

## ***1: Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada***

### **Abstract:**

According to Feeding America, the 2020 projected overall food insecurity rate for the 13 counties that make up northern Nevada is 15.3%. In response, two of the largest food distributors in northern Nevada, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada and the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, have come together to uniquely address wellness/hunger needs in six food insecure regions through food, nutrition, wellness case management, and homelessness prevention services.

Catholic Charities is requesting \$683,665 per year for 2 years to address wellness and hunger needs of rural communities in Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Storey, Washoe, and White Pine Counties. Through this partnership, Catholic Charities and the Food Bank will procure fresh and shelf-stable foods for food box distribution to these regions. The Food Bank's purchasing and storage power ensures maximum efficiency for this program.

Together, Catholic Charities and the Food Bank will provide 45- to 65-pound meal-kit style food boxes with a menu of items to clients within six food insecure regions of northern Nevada. By mobilizing field office trailers purchased through this grant, Catholic Charities' wellness case managers will attend food distribution events to address wellness and homelessness needs through our broad range of services. Having a wellness office trailer with office hours and scheduled appointments will allow the wellness case managers to address the needs of the clients while becoming a familiar face in each community.

In addition, Catholic Charities' chefs will record nutritious cooking videos to complement each month's meal-kit style food box, and clients will also be encouraged to participate by uploading their own videos or pictures. Videos will be uploaded at least twice a month on YouTube, Facebook, and other social media sites. Other videos may include nutrition educators, kidfriendly meals, budget-friendly SNAP shopping tips, and more. The integration of Catholic Charities and the Food Bank's resources is designed to optimally use program funding while ensuring maximum benefit to clients.

Since 1983, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, a SNAP trusted partner, has provided emergency food services to families in need through their network of more than 140 partner agencies in a 90,000-square-mile service area of northern Nevada and the eastern Sierra. As a member of Feeding America, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada has access to millions of pounds of additional food and grocery donations. Since 1941, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada, a SNAP trusted partner, has been serving the most disadvantaged members of northern Nevada. They do this through a broad range of services, including food resources, wellness and case management, homelessness prevention, immigration assistance, family development, and sober living. Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada helps people of all cultures and beliefs rise up out of poverty and overcome the barriers to self-sufficiency.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Only one community partner mentioned.*

*Appears that applicant has only budgeted 43.8% for purchase of food, so the budget needs some adjusting; Use of "food truck" trailers as office space is creative, but \$20k does not seem like enough money to purchase such a vehicle.*

*Applicant did not address several areas of the application. For example, number of clients to be served is only identified in scope of work for one objective, the nutrition education is weak as it only discusss videos for food prep rather than any nutrition education and this could be a barrier as many clients may not have access to the technology needed to view videos.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: III
- 100% funding recommended:

## ***2: Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada***

### **Abstract:**

Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (CCSN) is requesting \$299,897 from the State of Nevada's Department of Health and Human Services Fund for a Healthy Nevada Wellness/Hunger Services. If awarded, the funds will be used to support salary costs, food expenses, and indirect costs for CCSN's Meals on Wheels (MoW) program in order to promote public health and improve services for homebound seniors in Southern Nevada. CCSN's MoW program provides seven nutritionally balanced meals directly to the doorsteps of 2,400 homebound seniors each week throughout Southern Nevada at no cost. CCSN will collaborate with Three Square Food Bank to reduce the rates of food insecurity throughout Southern Nevada. This partnership assists CCSN in providing nutritionally balanced meals to homebound seniors at no cost.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Does not say who is included in their service area. They say Southern Nevada, but it looks like it is only Clark County. Also only serves older adults. Only one community partner mentioned.*

*Although the narrative largely meets application standards, I have significant concern related to the budget. The applicant only budgeted 13.5% for food purchase. I am also concerned about the indirect rate. It is significantly higher than any other applicant and well-above the rate established in the NOFO. I realize that it is a federally-approved rate, but it is excessive for this funding source. Unless the budget is re-written I would not recommend funding this application.*

*Applicant did not address any educational component for this funding. The partnership is vague with the only mention of purchasing food from the partner and no collaborative activities. This grant is to supplement the already existing Meals on Wheels program. Demographic details are weak. Poorly written application.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended: III
- Partial funding recommended:
- 100% funding recommended:

### 3: City of Mesquite

#### Abstract:

The targeted project area is Mesquite and the outlying town of Bunkerville. The City of Mesquite has a population of 19,097 Census (census.gov) (July 2019 estimates), and Bunkerville 1,303. Mesquite is a rural city situated in the Virgin River Valley located in Clark County, which is the southernmost county in Nevada. Both rural communities are underserved and have extremely limited food and social services resources available.

A participant is eligible for the program, if they have potential to be effected by COVID-19/or have already been affected, have limited resources available, such as lack of family support, and not be currently receiving any other services, such as Senior Homebound Meal Program. This program is available for all ages, not just seniors. This would be most beneficial either for families, that may have been affected health wise or financially by COVID-19. The targeted population would serve a geographically diverse area of Clark County, as well as serving a range of populations that are most in need, including families of color, seniors, veterans, and physically or mentally disabled individuals and/or family members.

The proposed project will address both short-term and long-term solutions to food insecurity, by providing immediate food assistance, as well as additional case management to provide support and encourage self-sufficiency. Six nutritional meals prepared by local restaurant businesses, will be delivered twice weekly (three each time) by volunteer drivers, to ensure every household member receives at least six healthy and complete meals weekly. This proposed project not only provides immediate food assistance, it also increases opportunity to assist families who

otherwise may not be accessible. The case manager will work with households to determine and make necessary referrals to additional resources.

Project Partners: This project will collaborate with the following local restaurants: Chicago Greek, Hole Foods Bakery, Los Moritas, Table of Contents and Thai House. Each restaurant is required to sign an agreement to commit to preparing nutrition meals. Each meals must include a protein, starch and fruit or vegetable. The case manager will collaborate with the Salvation Army to provide any necessary referrals, such as rental/utility assistance, etc. The program will collaborate with local employment agencies, education programs and parent organizations, when applicable.

The proposed budget will ensure up to 67 participants to receive 17,420 nutritional meals weekly, and to hire a Project Coordinator/Case Manager (PC/CM). The PC/CM will responsible for advertising the program, enrolling participants, maintaining and developing partnerships with local restaurants and community partners. The position will also recruit volunteer drivers, provide training, determine delivery routes and provide case management to participants.

There is an overwhelming need for this program due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. All individuals have been encouraged to quarantine, and limit interaction with other people. This program provides contactless delivery of nutritious meals twice weekly. It ensures six meals weekly per household member. The COVID Pandemic affected everyone, but especially those most vulnerable and if people contracted the virus they are required to quarantine, as well as their entire family.

#### Reviewer Notes:

*The abstract says they will serve 6 meals but everywhere else it says 5 meals.*

*Very creative grass-roots project; Inclusion of local restaurants and community volunteers is fabulous; Very thorough MOU; Somewhat concerned that project is so covid-specific that it may be difficult to pivot if/when life returns to normal before the end of the two-year funding cycle.*

*Applicant did not address any educational component for this funding, but does include several partners and referral agencies. As a rural community the need is great, but the application could be stronger.*

#### Funding Recommendations:

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: II
- 100% funding recommended: I

#### **4: Communities In Schools**

##### **Abstract:**

Communities In Schools of Nevada is the local affiliate of the Nation's leading drop-out prevention organization. CIS of Nevada operates in four school districts across Nevada: Clark County, Washoe County, Elko County and Humboldt County. CIS Nevada provides holistic wrap-around student supports and services to achieve our mission of helping kids to stay in school and achieve in life. We broker services and supports based on the needs of the school, communities and students we serve. A cornerstone program in our rural affiliate is our Hunger Prevention Partnership Program. In place since 2006, our Hunger Prevention Partnership Program is a collaborative effort between nonprofit partners to reduce food insecurity in Northern Nevada.

CIS of Nevada, Elko F.I.S.H. and Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada have been working in partnership since 2018 to provide emergency and supplemental food relief to the Elko area. Through this partnership, Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada provides monthly supplemental food deliveries to CIS of Nevada and Elko F.I.S.H. These food deliveries support food distribution efforts that impact 400 unique student clients per month with CIS of Nevada and 400 unique individual/family clients a month with Elko F.I.S.H. In addition to providing supplemental food support, Elko F.I.S.H. provides case management support to clients to ensure that needs outside of hunger prevention are being met, and clients are set up with the skills and resources they need to support themselves fully.

CIS of Nevada will provide supplemental food packs to 400 students across 20 school and community sites in the Elko Area. Elko F.I.S.H. will provide supplemental and emergency food services to 400 clients a month in the Elko and Jackpot areas of Nevada. In total, an estimated 800 unique clients will receive supplemental food support monthly. As the lead agency, CIS Nevada will provide oversight and grant/reporting management for the grant. CIS of Nevada will work with partners to assess barriers to program performance and additional needs/opportunities that arise. CIS of Nevada will provide grant monitoring and oversight, ensuring accurate reporting and seamless delivery of services.

Across the lifespan of the COVID-19 pandemic, CIS of Nevada and our partners have seen an increased demand for basic needs services in the Elko area. This partnership and program aims to provide relief to the growing number of food insecure Nevadans in their time of need. The Hunger Prevention Partnership Program fills an immediate and urgent need in the Elko community and we are proud to submit our application for support.

##### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Abstract doesn't specify the budget requested. Limited details provided regarding number of meals / outcomes of clients served through food pantry services. Data collection methods were outlined, however, performance measures were not addressed. Scope of work needed more specific details, although program description in narrative was descriptive Overall cost of requested funding to meals provided is high. Would recommend considering partial funding for this program.*

*I am concerned that they may not have existing data collection processes in place. I am happy to see that they are committed to collecting the required indicators, but do not talk about how this information will be collected, and how the collection will be coordinated.*

##### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: I
- 100% funding recommended: II

## **5: Desert Spring United Methodist Church**

### **Abstract:**

Desert Spring United Methodist Church, doing business as, Desert Spring Community Resource Center, is applying for a Fund for Healthy Nevada grant addressing the need for Wellness/Hunger Services. This grant is intended to provide food distribution/food pantry and community resource services to approximately 125,000 residents of five severely food insecure zip code communities located in northwest Las Vegas/Clark County.

In this endeavor, we are partnering with Three Square Food Bank and with the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas. Three Square is providing mobile food distributions and pantry food stuffs; Culinary Academy of Las Vegas is also providing access to food stuffs for distribution. The project has organized an Advisory Board to oversee Desert Spring Community Resource Center operations and funding development.

Desert Spring is located in zip code 89144 and along with at least four other zip code communities (89134, 89128, 89138, and 89135) is in need of a range of community services due to experiencing severe food insecurity aggravated by the continuing pandemic. Families in these communities suffer high unemployment, very high food insecurity- 18.2% as reported by Three Square, and numerous other health and socioeconomic problems, all made worse as a result of the continuing pandemic. The Desert Spring Community Resource Center will serve residents of all ages.

Funds requested are in the amount of \$ 45,870 per year, including 10% indirect, and will be used to support the purchase of food, as well as costs of part-time pantry personnel and limited operating expenses.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Program funds will expand current capacity. Clarified target population within Southern Nevada's greater population. Proposal needed more detail about existing services in the area, but clearly described the areas need. Strong evidence of success and community support.*

*Provided great information in the Organization Description. Information provided identified the need within the community. Unfortunately, information was not relevant to the section and required information was not provided. MOU with CALV missing. Data collection section weak. Only one budget.*

*Applicant doesn't appear to have an existing infrastructure for the program referral piece. Happy to see that they have a data manager on staff. Short on food budget. Like the focused reach on the select zip codes and the data provided.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: I
- 100% funding recommended: II

## 6: Dignity Health – St. Rose Dominican (St. Rose)

### Abstract:

Dignity Health – St. Rose Dominican (St. Rose) will establish a Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program (FVRx) to address the social determinants of health for those with food insecurity in Clark County. This evidence-based program improves affordable food access and food security, increases consumption of fruits and vegetables, and enhances clients' knowledge of a healthy diet. We will target people with food insecurity and underlying health conditions who live in underserved areas through our partnerships with organizations serving vulnerable populations including University Medical Center's Healthy Living Institute and the Wellness Center, UNLV Medicine, Southern Nevada Health District, Volunteers of Medicine, and Horizon View Medical Center. These community partners will promote the program, screen clients for food insecurity, and refer eligible clients to St. Rose. We will also target people who live in the service area of our Wellness Center at the St. Rose North Las Vegas neighborhood hospital, a medical desert which encompasses an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse population. Our bilingual Promotora/Community Health Worker will reach out to the Spanish-speaking population. We will also collaborate with the Southern Nevada Health District's Nevada Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education to provide nutrition information to our clients. We will partner with a local organic farmer, Cluck It Farm, to deliver two boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables (7- 10 pounds per box) each month to 100 food-insecure individuals for an estimated period of six months, thus serving 200 unduplicated clients per year. We will link clients to appropriate St. Rose nutrition education classes and health programs (some in Spanish and all currently provided online) and connect them to other community services to support and encourage self-sufficiency. Our proposed annual budget of \$126,696 will cover the cost of procurement of food that supports a healthy diet, personnel, and indirect expenses. The project performance goals include: 90% of clients will report they did not need to skip meals in the month following the FVRx Program and referral assistance; 60% of clients will report fruit or vegetable consumption of at least once a day; 50% of clients will be successfully linked with additional nutrition and/or social services that support self-sufficiency; 90% of clients will rate themselves as "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the program services provided.

### Reviewer Notes:

*Limited previous experience with program. It began in 2019, serving roughly 2,700 meals. Looking to establish the program through this proposal and expand services to roughly 33,600 meals, but overall funding amount requested compared to the number of meals that will be provided is very high (\$253,392 / 33,600 - averaging \$7.54 per meal). Letters of support from partner organizations were included, however no MOUs were attached. Proposal mentions numerous partners but lacks detail in describing partnerships under "Community Organizations and Partnerships."*

*Overall, well written grant. Strong program description. Proposed project is outside of the traditional food distribution/food pantry model. However, applicant implemented similar project with non-FIS individuals and saw positive results. No evaluation data or reports included. Thorough SOW.*

*Love the collaboration with the local farmer and collaboration with SNHD/SNAP-Ed to provide nutrition education. Appreciate the data/previous program successes shared and use of promotoras.*

### Funding Recommendations:

- No funding recommended: I
- Partial funding recommended:
- 100% funding recommended: II

## **7: Food Bank of Northern Nevada**

### **Abstract:**

Food is medicine. Nutritious food can promote improved health in a cost-effective way, an understanding that inspired the Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) to launch the Prescription Pantry project in FY18 with funding through a two-year Fund for Healthy Nevada grant award. This innovative project joined the Food Bank with six Washoe County partner agencies and four local healthcare providers to reduce food insecurity and improve patient health through prescriptions for healthier foods.

Because of the positive health impact of the Rx Pantry Project, FBNN would like to continue the program with current Washoe County partners (Care Chest, Community Health Alliance (2 locations), Northern Nevada HOPES, Renown Health, Sparks Seventh Day Adventist Church, St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry, Center of Influence, and the Community Food Pantry) and expand to the Quad Counties, which includes Carson City, Douglas County, Lyon County and Storey County with new partners, Friends in Service Helping (FISH) and Ross Medical Clinic. Each of the food pantries has been designed as a Healthy Pantry, meaning they have foods on hand that can promote and improve health, such as increased fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean or plant-based proteins and low-fat dairy products. In addition, canned vegetables are low sodium and canned fruit is packed in juice or water. Community Health Workers (FBNN SNAP Staff) are present during pantry food distributions in order to connect clients with federal nutrition programs they may be eligible for such as SNAP, WIC, School Breakfast and Lunch, and federal commodities as well as other human services including Medicaid and energy assistance.

In the 4 years that FBNN has operated the Prescription Pantry project, there has been significant progress. After distributing 2.3 million meals in the first two-year grant cycle, FBNN saw that 61% of the pantry clients were able to avoid skipping meals since they started visiting the pantry. (To determine meals provided, we use a calculation of 1.2 pounds = 1 meal. This is an approved value through Feeding America.) The second two years of this project (with 6 months remaining in the grant), FBNN distributed 4.1 million meals and focused on evaluation of health outcomes among clients. The pantry clients that were able to avoid skipping meals increased to 67%.

If awarded, in this third round of funding, we hope to expand the Prescription Pantry project into rural areas. The work that has been done over the past four years will allow for a smooth transition and addition of rural partners. We hope to make an impact on more areas within Northern Nevada.

The proposed total budget for this grant cycle is \$405,373, which focuses \$300,000 (74%) on healthy food purchase for Prescription Pantry clients, \$59,449 for SNAP Outreach staff, Project management, and partner coordination, and the remaining \$45,924 on nutrition education materials, travel costs, and indirect charges.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Food Bank of Northern Nevada - Goal 2 says they will expand into Carson City, but the objective says they will expand into the quad counties.*

*Excellent proposal; Includes all required elements; Well-established provider with well-documented outcomes; Connections to primary health care providers is excellent.*

*Applicant addresses most information on the application. Successful program looking to expand.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended:
- 100% funding recommended: III

## **8: Jewish Family Services**

### **Abstract**

Agency is requesting \$300,000 (\$150,00 annually over two years) for our collaborative program to increase food security, quality of diet, and self-sufficiency for our community's vulnerable populations. Working in collaboration with a large, local apartment complex. We are proposing both short-term and long-term solutions to food insecurity. With the enhancement of an on-site mobile food pantry, we can address the short-term, immediate needs of 100 households. Long-term solutions will be addressed with a Dedicated Case Management Program, serving 50 individuals.

We are proposing three major components (activities) that make it different from the traditional food pantry, each of which are designed to increase the food security and self-sufficiency of members: (1) fresh food, including fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy, is provided in client choice format where participants choose their own food and "shop" with dignity, and nutrition education is offered that corresponds with food items available for selection; (2) participants attend monthly case management meetings with a Case Manager during which they receive motivational interviewing; and (3) individualized referral services to community programs and social services, providing assistance with housing, education, employment, health care, and other basic needs, are offered to participants based on their identified goals.

The program will use a client-centered strategy. An individualized plan will be developed to improve the social determinants of health, connect them with appropriate local, state, and federal assistance programs, and provide on-going support to ensure that the client's new skills and strategies are maintained. Approximately 40% of the requested funds are for staff salaries working directly on this project: Case Manager, Food Pantry Manager, and their supervisor. Agency will utilize 50% of the requested funds to increase our capacity to offer various nutritious foods, including fresh produce, animal protein, and dairy products, through our existing food pantry and our monthly remote pantry located at the apartment complex. The complex has a high percentage of low-income families and seniors. The area has been hard hit by the recent economic crisis caused by COVID, and unemployment has dramatically increased those reporting food insecurity.

### **Review Notes:**

*Identifies only 1 community partner for the grant project. Questioning the possibility of duplication of services, particularly with case management. Wondering if residents could be receiving those services elsewhere or how that is determined.*

*Well written application. All components included. Some areas could have included more information.*

*Would like to have seen more data/outcomes shared in the success component. Happy to see that they are currently using HMIS for client tracking. AXIOM is used for inter-agency referrals. Met food procurement requirement. Appreciate the small-scale initiative and focus on giving individuals the attention/resources/support they need to get them on a path to self-sufficiency. Like that they have data systems in place to track progress.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: II
- 100% funding recommended: I



## ***9: The Just One Project***

### **Abstract**

The Just One Project is requesting funds to support the Food for All Project from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Fund for a Healthy Nevada grant to provide hunger relief and connections to resources and nutrition education to 20,000 food-insecure individuals in Clark County, Nevada. This project proposes to host twelve (12) Pop Up & Give Mobile Markets each month at select Clark County School District schools and four (4) Pop Up & Give Deliveries each quarter at select Siegel Suites locations. The Pop Up & Give Mobile Market is one of The Just One Project's Food for All service models and is set up like an open-air Farmer's Market. The Pop Ups are generally held the last Saturday of each month and are setup in the parking lot of 12 different Clark County School District high school or middle schools. We mobilize over 300 volunteers to distribute tens of thousands of pounds of wholesome food to over 16,000 individuals within a few hours at these mobile distributions. In addition to food, we partner with organizations such as Project Marilyn for feminine hygiene products, United HealthCare to link uninsured clients to health insurance, and Nevada Behavioral Health for mental health support. We will also connect clients to SNAP, TANF, Energy Assistance, and nutrition education. Client culture is extremely important to the organization and we create a fun and safe space for our neighbors to receive services and for members of the community to give back through civic engagement. The Just One Project will be partnering with Three Square and Siegel Suites on this project and we also have a formal MOU with both organizations. Three Square will provide in-kind food for the Pop Up & Gives. Three Square will also assist The Just One Project with the procurement of food for this project. Siegel Suites will provide locations to coordinate Pop Up & Give Deliveries for their residents.

The Just One Project is requesting \$268,172 to support this project. The funds will be used for one full-time Pop Up & Give Manager, 25% of the Chief Operating Officer, office supplies, the procurement of food, truck rentals to deliver and transport the food, auto insurance for the agency vehicles, fuel costs for deliveries, vehicle maintenance costs, software for client data tracking, and 8% indirect for administration costs related to the program.

### **Review Notes:**

*No score for application. I did not rate the Application area as I could not see if they have grant experience. Maybe I missed something, but I did not see anything that says they have two years.*

*Connections with CCSD and low-income housing is excellent, as is partnership with Project Marilyn. Agency has demonstrated consistent growth over the last 6 years.*

*Well written application. Agency does not address educational component. The project meets the clients "where they are" and eliminates barriers like transportation and accessibility. Serves all of Clark county through school sites - making for familiar settings.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: II
- 100% funding recommended: I

## ***10: Keystone Enrichment Center***

### **Abstract:**

The Keystone Enrichment Foundation (KEF) is applying for a Fund for Healthy Nevada grant addressing the need for Wellness/Hunger Services. KEF is a 501 C3, non-profit organization whose mission is to “build, manage, guide, direct and promote cultural and community programs in Sandy Valley, Nevada”, located in southwest Clark County. Sandy Valley is a remote community approximately 52 miles southwest of Las Vegas. The area is rural and residents have very limited access to traditional community resources (e.g. no banks, no restaurants, no medical services, no grocery stores, etc.). This grant is intended to provide food distribution/food pantry and community resource services to low income individuals, children, youth and families who reside in Sandy Valley, Nevada. In Sandy Valley nearly 27 percent of residents are children under 18, and seniors represent nearly 19 percent of residents. In this endeavor, we are partnering with Three Square Food Bank and with the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas. Three Square is providing mobile food distributions and pantry food stuffs; Culinary Academy of Las Vegas is also providing access to food stuffs for distribution. The overall goal of our Hunger Relief Program is to maintain our Food Pantry services and to implement tools and services to assist an average of 500 residents that need weekly access to necessary health and social support resources, especially as a result of the COVID pandemic. The KEF Hunger Relief Program follows the FHN directive to provide “initiatives that address both short-term and long-term solutions to food insecurity, including offering immediate food assistance and linkage to additional social services and programs that support and encourage self-sufficiency.” Funds requested are in the amount of \$26,819 per year, including 10% indirect, and will be used to support the purchase of food, as well as costs of part-time pantry personnel and some operating expenses.

### **Review Notes:**

*Rural location with very limited access to services. Provides services to all ages. Program increases their current capacity from monthly to weekly. Objectives were clearly stated and overall plan seemed well-rounded and achievable. Staff was well-qualified to operate a success food pantry.*

*Confused regarding the second part of the grant project proposal, to implement tools and services to assist the increasing number of residents that need access to necessary health and social support resources. Grant is written to indicate this specifically means developing youth recreational programs and providing domestic violence prevention services. Not sure appropriate use of grant monies. However, SOW is written as if residents will be referred to existing programs. Clarification may be needed. Only one budget included.*

*Great need in the area. Application indicates that almost half of the residents are unemployed. Additional programs focus on recreational programming for children and addressing domestic abuse. No existing program referral system in place. Data/Evaluation section is weak. Does not discuss systems in place for collecting data/information*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: II
- 100% funding recommended: I

## **11: MMI**

### **Abstract:**

**The Nutrition for Life (NFL) Partnership** is a collaboration between Helping Hands of Vegas Valley (HHOVV), Lutheran Social Services of Nevada (LSSN), United Labor Agency of Nevada (ULAN) and Money Management International, Inc. (MMI). The NFL partners are well established and long-serving non-profit organizations in Southern Nevada. NFL partners provide food, nutrition education, cost-effective food delivery services, case management and referrals to other social services to food insecure residents in Southern Nevada. The NFL collaborative has been awarded multi-year funding from FHN since its inception in 2014. In the past fiscal year, NFL agencies provided 37,099 clients and their families with 463,394 pounds of food; nutrition classes; referrals to food service programs (*e.g.*, SNAP and WIC) and social service programs *e.g.*, employment assistance, rent and utility assistance, and financial counseling. The applicant organization, MMI, is requesting \$743,124 per year from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Food Security for Wellness/Hunger Services to support the NFL program. The partners anticipate providing food and assistance to more than 35,000 unduplicated individuals and their families during the next two fiscal years. More than half of these funds will be used to purchase food for low- to moderate-income (LMI) clients, with the remaining funds to be used for personnel providing direct services and for the operation of three food pantries and food delivery services.

The NFL collaborative project's target audience includes residents of Southern Nevada with an emphasis on LMI households, older people (age 60+), school age children, rural communities, and minority populations. HHOVV serves older people through its free food pantry and home delivery of groceries. LSSN opens its free food pantry for low- to moderate-income, food insecure individuals. LSSN also offers its Open-Air Markets, a traveling food distribution program, which bring fresh, healthy food to food-desert neighborhoods. ULAN provides healthy and nutritious food from its centrally located food pantry for families who are experiencing hardships. As the direct grantee, MMI will serve as project lead with oversight responsibilities for all collaborating agency activities.

NFL partners collaborate with other local pantries, including the food bank, Three Square, to reduce costs and duplication of service. NFL partners utilize the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database to track client services. If a client has already received services, the partners will refer the client back to their original agency. MMI has a signed Memorandum of Understanding with each of the partners, detailing partnership expectations and reporting requirements.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Overall proposal was strong and objectives were achievable, however, the Budget summary for year 2 was not included in the proposal and there were no explanations of "pending" budget items. Although this proposal scored well, their requested budget is approx. 75% of available funds and if funded, would significantly limit distribution of funds across multiple jurisdictions and populations throughout NV. Partial funding could be considered, but reducing their funded amount could make their program difficult to implement as proposed due to complexity of scaling down existing proposal.*

*Overall, well written grant, strong project. Grant indicates MOUS are attached but are missing in my file. Only one budget included.*

*Strong application. Has data collection processes in-place and uses HMIS system.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: I
- 100% funding recommended: II

## ***12: Northern Nevada Dream Center***

### **Abstract:**

The Northern Nevada Dream Center signature program “Reach the Hungry”, addresses the issues of hunger and food insecurity throughout the Quad-County of Northern Nevada. With a program budget of \$187,257, we are projected to provide 428,400 meals to 4,200 unduplicated individuals in 2021. The funds from the Office of Food Security will be used to procure the food and other expenditures needed to ensure that families and individuals have the stability and consistency of food on their shelves, and meals on their table.

Throughout these rural counties of Carson City, Douglas, Lyon and Storey, the program provides residents of all ages, short- and long-term solutions to the issues, challenges, and resulting negative health impacts when a household cannot acquire enough food to meet the needs of the members. Each month, the program provides three delivery methods that specifically address the needs amongst the families and individuals we serve. The delivery methods are: Pantry; Mobile Food Trucks with scheduled deliveries to low-income neighborhoods; and Door-to-Door deliveries serving the homebound, elderly, and disabled. Each distribution provides a varied selection of dry and canned goods, fresh produce, meat/ poultry, eggs and dairy, for seven days, three meals per day, for each household member. The Mobile Food Truck and Door-to-Door deliveries reach those isolated by lack of transportation, and other economic and physical limitations. These delivery methods bring the food to their residences.

Two of our partners for the project, the Carson City Senior Center, and the Carson City School District-Mark Twain Elementary School, enhance our ability to ensure we are filling the gaps for two of our most vulnerable populations: elderly and children. Our third partner for the project, The Greenhouse Project, will enable us to access locally grown produce, ensuring that we address the sustainability provided through the Nevada “Food For People Not Landfills” initiative. We also collaborate with additional agencies, service providers, churches, and health care providers who contact us monthly with referrals for our services, avoiding duplication, to work collectively for positive impact.

In addition to the immediate need of getting food to those in need, the Reach the Hungry program also includes health and nutrition education from our supportive partners at the Northern Nevada Food Bank, University Nevada Reno/Agricultural Department, and the Healthy Communities Coalition. We will also be scheduling individuals, businesses, and agencies to meet with our clients to help support them with community connections through a Dream Center initiative called “DC Connect”, providing them information including financial literacy, housing, medical, employment, and access to other services and resources.

The culture that has been created at the Northern Nevada Dream Center, and the relationships of trust that are built with our clients, have enabled programs like our Reach the Hungry, to empower our clients to restore their dignity, maintain their independence, and recognize their value to our community. We are proud to be a contributing resource for our communities by serving our valuable citizens in order that they may live healthy and productive lives.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Services rural locations through pantry, mobile deliveries, and door-to-door services. Includes a local produce component. Strong proposal with well-qualified staff and experience. Very strong scope of work with clear plan and achievable outcomes. Budget requested for anticipated scope may be low (although other organizational funding is anticipated to support the program) \*Note - Budget stated in abstract slightly higher than Budget Narrative. Appears to be clerical error.*

*Addressed most requirements of each section, as outlined by the matrix.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: I
- 100% funding recommended: I

### ***13: NyE Communities Coalition***

#### **Abstract:**

NyE Communities Coalition (NyECC) Food Security Project will serve Nye (population 45,346), Esmeralda (826), and Lincoln (5,201) Counties. NyECC will serve as the backbone organization, supporting the all-volunteer, faith-based food pantries across the three counties. NyECC will focus on purchasing healthy, economical foods for the pantries and on establishing a linkages process through the pantries so that community members will improve their self-sufficiency.

Memorandum of Understanding partners include the pantries / commodities distributors that serve the three counties including Amargosa Senior Center, Beatty Baptist Church, Esmeralda County, Faith Fellowship, Tonopah First Baptist Church, Pahrump Oasis, Salvation Army, United Methodist Church and Path of Hope along with food partners Lincoln Communities Action Team, Esmeralda County School District, Nye County School District and Caliente Farmer's Market. Additionally, NyECC has more than 60 organizations, agencies, and governmental entities across the three counties that are partners of the coalition and engage monthly with NyECC on projects and events. Together, these collaborators have the ability to make significant changes in communities with limited resources.

NyE Communities Coalition is requesting \$141,748 of which \$67,500 will be food purchases. Staff, AmeriCorps, and VISTA members will support the pantries, assisting in the delivery and storage of food, distribution of food, collection of data, and creation of systems and processes. NyECC will coordinate the delivery of the backpack food program for students for weekends, making sure the food is nutritious and easily consumed, assisting school districts with paperwork, policies, and storage and delivering to outlying areas. Additionally, NyECC will facilitate food security meetings that engages all of the food systems in the areas. NyECC will develop and implement the distribution of surveys, data collection and will facilitate a review of information and make improvements to the systems based on that data.

NyECC and ten partnering pantries will provide 25,000 meals and 2000 backpacks of food, with a focus on seniors, children and families in Nye and Esmeralda counties. In Lincoln County NyECC will provide fresh produce to 15 families for 16 weeks for a total of 1200 meals. NyECC will distribute information to recipients of food that will engage them to participate in SNAP Ed, wellness, nutrition, economic assistance, and employment services that will increase self-sufficiency. NyECC staff and pantry partners will identify 100 of the most at risk recipients and provide linkages and support for these individuals as they build the support system to gain self-sufficiency. And to constantly improve and enhance food security NyECC will facilitate collaboration among the food systems, addressing cultural competency, access, barriers, and disparities amongst the communities.

The pantries that serve Nye, Esmeralda, and Lincoln counties are volunteer operated and have been especially impacted by COVID due to the age of their volunteers. NyECC will help rebuild their systems and processes to ensure sustainability and stability while ensuring that community members have nutritious food and are linked to services.

#### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Complete MOUs with a variety of community providers; NyECC serves some of the most remote communities in the state; Nice use of VISTA volunteers.*

*Well written and established rural community agency. Agency addresses all components of the application. Much needed service in rural communities of Esmeralda, Lincoln and Nye.*

#### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: II
- 100% funding recommended: I

## ***14: Reno Food Systems***

### **Abstract:**

This proposal seeks to reduce food insecurity in the Reno-Sparks area by implementing a gleaning program modeled after the USDA's Gleaning Toolkit and Farmers to Families Food Box Program but on a smaller scale to harvest fresh and locally grown produce and other perishable food items that would otherwise contribute to food waste in our community. Reno Food Systems is the lead organization in this collaborative project with the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra, the Reno Gleaning Project, and Health Plan of Nevada. Reno Food Systems will purchase leftover fresh fruit and other perishable food items at a discount from local suppliers at the end of Reno area farmers markets during the period July 1, 2021- June 30, 2023 as well as aggregate gleaned fruit and vegetables from backyard growers with the assistance of the Reno Gleaning Project in order to distribute this fresh food to clients of the Women and Children's Center and other hunger-relief agencies in the Truckee Meadows. Food insecurity has become a top issue in Nevada, especially for families headed by single women. The food insecurity rate among children in Nevada is at the highest level anywhere in the nation. Numerous articles and studies have pointed out the disproportionate impact of the pandemic-caused-recession on women and particularly women of color. While this gleaning project will serve Nevadans of all ages by distributing gleaned surplus produce from farmers markets and donated produce from home growers, it will prioritize serving the client population at the Women and Children's Center, primarily single moms with young children. Fifty percent of the proposed funding (\$75,500 over two years out of a total proposed budget of \$150,000) will be used to buy back surplus fresh fruits and vegetables at wholesale prices from farmers at the end of farmers markets as well as from Reno Food Systems own urban sustainable farm located in West Reno. This collected produce will be distributed for free at several sites in the Reno-Sparks area including daily at the Women and Children's Center located in East Reno and through other local hunger-relief agencies such as the St. Vincent's Dining Room Program. Our aim is to support the self-sufficiency of our area's most food insecure by partnering with Health Plan of Nevada to promote social safety-net programs such as SNAP benefits, inform the public about the importance of fresh fruits and vegetables as part of a healthy diet, and provide experiential education opportunities for struggling families at our farm site that focus on home gardening and food preparation.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Creative partnerships for a gleaning project; Love the partnership with "backyard" farmers; Somewhat concerned about lack of experience and I'm not sure about the capacity of some of the partner agencies.*

The agency does not address all components of the program. There are no clear indicators of how many individuals will be served, data collection is not strong, and unclear education component. Did not include strong information on accomplishments/successes. Well written application, but did not clearly identify how individuals would be served.

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended: I
- Partial funding recommended: II
- 100% funding recommended:

## ***15: Three Square***

### **Abstract:**

Three Square's Rural Capacity Project will address the disparities between the rural and urban food insecure populations in Clark, Nye, Esmeralda, and Lincoln Counties. The distances between the different rural communities and from Las Vegas have caused the agencies serving those communities to receive disproportionate aid for capacity building and a disproportionate variety of food for a healthy diet.

The project will have the following three goals:

1. Increase the capacity of 6 rural agency partners in the first year and 3 additional ones in the second year to distribute an increased amount of food and a better variety of food to their clients.
2. Reduce food insecurity in Southern Nevada's rural communities.
3. Link food-insecure individuals in rural communities with supportive services and nutrition programs for which they qualify.

The first goal will be accomplished by working with the rural agencies to assess their needs in order to build their capacities to distribute more quantities and a healthier variety of food to food insecure people in their communities. Once their needs are assessed, we will purchase supplies and equipment for them that will best meet their needs for capacity building for storing and distributing food.

Secondly, we will reduce food insecurity in these rural communities by purchasing and distributing to them a variety of healthy food, including protein, dairy and fresh produce. These agencies currently receive mostly donated and TEFAP product to distribute, so they are not always able to offer varied and healthy choices of food to their clients.

In addition to the food the clients will receive from these agencies, we will link some of them to supportive services through Three Square's Call Center. Each agency will receive flyers to have available at all of their food distributions for their clients. The flyers will have information about other assistance they can receive and the call center's phone number. People who phone into the call center can not only receive referrals to supportive services but can also receive over the phone assistance with applications for programs such as SNAP, Medicaid or energy assistance.

The project partners in the first year will be Sandy Valley Food Share in Clark County; Colorado River Food Bank, which serves Laughlin and Searchlight in Clark County; Lincoln County Human Services, which serves Alamo and Caliente in Lincoln County; Pahrump New Hope Fellowship in Nye County; Virgin Valley Family Services serving the Mesquite area in Clark County, and New Hope Assembly of God in Tonopah, which is in Nye County. In the second year tree additional partners will be added: Moapa Band of Paiutes, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe and an agency in Goldfield in Esmeralda County.

The annual budget for the project for each of the two years will be \$409,422. The majority of the budget will go towards purchased food for the agencies to distribute and supplies to help them build their capacity. It will also cover the costs of staff implementing the project and of delivering the food to the agencies.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Goal says they will supply to 8 areas but everything else states 6. It also says they will distribute to 12 so I was confused.*

*Well-done application that includes all of the required elements; Like the concept of helping rural pantries increase their infrastructure; Inclusion of tribal communities is wonderful.*

*Well written application with most components addressed. While the agency lists no duplication of services, there are other agencies in Southern Nevada providing services. The equipment portion of the grant would be invaluable to rural agencies. I would recommend funding the equipment needs of the rural counties fully, but reducing the full grant amount.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended: I
- 100% funding recommended: II

## ***16: University of Nevada, Reno Extension***

### **Abstract:**

University of Nevada, Reno Extension's mission is to "discover, develop, disseminate, preserve and use knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of people." Mineral County Extension is the county unit of Extension that serves Nevada residents through county, state and federal partnerships. Historically, Extension has assisted stakeholders in growing food and crops to sustain the quality of life. During World War I, Extension mobilized to spearhead the national food production effort encouraging crop and livestock production, food production and preservation, and cloth conservation projects. The long-term goal of this project is to decrease food insecurity in rural towns located in Mineral County and Pyramid Lake and Walker River Reservations. There are two different programs that service different demographics called *Veggies for Seniors* and *Veggies for Kids Take Home*. *Veggies for Seniors* is a nutritional education and locally sourced food distribution program that takes place in Mineral and Washoe County. *Veggies for Kids Take Home* is a nutritional education and locally sourced distribution program that will be taking place in Mineral and Washoe County that coincides with the *Veggies for Kids* elementary educational component funded by SNAP-Ed taught in the Spring. *Veggies for Seniors* is designed to introduce seniors age 65 and older to a new variety of fruits and vegetables and teach them how to prepare them in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Mineral County Extension runs *Veggies for Seniors* in collaboration with Mount Grant General Hospital's Home Health program, the Mineral County Care & Share Senior Center, Walker River Paiute Tribe and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe to serve Hawthorne, Walker Lake, Schurz, Mina, Wadsworth, Sutcliffe and Nixon communities. *Veggies for Kids Take Home* is designed to continue introducing elementary age children and youth in need to fruits, vegetables and nutritional snack options. The take home program will be run in partnership with Hawthorne Elementary and Schurz Elementary to serve Mineral County and Natchez Elementary in Washoe County. This program will include any elementary aged children and by request or referral, junior high and high school students. The budget is \$86,478 in Year 1 and \$87,503 in year 2. The budget is increased in year two based on staff projected salary increases. The main cost in the budget is for food allocations. Other budget items are travel, staff time and indirect costs. Program evaluation will measure short and medium-term impact. The long-term impact aligns with the overall goal of decreasing food insecurity in rural towns located in Mineral County and the Pyramid Lake and Walker River Reservations.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Although the application scored well, the programs proposed do not service all ages, only kids and seniors. NOFO requirements were for program to service all ages in some way. Included resumes for all. Services rural areas. Number of meals provided was not clearly stated.*

*Project does not appear to serve Nevadans of all ages - focuses on seniors and children/youth (took 5 points from first section of Project Description for not meeting NOFO requirements).*

*Does not serve Nevadans of all ages.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended: II
- Partial funding recommended: I
- 100% funding recommended:



## ***17: Washoe County Human Services Agency***

### **Abstract:**

Washoe County Human Services Agency (WCHSA) is requesting funding for a three-pronged approach to address food insecurity in vulnerable populations of Washoe County. Services will be provided to Washoe County residents of all ages, including children, adults and seniors. First, WCHSA proposes to provide a breakfast meal to the individuals and families experiencing homelessness and residing at OUR Place Women and Families shelter and to the seniors residing at the Temporary Assistance for Displaced Seniors (TADS) shelter. Funding will be used for the meals and software licenses for data tracking. Second, WCHSA proposes to use this funding to provide nutritious food baskets to the women and children residing at CrossRoads and to participants of the CrossRoads Off Campus (CROC) program. Third, WCHSA requests to use this funding to provide the second daily meal for homebound seniors 60+ in need of meal services. These programs will be supplemented by Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with three community partners: Soulful Seeds, the Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) and Alta Vista Community Resource Center. Soulful Seeds will design and plant a community garden on the OUR Place campus and will provide fresh produce to the residents. Soulful Seeds will also provide learning opportunities for the residents of OUR Place and TADS in the areas of planting, growing and harvesting fresh produce. RISE and Alta Vista will provide staffing and support for data collection for these programs. Alta Vista will also provide nutrition education opportunities. WCHSA is requesting \$256,971 in Year 1 and \$256,718 in Year 2 of the grant award for a total of \$513,689 to support breakfast meals, food baskets and 2nd home delivered meals.

### **Reviewer Notes:**

*Proposal had clear objectives and scope of work seemed achievable and had easily identified outcomes. Funds will expand current program capacity and serve all ages and vulnerable populations. Strong collaborative partnerships in place. Plan includes a component for local food production through collaborative partnerships. Almost 100% of funding goes toward food purchases.*

*Overall, well written grant. Received 0 points (-7.5) for not discussing 3 successes in the Capabilities and Competencies sections.*

*Strong proposal. Appreciate the emphasis on supporting a strong local food system.*

### **Funding Recommendations:**

- No funding recommended:
- Partial funding recommended:
- 100% funding recommended: III