the Forward Thinking series. Of this group 26 have been successful with 13 unsuccessful. There are groups of eight individuals per session, consisting of court and non-court youth. The journals provide a template type process for working through assignments which engage many different learning styles. These styles range from drawing and role playing, to writing letters. Of the 99 participants who successfully completed the program, 78% strongly agreed that it has helped them make positive changes. The remaining 22% felt that the program helped them somewhat in making positive changes. Of those participants who successfully completed the substance using behaviors journals, 100% agreed that their substance use played a role in their involvement with the criminal justice system. Of those who successfully completed the What Got Me Here journal, 83% strongly agreed that they were ready to make positive changes in their lives while 17% agreed they are ready to make some changes in their lives.

The only question to be asked is how much they may be able to cut and still do the program.

### Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice

- MET/CBT5

Amount Requested: \$68,588.27

Last Year's Funding: \$61,280.00

This program is under Mental Health Services and has been funded for the last five years under the Formula Grant. Clark County decided that this would be one of the programs they would request funding for and the request is completely for contractual services.

The program is motivational enhancement therapy and cognitive behavioral therapy five. It is a short term, five session counseling for children who primarily have issues with alcohol and marijuana. There are two individual motivational enhancement theory sessions followed by

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three cognitive behavioral group therapy sessions. Upon completion, some families may be referred to family counseling.

They do an excellent job with their performance measures. Last year they served 169 youth. In the last quarter, out of 62 youth, 45 completed the program. Twenty of the youth completing the program were referred by the Substance Abuse Assessment and Referral Program (SARP) and 26 were referred from probation. Their reports are generally on time with a scanned version always received on time. They report on their mandatory measures.

### Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services

- Substance Abuse Assessment and Referral Program

Amount Requested: \$92,411.73

Last Year's Funding: \$66,000.00

This program is under Substance Abuse and is the Substance Abuse Assessment and Referral Program otherwise known as SARP. We have funded this program for several years under JABG. This is the other program that Clark County has decided to request Formula Grant funds for. Last year they were able to serve 449 youth in the SARP program. They have clear reporting of outcomes and mandatory measures.

They have asked for \$2,000.00 in consumables which are curriculum, office supplies and bus passes. The office supplies noted are for paper, toner and other basic office supplies needed to support the program. Clark County has done a lot of work with PREA in their detention center but neglected to mention zero tolerance or a zero tolerance signature form in their summary.

As with Carson, the principal question to ask Clark County is how much they may be able to cut from these programs and yet have them be effective.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District – Nye County JPO

- The Girls Group

Amount Requested: \$5,042.00

Last Year's Funding: \$6,000.00

This program is both Gender Specific and an Alternative to Detention. Nye County generally asks for the least amount of money and serves the most with that money. This is the same program as pervious where they partnered with Westcare. The meetings are 60 to 90 minutes. They teach about substance abuse and education along with resistance skills. They also teach general social skills and personal self-management for girls ages 13 thru 17. A driver is contracted to transport the youth from school to the JPO office and then to their homes.

In the first two quarters of last year they served 13 girls with 13 who were carried over from the last time. The number of youth who successfully completed the program requirements through the second quarter was 64% with 31% reoffending. That is, out of 13, 7 completed and exited the program while 4 had new offenses. The average length of stay in secure detention for youth who had been on the program has been reduced 1% from 14.3 to 13.9.

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The performance measures and outcomes are excellent as are the quarterly reports. Tom Metscher is the chief and does the data and compiles the reports. They do have the civil rights liaison, but since they are not a juvenile detention center, neither the PREA requirements nor an Emergency Disaster Plan were needed.

As with the others, the principal question to ask is how much they may be able to cut from this program and still be effective.

### Sixth Judicial District Youth and Family Services

- Evening Reporting Center

Amount Requested: \$9,600.00

Last Year's Funding: \$9,600.00

The program area is classified as Alternatives to Detention. It is the same program as last year, but with the Forward Thinking component. Although they are currently using the Change Companies program, they will be sending two staff to the next statewide training since no one is currently trained in its use. They have the PREA, Civil Rights and Emergency Disaster Plan all in the application.

In the third quarter of the Evening Reporting Center, they served a total of 11 youth with one youth discharged early in the program and three youth completing the program in the third quarter. None of the youth were detained in detention during the program. All three who completed the program said that they would not continue to use alcohol and drugs. The only drawback would appear to be that it is a rather expensive program at \$872.00 per youth.

Once more, the question is how much could be cut without damaging the program.

### Washoe County Dept. of Juvenile Services

- Mental Health Services Coordination Program

Amount Requested: \$68,588.00

Last Year's Funding: \$88,358.00

This is the Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services Mental Health Services Coordination Program which addresses Mental Health, Aftercare and Reentry. It is the same program as last year and is the mental health coordination for seriously emotionally disturbed youth. Actually, it is more like a wrap-around program at about \$2,286.00 per youth. This is for the outreach specialist and Washoe County covers some of the salary and fringe benefits. Last year the full amount was awarded, but previous to that, they had always been awarded a bit less.

The possibility of there being another grant in place to cover some of the salary was discussed. Other than that, they will be questioned on how much they might be able to be cut.

### **Grant Application Discussion**

All through the meeting there had been explanatory discussions about the Change Companies Forward Thinking Program. The journaling technique was reviewed along with what was involved in training staff to work with the program. The members of the Grant Review

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Committee expressed a great deal of interest in viewing the journals themselves so that they could have a more informed ideal of what was actually involved.

The new requirements of PREA, Civil Rights and the Disaster Evacuation Plans were also dealt with. The committee members requested and were emailed the PREA 101 and Then Some slide presentation which is used when training staff on PREA.

10:00 a.m. Clark County Department of Juvenile Services  
10:15 a.m. Carson City Juvenile Probation Department  
10:30 a.m. Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services  
11:00 a.m. 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District- The Girls Group  
11:15 a.m. 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District- Evening Reporting Center

### Clark County Juvenile Justice Services

We spoke with Cheryl Wright, manager for the Department of Juvenile Justice in Clark County. Chairman Lozano asked about the sustainability of the program. Ms. Wright pointed out that with the loss of JABG she has considered how to continue the programs and has started planning some proposals. She was fortunate to have probation give her the formula grant but felt that SARP was important enough that they would try to keep the program funded even if they eventually lost the grant.

Chairman Lozano then asked if of the two programs, SARP should have priority. Ms. Wright agreed with that, but then pointed out several items that could be cut from both programs. Most of the items which could be cut were in the consumables and assessments in the MET/CBT5 program, and curriculum materials and office supplies in SARP. As it is, they have not updated their assessments or curriculum in some time, but have made due with creativity. The biggest challenge with the office supplies involves the costs associated with toner for color printing of graphs for review by parents and their children.

Chairman Lozano then complemented Ms. Wright on the number of children served in both the SARP and MET/CBT5 programs. Their work is really appreciated. Ms. Wright agreed that they were very important programs.

### Carson City Juvenile Probation Department-Forward Thinking Interactive Journaling Series.

Ben Bianchi, Adrienne Key and Ali Banister were on the call with Carson City Juvenile Probation Department. Chairman Lozano stated that she thought they were doing a really great job, but wondered if they would be able to cut a little from their grant request.

Mr. Bianchi pointed out that they had not asked for much in the past and had been using their own money to facilitate salaries. Whatever is given is appreciated and they intend to make the program work no matter what is receive. They are investing in the program and are putting a P.O. in each group so that they can learn from the facilitator. In this way, they will be able to have some cross training and be in a position to really move forward with the program.

Chairman Lozano asked about the amount of money for forms and journals, and whether they thought it would be enough. Mr. Bianchi explained that they use some journals more than others, and chose not to purchase whole sets. Because of this, he thought the number quoted might actually be a bit high. They were also fortunate enough to have some money left over from the formula grant that was received last year. The funds were used for the forms and



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journals, with none going to salary. They had purchased many of the forms themselves before receiving the grant and so have not yet expended the entire amount.

Chairman Lozano congratulated them on their good work and the nicely written application. Mr. Bianchi thanked the committee for helping to make the funds they have go further. He mentioned that Adrienne Key was responsible for most of the application work, and that Ali Banister is quite proficient at locating other community based programs to assist with this work.

### Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services.

Frank Cervantes and Dr. Haas from the Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services were present in the meeting, with Heather Hughes and Brenda Carrera on the phone. Specialist Salla first asked whether they were using the DVD Breaking the Silence and was told they were instead using one of their own. The next question was about them only requesting a portion of the salary and fringe. Frank Cervantes explained that they were using Targeted Case Management (TCM) funds. This is not another federal grant funding stream, but it is accountable. Rather it is federal revenue which is non-restricted and so can be used for many things. This funding has been used before and is helping them to keep this important program going.

Chairman Lozano explained that the committee was still short on funds and asked where they might be able to trim their budget. It was explained that they couldn't actually trim from the overall costs because that funds the position. Dr. Haas said that they would have to find revenue from the general fund or from Medicaid. Frank Cervantes felt that if there had to be a cut, the only way to further subsidize would be through the TCM.

Last year, they had proposed assisting 30 youth but as of the third quarter had actually served 55 youth. What this means is that instead of the projected cost of \$2,286.00 per youth, it is actually closer to \$1,143.00. They have routinely served more youth than projected and base the number of youth served on the intensity of services. If the population changes they are able to retreat back and do very intensive programming. They are currently trying to do a mix of serving youth at their individual level of need. This has been a problem with wrap around services, with many states giving the same services regardless of actual needs.

Specialist Salla asked about any difficulties receiving surveys back from the families involved. Ms. Hughes admitted to difficulties, but said that she was getting better and had received more recently, than in the past three quarters. Specialist Salla then requested information on long term outcomes in addition to the short term information they were already documenting. She pointed out that the program is now a year old and so long term performance measures need to be reported. They agreed that now they could run their Juvenile Court Activity Tracking (JCAT) system and see if individuals had come back or received referrals. Specialist Salla was concerned that if there were difficulties in receiving information from the short term surveys, that it may be even more difficult gathering information on the long term surveys. Dr. Haas thought that perhaps they could just use the youths return to the juvenile justice system as a long term indicator. They would be able to break it down from referral to re-offense and everything in between. Any return contact in the system can be documented. This would provide a long term behavior change report. Those youth who have been in the program for more than 90 days also have Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) score which can be reported on. These scores show the youths overall functioning in their behavior

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in the community, schools, along with self-harm or substance abuse behaviors. It was hoped that this added information could be sent in by August.

Dr. Haas thanked the committee for the grant which has been incredibly helpful over the years. It has made a fundamental difference in the lives of the youth who are receiving treatment. Chairman Lozano was glad to hear that they had another funding source to help continue the program.

### Fifth Judicial District- Nye County JPO – The Girls Group

Tom Metscher was called and congratulated on doing such a good job with the funds provided. Chairman Lozano asked if it was possible for him to get private funding assistance in the future as the committee was going to be asking him to trim his budget a bit. Mr. Metscher pointed out that in the application he had requested \$2,000.00 for training with the Change Companies but might be able to cut that if he could partner with Specialist Salla on her next training session. She said she would be able to include him in future training which should cover just about everything but travel to Carson City, Nevada. Mr. Metscher indicated that both himself and Pat Rios, the program facilitator, would attend the training which could then be incorporated into other programs.

The other question he was asked about was the driver. Mr. Metscher explained that the program was being conducted out of his office instead of the school. The youth will be picked up from school and then after the meeting, returned to their homes. They budgeted for an average of 40 miles a day. Their budget had been hit hard this year and so they cannot afford outsourcing the program. With the Change Companies training, they will be able to do the training in house. Specialist Salla agreed and mentioned that along with the training they would be receiving the facilitator guides when they took the train the trainer classes.

### Sixth Judicial District Youth and Family Services – Evening Reporting Center

Ed Sampson was called several times and although a conference call had been agreed on at 11:15 am, he was not available. He was finally reached by text and apologized for missing his appointment. Specialist Salla was able to let him know the changes in the amount requested and what the Grant Committee suggested.

### **Formula Grant Funding Recommendations**

After the sub-grantees had been contacted the suggested reduction in grants were discussed. These were done with the intent to retain the 70% ratio for Clark County. Both Chairman Lozano and Commissioners Santiago and Gonzales had independently arrived at very similar amounts. Chairman Lozano requested the areas where the cuts were being made be noted so that if the final award contained more money, some of them could be restored. Specialist Salla stated that she would be sending a letter out to the sub-grantees on what the committee had recommended and then this will also be put forth at the Quarterly Juvenile Justice Commission Meeting in August. The awards should have gone out on July 1, 2014, but at least with this information they will be able to make some plans. She will make it clear that nothing is final until the full commission votes on it.

For Formula Grants there is a total of \$230,000.00 available.

Carson City Probation Forward Thinking is requesting \$17,600.00.  
The Committee recommends \$12,600.00.



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Clark County MET/CBT5 is requesting \$68,588.27.  
The Committee recommends \$66,000.00.

Clark County Substance Abuse Assessment and Referral Program is requesting \$92,411.73  
The Committee recommends \$82,412.00

5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District - The Girls Group is requesting \$5,402.00.  
The Committee recommends \$3,042.00.

6<sup>th</sup> Judicial-Evening Reporting is requesting \$9,600.00.  
The Committee recommends \$7,358.00.

Washoe County Mental Health Services is requesting \$68,588.00.  
The Committee recommends \$58,588.00.

The Douglas County Juvenile Probation Department High Risk Youth Accountability Program is not being considered for funding.

Commissioner Santiago reviewed the numbers:

Carson City:	\$12,600
Clark County:	\$66,000
Clark County:	\$82,412
5 <sup>th</sup> Judicial:	\$ 3,042
6 <sup>th</sup> Judicial:	\$ 7,358
Washoe County:	<u>\$58,588</u>
Total	\$230,000

Commissioner Santiago moved to have the Formula Grant recommendations approved. This was seconded by Commissioner Gonzales. Acting Committee Chairman Lozano, hearing no discussion called for a vote. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

### Update on the Medicaid Room and Board

The award letters for State Fiscal Year 2015 have not gone out yet as the new county population formulas have not been finished. The total amount is the same, as it was funded for the biennium, but minor changes are anticipated. There have been close to 500 youth served with these funds.

### New Business

A new PREA grant has been applied for through the Bureau of Justice Statistics for about \$258,000.00. These funds will not be RFP'ed but rather will be used directly to help the state facilities become PREA compliant. The second year funds will be available to help the counties become PREA compliant.

The technical assistance training in DMC was also briefly discussed. Specialist Salla was able to locate one for law enforcement and is working with Commissioner Martin and Hibbler. Letters of Support from the school districts and law enforcement saying that they will participate are needed. This would be great training and help to reduce issues like racial profiling.

### **Adjourned**

The Grant Review Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:50 on the afternoon of July 3, 2014.