November 1, 2017

Director Richard Whitley, MS
Department of Health and Human Services
4126 Technology Way, Ste. 100
Carson City, NV 89706

Director Whitley:

On February 12, 2014, Governor Brian Sandoval issued Executive Order 2014-03 establishing the Governor’s Council on Food Security (GCFS). The GCFS is tasked with implementing the goals of Food Security in Nevada: Nevada’s Plan for Action and effectively improving the quality of life and health of Nevadans by increasing food security throughout the State. The GCFS consists of 21 members including leaders from government agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector.

Under the Executive Order as written, there is a delegation for three (3) members representing community-based services. Historically, these memberships have represented Northern Nevada, Southern Nevada, and Rural Nevada, respectively, though the geographic distinctions are not specified in the Executive Order.

The GCFS respectfully requests the Director of Health and Human Services to propose to the Governor the addition of a fourth membership representing community-based services, as well as the inclusion of the geographic distinctions, in the GCFS Executive Order.

The following revisions are requested: one (1) member representing community-based services in Northern Nevada, one (1) member representing community-based services in Southern Nevada, one (1) member representing community-based services in Northern Rural Nevada, and one (1) member representing community-based services in Southern Rural Nevada.

As you know, more than 80% of Nevada counties are considered rural and/or frontier. Urban and rural area population needs’ vary significantly, due to demographic, economic, and social differences. Expanding representation will allow the Council to continue to meet the specific needs of all Nevadans, using geographically-appropriate strategies to combat hunger.

Thank you for your consideration,

[signed] [signed]
Steve Fisher Christy McGill
Chair, Governor’s Council on Food Security Vice-Chair