

Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council: Grant Expenditure Report for the Interim Finance Committee December 2024

INTRODUCTION

This report is the first grant expenditure report for the Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council’s (NLJRCC) grant expenditures. This report was written by the Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy (NDSP) on behalf of the NLJR grant recipients.

History

The NLJRCC advises and assists the Nevada Sentencing Commission in making data-driven policy recommendations to Nevada’s Legislature by providing input and recommendations regarding various criminal justice issues and matters of importance at the local level, as stated in NRS 176.014(3). During the 82nd Nevada Legislative Session (2023), Assembly Bill No. 388 passed and \$3,000,000 was appropriated for the purpose of funding grants related to reducing recidivism. These grants were to be awarded by the NLJRCC, pursuant to NRS 176.014, to local governments and nonprofit organizations. The statute states that each grantee will produce a report to be submitted to the Interim Finance Committee by December 20, 2024. NDSP let each grant recipient know they could create and submit their own report but, providing aggregated expenditures and a more complete picture of the overall grant required NDSP to generate a single report on behalf of the eleven grant recipients.

STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION

Assembly Bill No. 388

AN ACT making an appropriation to the Department of Sentencing Policy for the purpose of funding certain grants awarded by Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Sentencing Policy the sum of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of funding grants relating to reducing recidivism awarded by the Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council created pursuant to NRS 176.014 to local governments and nonprofit organizations.

2. Upon acceptance of the money appropriated by subsection 1, the local government or nonprofit organization agrees to:

(a) Prepare and transmit a report to the Interim Finance Committee on or before December 20, 2024, that describes each expenditure made from the money appropriated by subsection 1 from the date on which the money was received by the local government or nonprofit organization through December 1, 2024;

(b) Prepare and transmit a final report to the Interim Finance Committee on or before September 19, 2025, that describes each expenditure made from the money appropriated by subsection 1 from the date on which the money was received by the local government or nonprofit organization through June 30, 2025; and

(c) Upon request of the Legislative Commission, make available to the Legislative Auditor any of the books, accounts, claims, reports, vouchers or other records of information, confidential or otherwise, of the local government or nonprofit organization, regardless of their form or location, that the Legislative Auditor deems necessary to conduct an audit of the use of the money appropriated pursuant to subsection 1.

3. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2025, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 19, 2025, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 19, 2025.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

NLJRCC MEMBERS

Denni Byrd, NLJRCC Chair
Humboldt County Human Services Director

Dorothy Rowley
Eureka County Justice of the Peace

Garrit Pruyt
Carson City Deputy District Attorney

Michael Chopp
Lander County Commissioner

Brenda Ingram
Churchill County Court Services Director

Dylan Frehner
Lincoln County

William McCurdy II
Clark County Commissioner

Bill Ferguson
Mineral County Sheriff

Julia Murray
Clark County Chief Deputy Public Defender

Clinton Zen
Nye County, President, Aspire Therapeutic Solutions, LLC

Chelsea Mazza
Douglas County Deputy District Attorney

Bryce Shields
Pershing County District Attorney

Demar Dahl
Former Elko County Commissioner

Eric Kern
Storey County Assistant Sheriff

Clinton Hohenstein
Washoe County Representative

James Phoenix
Washoe County Representative

McKinzie Hilton
White Pine County Deputy District Attorney

NDSP STAFF



Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote an equitable and reliable criminal justice system by providing reliable criminal justice data, practical fiscal analysis, and comprehensive policy resources to lawmakers, stakeholders, and the public to ensure Nevada's sentencing and corrections policies and the Nevada Criminal Justice System as a whole are effective, data-driven, and resource sensitive.

2024 Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment (NLJR) Grant Timeline and Process

| 2024: Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Grant | |
|---|---|
| Dates: | Event: |
| 3/15/2024 | Grant application period opened. |
| 4/12/2024 | Applications due: 5 applications received. |
| 4/26/2024 | Round #2: 0 applications received. |
| 5/10/2024 | Round #3: 2 applications received; 1 rejected. |
| 5/24/2024 | Round #4: 3 applications received. |
| 6/07/2024 | Round #5: 4 applications received; 1 rejected. |
| 6/21/2024 | Round #6: 6 applications received; all grant application periods close. |

The grant application period originally opened March 15, 2024, and was scheduled to close April 12, 2024. In that period, the Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy only received five grant applications totaling just under \$450k in state funding requests. This dollar amount was well short of the \$3,000,000 available.

NDSP then created 5-more grant “Rounds” and reopened the grant application period. Grant applications were received at two-week intervals from April 15 through June 21, 2024. The chart shows the number of applications that were received by round with a total of 20 applications received in all.

Two applications were rejected, one in Round 3 and one in Round 5 primarily because the principles who submitted these grant applications lacked experience with the grant’s target population which is people in reentry from prison or jail as well as individuals at risk of recidivism at the local level.

Eighteen applications moved onto the Peer Review Committees. These separate and independent committees were primarily made up of members from the Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council plus community professionals like an undersheriff from a rural county and a classification and planning specialist from the Department of Corrections.

These committees were formed and completed application reviews in Rounds 1, 4, 5, and 6. No Peer Review Committee was formed for Round 2 because no grant application was received. Additionally, two applications were received in Round 3, but one was rejected. NDSP then moved the remaining application on to Round 4. This is why, in Round #4, 3 applications were received but 4 applications were reviewed.

Each Peer Review Committee had time to independently review and score each application for their assigned round; each committee then met to discuss each application and their scores. As a group, these committees selected the applications to be funded and decided on the levels of funding for each grant.

NLJR Grant Applications Selected for Funding

| NLJR Grant Recipients by Round | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rnd | Grantee | County | State \$ | Match \$ | Total Award |
| 1 | Partnership Douglas County | Douglas | \$70,001 | 0.00 | \$70,001 |
| 1 | Humboldt County Human Services | Humboldt | \$117,912 | \$35,379 | \$153,291 |
| 1 | Lyon County Human Services | Lyon | \$153,884 | \$46,076 | \$199,960 |
| 4 | Las Vegas Municipal Court | Clark | \$100,750 | \$43,179 | \$143,929 |
| 4 | Nevada Outreach Training Org. | Nye & Esmeralda | \$48,582 | 0.00 | \$48,582 |
| 4 | Community Chest Inc. – Storey | Storey | \$64,845 | 0.00 | \$64,845 |
| 4 | Community Chest Inc. – Mineral | Mineral | \$95,627 | 0.00 | \$95,627 |
| 5 | Carson City Justice/Muni Court | Carson City | \$81,986 | \$27,511 | \$109,497 |
| 6 | City of North Las Vegas | Clark | \$440,132 | \$136,461 | \$576,593 |
| 6 | Ridge House | Washoe | \$782,098 | 0.00 | \$782,098 |
| 6 | Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow | Clark | \$1,044,013 | 0.00 | \$1,044,013 |
| Totals: | | | \$3,000,000 | \$288,606 | \$3,288,606 |

The “State \$” column in this graph is the amount awarded from the \$3,000,000 available state funds. Governmental entities were required to provide a 30% match; this amount can be found in the “Match \$” column. All governmental entities, except the Las Vegas Municipal Court (LVMC), provided an in-kind match of staff time. The LVMC provided a cash match significantly extending the benefit to the grant’s target population in Clark County.

NLJR Grant Funding Distribution

An important feature of this grant was the distribution of funds to counties with a focus on rural communities where offenders in reentry or individuals experiencing recidivism are underserved. The next graph shows the distribution of funds across rural communities as well as to the most populated counties of Washoe and Clark.

| NLJR Grant Funding Distribution Across Nevada | | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Counties | State \$ | Match \$ | Total Award | % of Funds |
| 8 Rural Counties | \$632,827 | \$108,287 | \$741,124 | 21% |
| Washoe | \$782,098 | 0.00 | \$782,098 | 26% |
| Clark | \$1,585,065 | \$179,640 | \$1,764,705 | 53% |
| Totals: | \$3,000,000 | \$287,927 | \$3,287,927 | 100% |

NLJR Grant Awards by Categories

This report contains a full Executive Summary spreadsheet with aggregated grant expenditures for all awards. In addition, detailed expenses for each grant can also be found. This overview shows the budgeted amounts for each section of the Executive Summary:

All Categories Combined

| TOTAL AWARD: | | \$3,000,000 |
|---|------------|---------------------|
| Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Grant NLJR 2024/2025 | All Awards | Budget |
| Section I: State Funds Summary | | |
| Personnel | | \$ 1,117,178 |
| Contractual / Consultants | | \$ 1,742,742 |
| Travel | | \$ 26,060 |
| Supplies/Operating | | \$ 41,460 |
| Indirect | | \$ 62,305 |
| Equipment | | \$ - |
| Other: Staff Training | | \$ 10,255 |
| Section I Total: | | \$ 3,000,000 |

A description for each category:

- **Personnel:** salary and fringe benefits for an organization's staff.
- **Contractual/Consultants:** is typically other staff or services brought on by the grantees to serve the target population or help meet grant goals.
- **Travel:** this is for an organization's staff to attend training or meet with clients.
- **Supplies/Operating:** this category helps an organization meet client needs.
- **Indirect:** non-profit grantees included indirect expenses.
- **Equipment:** none of the grantees requested equipment.
- **Other: Staff Training:** organizations sending staff to a training or conference, with a required registration fee, are listed separately here and not under **Travel**.

The two categories receiving the largest amount of funding were the **Personnel** category at \$1,117,178 and the **Contractual and Consultants** category at \$1,742,742. These categories will be broken down in more detail later in this report, but primarily represent trained professionals who are dedicated to this grant's target population.

Budget Detail for all Grant Recipients: Personnel & Fringe

| Section II: Budget Detail | |
|---|---------------------|
| Personnel & Fringe: | |
| Executive Directors | \$ 62,924 |
| Directors, Managers, Supervisors | \$ 48,622 |
| Fiscal & Administrative Staff | \$ 98,150 |
| Victim Advocates | \$ 10,430 |
| Community Health Workers, Therapists, Counselors, Case Managers | \$ 398,612 |
| Peer Recovery Support Specialists | \$ 268,800 |
| Taxes & Fringe Benefits | \$ 229,640 |
| Total Salary and Fringe: | \$ 1,117,178 |

The largest portion of the **Personnel** funding category, \$398,612, is for Community Health Workers, Therapists, Counselors, and Case Managers with an additionally large amount of funding, \$268,800 for Peer Recovery Support Specialists. When these two-line items are combined, and the associated taxes and fringe benefits are included, these services come to \$805,196 which is 72% of the personnel and fringe funding category. These staff members provide direct services to our target population.

An additional \$10,430 is for victim advocates, which was a requirement of this grant. The remaining \$311,982 covers other staffing across all eleven grants.

Budget Detail for all Grant Recipients: Contractual & Consultants

| Contractual / Consultants: | |
|--|---------------------|
| Executive Directors | \$ 4,000 |
| Counseling, Therapists, House Manager | \$ 165,606 |
| Peer Recovery Support Specialists | \$ 99,840 |
| Suicide Prevention Training | \$ 2,500 |
| Technical Assistance & Evaluation | \$ 31,000 |
| Staff Sub-Total: | \$ 302,946 |
| Direct Services for Reentry | \$ 17,180 |
| Staff provided transportation for clients | \$ 4,422 |
| Direct Services: Local Pharmacy | \$ 2,400 |
| Direct Services: Mental Health Housing | \$ 136,750 |
| Direct Services: Housing Assistance | \$ 120,965 |
| Direct Services: Supportive Services (Childcare) | \$ 139,800 |
| Direct Services: Training and Tuition | \$ 1,018,279 |
| Direct Services Sub-Total: | \$ 1,439,796 |
| Total Contractual/Consultants: | \$ 1,742,742 |

The **Contractual and Consultants** category contains the bulk of allocated grant funds. The chart provided has been broken into two sections. The top or light gray portion is additional funding for personnel while the darker gray portion in the bottom Direct Services to our target population.

The top portion contains an additional \$165,606 for contracted counselors, therapists, and a resident house manager plus \$99,840 for Peer Recovery Support Specialists. Those two-line items make up the bulk of this top section and when combined add up to \$265,446. This leaves \$37,500 for the remaining line items which include Executive Directors, Suicide Prevention Training, and personnel for technical assistance and program evaluation.

When we take the \$805,196 from the **Personnel** category above and combine it with the \$265,446 total under the **Contractual and Consultants** category the grand total is \$1,070,642. This means over one third of this grant's available \$3,000,000 is going toward personnel who provide direct mental health, case management, and peer support services to our target population.

In the bottom or darker gray portion of this chart, the top three lines contain services like local pharmacies, staff who provide client transportation, plus clothing, birth certificates, phone cards, and identification cards for our reentry population.

At the bottom of this section there is \$136,750 toward mental health housing for individuals requiring acute attention through mental health courts; \$120,965 for housing assistance mostly in the form of rent assistance; and \$139,800 for supportive services like childcare or required tools to enter a trade or career. The final line of this chart, \$1,018,279, is funds to directly pay training and tuition for people in reentry or as a diversion from recidivism.

Budget Detail for all Grant Recipients: Travel & Other: Staff Training

| Travel: | |
|--|------------------|
| Out of State Travel: Conferences (7 staff members) | \$ 12,426 |
| Out of State Travel: Staff Training (1 person) | \$ 2,264 |
| In-State Travel: meetings with clients | \$ 11,370 |
| Total Travel: | \$ 26,060 |

| Other: Staff Training: | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Staff Registrations | \$ 10,255 |
| Total Training: | \$ 10,255 |

The **Travel** section and the **Other: Staff Training** categories are for staff at the funded organizations. Eight staff members will be attending conferences and training out of state with grant funds paying for their travel and registration expenses for those events.

Grant funds are also being used for in-state travel so an organization's staff can meet with clients who may be experiencing a crisis at home.

Budget Detail for all Grant Recipients: Supplies and Operating

| Supplies/Operating: | |
|--|------------------|
| MH screening and drug testing supplies | \$ 10,956 |
| Organizational Supplies | \$ 30,504 |
| Total Supplies/Operating: | \$ 41,460 |

Under the **Supplies and Operating** category, grantees requested assistance with Mental Health screening supplies along with drug testing supplies.

Organizations also requested to purchase essential items like new computers, office supplies, and filing cabinets. The \$30,504 covers expense requests across 11 organizations. This category's total of \$41,460 is just 1.38% of the total \$3,000,000 available in grant funds.

Budget Detail for all Grant Recipients: Indirect

| Indirect: | |
|--|------------------|
| Partnership Douglas County | \$ 3,227 |
| Nevada Outreach Training Organization | \$ 4,417 |
| Community Chest, Inc. - Storey County | \$ 5,895 |
| Community Chest, Inc - Mineral County | \$ 8,693 |
| Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow | \$ 40,073 |
| Total Indirect: | \$ 62,305 |

Five of the six non-profit grant recipients included **Indirect** costs in their applications. These costs are generally a percentage of their operating expenses with this category coming to \$62,305 or just over 2% of the available grant funds.

Please note: Partnership Douglas County broke out their Indirect expenses and are charging them as direct operating expenses. In the interests of simplicity, their direct expenses more closely fit and created less confusion when included in the **Indirect** category.

Budget Detail for all Grant Recipients: Match

| Match: | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Humboldt County Human Services | \$ 35,379.00 |
| Lyon County Human Services | \$ 46,076.00 |
| Las Vegas Municipal Court | \$ 43,179.00 |
| Carson City Justice / Municipal Court | \$ 27,511.00 |
| City of North Las Vegas | \$ 136,461.00 |
| Total Match: | \$ 288,606.00 |

The five governmental entities receiving NLJR grant funding were required to provide a 30% match for their projects. All governmental entities, except the Las Vegas Municipal Court, provided an in-kind match of staff time. The Las Vegas Municipal Court provided a cash match significantly extending the benefit to the grant's target population in Clark County.

Please note: one entity, the Carson City Justice / Municipal Court, budgeted a match of 33% or \$679 over their required match of \$26,832.

Executive Summary

Spreadsheet

The following spreadsheet is an aggregated Executive Summary of all 2024-2025 NLJR Grant Awards with detailed monthly expenditures listed for each line of the budget.

NLJR Grant Awards and Spreadsheets

This section contains a description of each grant award recipient, their goals and accomplishments to date. Following each description, there is a detailed spreadsheet showing the budget and monthly expenditures for that grant award. **Please note:** the first programmatic or “narrative” quarterly reports for the June 1 through September 30 grant performance period were received from all grantees on October 31, 2024.

24NLJR01: Partnership Douglas County (PDC): \$70,001

Project name: Douglas County MOST and FASTT Program Expansion

Overview:

Douglas County established two programs to combat substance use disorders and create behavioral health resources to stabilize individuals at risk for opioid overdose or experiencing crisis due to substance. The programs are the:

- Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST) run by the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office.
- Forensic Assessment Services Triage Team (FASTT) program managed by PDC.

MOST is a deflection strategy and FASTT is diversion. Deflection refers to rerouting individuals with mental health needs away from the justice system at the earliest possible points of contact. Diversion prevents individuals from moving more deeply into the criminal justice process after they have already become formally justice involved.

Goals:

- Expand hours from 10 to 20 hours per week for the FASTT program coordinator to go to the Douglas County Jail.
 - Increase services to 10 low-risk offenders.
 - Provide robust assessment and case planning services to ensure all moderate-to-high risk clients, being discharged from jail, have access to resources and a smoother transition back into the community.
 - Offer 30-day post-release follow-up.
- Suicide Prevention Network to offer a Men’s and Women’s Mental Health series at Douglas County Jail twice a month and serve 20 men and 20 women per year.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Contract with Suicide Prevention Network started July 1, 2024, but SPN was not able to get into the jail until August.
 - August: 5-men and 3-women attended trainings.
 - September: 4-men and 3-women attended trainings.
- Due to existing contracts and the need to avoid supplanting, PDC’s contracts with Three Peaks Therapy, Community Counseling Center and Jessica Waller, for this grant, started October 1, 2024, with no accomplishments to report.

24NLJR02: Humboldt County Human Services (HCHS): \$153,291

Program name: Reentry Services for Humboldt County

Overview:

The Human Services Department in Humboldt County provides a wide array of services. One service is to supervise individuals with a pending criminal case under a Pretrial Services Program. Another service assists individuals with indigent needs. These services overlap.

HCHS lacks resources to help these individuals with housing, transportation, and obtaining critical documents such as birth certificates, social security cards, and Identification Cards (IDs) needed for employment. These individuals may also need mental health, substance use, or medically assisted treatment to maintain stability upon returning to a less contained environment. HCHS staff helps these individuals enroll in insurance and establish a primary care provider. It is the goal of the Human Service Department to provide these services to individuals reentering Humboldt County after incarceration.

Goals:

- Secure employment documents: ID, Social Security Card, Birth Certificate.
- Increase rate of employment upon return to the community.
- Help secure stable or permanent housing.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Secure employment documents: ID, Social Security Card, Birth Certificate.
 - So far, HCHS has not had any requests for assistance in this area.
- Increase rate of employment upon return to the community.
 - Of the 3 individuals referred to HCHS this reporting period, one found a job on his own, one opted out of HCHS assistance before finding a job, and one is applying for disability which is appropriate for his circumstance.
- Help secure stable or permanent housing.
 - Two of the three individuals assisted this reporting period needed housing assistance. HCHS assisted both on a temporary basis, but both decided to go their own way without further assistance after one month.

24NLJR03: Lyon County Human Services (HCHS): \$199,960

Program name: Reentry Support

Overview:

Lyon County has an existing Forensic Assessment Services Triage Team (FASTT) which assesses criminogenic risk and provides service to offenders upon his/her release. The goal is to reduce recidivism based on each offender's assessment.

Individuals completing their sentences and transitioning from incarceration to the community often face significant challenges. On an individual basis, FASTT identifies gaps in basic necessities and connects individuals with the identified service(s). For example, transportation, access to treatment and healthcare, housing, prosocial support, phone, waitlists for treatment, and encouragement, therefore resulting in relapses, new charges, inability to follow court conditions, and possibly a re-arrest.

Adding peer support to the FASTT program is projected to reduce recidivism and increase public safety through crime reduction. Peer support is an important component of reducing relapses and recidivism. During reentry, peer support assists with re-entry navigation (accessing housing, employment, benefits, etc.).

Goals:

- 50%, or 104 FASTT clients, exiting the jail will be connected to a Certified Peer Support Specialist (PSSR) or Certified Community Health Worker (CHW).
- The clients most at risk of recidivism (up to 15), who are awaiting patient services, will receive a short-term hotel stay until his/her bed date.
- Provide training for 3 staff members.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Hired Community Health Worker: The new hire started 9/20/2024 and will provide post-release services to clients reentering the community.
- Database Enhancements: to improve data points and user experience.
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT): A FASTT case manager went to the CIT International conference from August 25 – 29 in Indianapolis; attended 9-sessions focusing on crisis response for justice-involved individuals, or individuals experiencing a crisis.

24NLJR04: Las Vegas Municipal Court (LVMC): \$143,929

Program name: Mental Health Court

Overview:

The mission of the Las Vegas Municipal Court (LVMC) is to provide public safety through education and accountability. The LVMC is a Court of Record and accounts for 52% of all Municipal Court filings. LVMC also oversees the specialty: Mental Health Court (MHC).

Specialty Courts are often referred to as problem-solving courts because they divert individuals from the standard judicial trial process and take a therapeutic approach to address the underlying problems that led to an individual's criminal activity. Addressing the root causes of crime in this way reduces recidivism and is a cost-effective and socially beneficial alternative to incarceration.

Clinical evaluation prior to final admittance to a LVMC Specialty Court program is conducted by a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor using the evidence-based Addiction Severity Index. The MHC is a trauma responsive program.

Goals:

- **Target population:** adults with a current nonviolent misdemeanor offense in the City of Las Vegas and a diagnosis of substance use and a co-occurring mental health disorder. Most are homeless and/or unemployed and demonstrate a need for intensive supervision.
- **Current capacity:** the current number of individuals served annually by the MHC program is 30, with 20 active participants at any given time. LVMC proposes to increase participation in the program by admitting 40 individuals annually.
- **Local data and evaluation findings:** The LVMC tracks 3-year recidivism rates for all Specialty Court graduates. The MHC has an average recidivism rate for graduates of 38% while the average recidivism for drug court graduates in Nevada is 25%. The court will use grant funds to support additional data gathering and analysis to better understand and improve retention and recidivism rates.

Accomplishments to Date:

- 13 individuals were enrolled at the beginning of the grant reporting period.
- 3 new participants were admitted.
- 2 participants were terminated, after 4 and 6 weeks of treatment, because they failed to comply with program requirements.
- 1 successfully completed all program requirements and graduated (8/8/24).
- 13 individuals were enrolled at the end of the grant reporting period.

Specific participant accomplishments:

- One client attended and completed Dental Assistant schooling. He was working in the field when he graduated.
- Multiple clients were hired and continued to work at Jiffy Lube.
- Multiple clients saved enough money to purchase a vehicle.
- Two clients were hired in the treatment field while participating in MHC and continued to work in the field during and after graduation.
- One client is currently attending N. Arizona University's online master's program.

**24NLJR05: Nevada Outreaching and Training Organization (NOTO):
\$48,582**

Program name: No to Abuse Program

Note: A requirement of the NLJR grant was to also provide a percentage of funding for victim services. Despite reaching out to many victim service providers, NOTO's application was the only one received.

Overview:

NOTO is a community-based non-profit that provides services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and elder abuse in Nye and Esmeralda Counties. NOTO has offices in Pahrump and Tonopah and has formal agreements with providers in Elko, Eureka, Lincoln and White Pine Counties. NOTO provides ongoing advocacy services, case management, resources, transportation services, court accompaniment, emergency housing, transitional housing, food vouchers, relocation services and household goods, furniture, and appliances, at no cost to our clients. NOTO operates a 24x7 hotline service for both counties and works closely with our local Sheriff's departments in Nye (NCSO) and Esmeralda (ECSO).

A large percentage of the victims NOTO serves live below the federal poverty level; many have no form of income or transportation and believe they have no recourse but to stay with their abusers. Many of the victims have physical evidence of battery and injury, and some have been incarcerated because of the domestic violence incident in which they were involved (i.e., both partners involved in physical altercations, throwing telephones, etc.). Some victims had significant substance abuse problems, such as an addiction to methamphetamine, marijuana, prescription drugs and/or alcohol. The Crisis Hotline received 217 calls (Pahrump and Tonopah combined), with many more crisis responses when the victim presented in person at the No to Abuse office or called the office line directly.

Goals:

- In FY24, we estimate we will receive close to:
 - 350 domestic violence / sexual assault victims and
 - 100 forensic interview referrals.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Since June 1, 2024, our advocates assisted 182 new primary domestic violence victims and survivors, 26 of them children, and 58 secondary clients.
- These 182 individuals received 1,449 direct client services that include complete assessments and intake plus direct advocacy services.
- Of those clients, 21 victims were accompanied to court hearings and proceedings, 10 temporary protective orders (TPO) were applied for and successfully approved.
- 11 individuals were provided with 127 shelter nights.
- 10 attended a support group meeting.
- Our advocates transported 5 children to Las Vegas for SANE exams.
- Through this advocacy, many victims and survivors found their voices to seek justice and safety. We work hard to make sure every person is heard, has a safety plan in place, and knows NOTO will work to help them reach a place of healing and security.

**24NLJR06: Community Chest, Inc – Storey County (CCI-Storey):
\$64,845**

Program name: MOST-like and FASTT-like Community Health Worker

Overview:

As has been demonstrated in other jurisdictions throughout the State, diverting and/or supporting those with mental health (MH) and/or substance use disorder (SUD) needs can greatly reduce the burden on law enforcement resources, as well as reduce recidivism. For the past couple of years, Storey County has utilized a Community Health Worker (CHW) employed by Community Chest, Inc. to be the first point of contact for any Storey County resident of concern. This CHW contacts the resident of concern – whether in the community or in the jail – and creates a care plan to connect the resident with the support and pro-social contact needed to be successful. This program is grant funded.

The CHW position was a need identified by all first responder and social service agencies through conversations in the county’s monthly Multi-Disciplinary Team. Prior to having this CHW, first responders and others would be deployed multiple times to respond to the needs of a “person of interest/concern.” Responders expressed a “revolving door” feel of people receiving services.

Since the creation of the CHW position, we now intervene in this cycle in a coordinated and collaborative manner. The CHW receives all such referrals, whether in the community or in jail, and follows up to discuss the person’s needs and develop a care plan identifying goals, expectations, and resources that can be utilized as a roadmap to increase this person’s likelihood of success. In doing so, we have better satisfaction for those served, and we are utilizing fewer of the more expensive first responder services and time.

Goals:

- This is a continuation grant; client numbers will be tracked.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Number of MOST-like calls/month? **4**
- Number of MOST-like follow-up calls/month? **3**
- Number of FASTT-like calls/month? **2**
- Number of care plans created. **6**
- Number of care plans followed. **8**
- On average, how many support services did clients connect with? **4**
- How many sessions were provided? **July-105, August-56, September 62, Total in grant period-223.**
- Types of support services to which clients are connected? **Adult Protective Services, Legal aid, Mental Health Services, Mental Health Counseling, CHW Emotional Support Services, Crisis response with/without Sheriff’s Office referral, suicide screenings, and Case Management.**
- Number of unduplicated participants referred by the Sheriff’s Office? **4**
- Number of unduplicated participants referred by first responders. **0**
- Referral from SO/FR, directly resulting in that participant staying out of jail? **1**
- # of well-known clients? **1**

**24NLJR07: Community Chest, Inc – Mineral County (CCI-Mineral):
\$95,627**

Program name: Mineral County CHW Jail Diversion Program

Overview:

Due to a lack of direct behavioral health and substance use services, CCI - Mineral has identified the vital need for an additional Community Health Workers (CHW). Rural communities within Nevada are designated as Health Provider Shortage Areas (HSPA) as well as medically underserved areas (MUA). Crisis intervention with law enforcement involvement is no exception. Rural and frontier communities face a shortage of staff, large travel distances for services, and a lack of licensed clinical providers.

Utilizing the effective and successful framework of an established Community Health Worker this funding would allow the expansion of CHW services by employing additional staff within the established framework to increase service capacity. Currently, CHW's provide FASTT-like responses within the jail as inmates are identified by Mineral County Sheriff deputies. A secure and confidential space is provided by MSCO allowing CHW's to meet and work with inmates.

The CHW skill set will be in-depth to meet the current needs of Mineral County. A CHW is a well-known and trusted community member. They have a clear understanding of the community they serve and are culturally aware. A CHW can bridge and link many services to an individual. They are familiar faces who help navigate judicial, health, and behavioral needs.

Goals:

- Adding second CHW to staff
- Number of FASTT-like calls/month in a jail setting
- Number of FASTT-like calls/month in a tele-health/tablet setting
- MDT health task force meetings
- # Care plans created
- # Care plans followed
- Number and types of supportive services clients connect with.

Accomplishments to Date:

- It has not been easy to find someone to fill the CHW position. The good news is Community Chest, Inc – Mineral County successfully hired someone who lives in Hawthorne. That person will start the last week of October.
 - **Please note:** this is the most current information based on the quarterly narrative report for the grant performance period of June 1 through September 30, 2024. The report was received on October 31, 2024.

24NLJR08: Carson City Justice / Municipal Court (CCJMC): \$109,497

Program name: Carson City Justice and Municipal Court, Mental Health Court (MHC)

Overview:

The Mental Health Court is a Specialty Court Program for participants who have been diagnosed with a mental illness and who have committed crimes. Some participants are also dual diagnosis and co-occurring. The MHC Program provides intensive supervision and monitoring to ensure participants comply with their individual treatment plans in addition to other program requirements. This unique population poses significant problems with the courts and law enforcement due to their mental state, social issues, and many have severe economic needs such as housing, job placement, and food.

The MHC Program provides a non-traditional adjudication approach to provide each participant with support and understanding for their mental health condition with a balance of holding participants accountable for their actions. Without a program of this nature, individuals suffering from mental health issues are prone to continue their criminal behavior, substance abuse addictions, and will repeatedly be sentenced to prison and jail.

Goals:

- Increase services to an additional 10 participants. This will include clinical treatment and rehabilitative services. Both individual and group counseling.
- Sustain current transitional housing needs.

Accomplishments to Date:

- The MHC has increased the number of participants who are receiving clinical treatment and rehabilitative service from the Mental Health Clinician from 18 to 27, with the goal of continued growth.
- Grant funding was used to sustain current housing needs through the Spirit of Hope's Sunrise House.

24NLJR09: City of North Las Vegas (CNLV): \$576,593

Program name: Carson City Justice and Municipal Court, Mental Health Court (MHC)

Overview:

The City of North Las Vegas (CNLV) will launch the truly unique pilot "Youth Opportunities for Understanding, Transformation, and Healing (Y.O.U.T.H.) Court Program" designed to support young adults aged 18-24 who are or may become involved with the North Las Vegas Municipal Court (NLVMC) or the corrections system. This initiative, led by Erin Tellez and Shanice Edwards, is a diversionary program to create an accessible pathway to successful outcomes for young adults through mentorship, workforce development, peer mentorship, and reentry preparation planning and services. The program outcomes are lower recidivism rates in this over-represented age group and a tested replica model for other jurisdictions to leverage.

The Y.O.U.T.H. Court Program will be implemented as a one-year pilot, structured to assess the efficacy of various support services and their impact on participants. The program will be divided into three cohorts, each involving 6-8 participants, to facilitate detailed evaluation and iterative improvements.

Potential participants may be recommended by the Municipal Court, by Corrections, Police Department, or by Crisis Response Unit (Fire). Potential candidates will be assessed and final selection for the program will be made by the Municipal Court staff operating the YOUTH program.

Identified participants will be enrolled in a cohort and data tracking will be kept by cohort. Primary outcomes for all participants will be set by YOUTH staff and secondary outcomes will be self-selected by the participants.

Each cohort will operate for approximately six months. At the conclusion of the program period, all data will be analyzed to identify the most impactful interventions. Ongoing data will be collected after the program to measure long-term impacts.

Goals:

- Y.O.U.T.H. Court Program aims to reduce initial court and incarceration, reduce recidivism, and support the reintegration of young adults into society.
- Cohort 1: September 1 - February 28; will enroll 6-8 participants.

Accomplishments to Date:

Cohort one is underway and is comprised of 4-individuals with the following demographics:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 22-year-old White/Hispanic male | 20-year-old White/Hispanic male |
| 19-year-old White/Hispanic female | 18-year-old White/Hispanic male |

Cohort one is currently working with Lighthouse Charities for job placement services. They are learning to show up for work on time, clock in and out, and respond to supervision. They're being trained in a variety of areas from stocking shelves to food distribution, working a farm stand, etc... They're also being assisted with vital records and ensuring they're prepared to enter the work force by the end of the program. All participants are being monitored for drugs and alcohol, and are receiving extensive individual case management.

24NLJR10: Ridge House (RH): \$782,098

Program name: Transformations: Stop the Cycle

Overview:

The Transformations program will have the potential capacity to serve clients who are involved in specialty courts, have a status of prison reentry and in need of Substance Use and Mental Health treatment. Safe sober housing is the cornerstone of the focus of the program. Peer recovery support specialists (PRSS) will be utilized in various aspects of the recovery program activities and events. Most of the house managers at Ridge House who interact with the clients daily are personally in recovery, have their PRSS certification, or will be completing the certification by the end of 2024.

Transformations is a new program initiative to intervene upon the foundational issues contributing to recidivism. The inspiration for Transformations was provoked by our clients whose conditions present, by industry standards, as treatment resistant or chronic. When we realized that three of the recent graduates of our program had 100 years of combined incarceration time between them, it became an explicit focus to make some changes to interrupt this cycle of re-offense and reincarceration. In our effort to stop the cycle of relapse, we intend to maintain program elements for which Ridge House is known.

This program will have a client-centered treatment team driven by the client and his/her individual needs vs. the previous signature approval program that was determined by the individual counselor. This program will also focus on building a recovery community with elements of restorative justice and healthy socialization. Transformations will be limited to 22 of our 38-bed capacity.

Goals:

- This is a new program, and the goals are being defined.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Admitting clients to the transformation program has not started yet because of the training process for clinical staff and Peer and Recover Support Specialist (PRSS) staff that is scheduled to be completed by 12/15/2024.
- The new program is starting to review applications and set up interviews with prospective clients; we are working with the pre-release staff at the state prison.
- We are actively recruiting new PRSS and house manager staff. We have new counseling interns (certified alcohol and drug counselor, and clinical professional counselor intern) scheduled to start with the clinical staff in December and January.
- All clinical staff attended an in-house training about neuropathway development related to addiction/patternistic behaviors and related to criminal behavior and risk of relapse.
- Drug screening and test products were researched, and an order will be placed November 1.

24NLJR11: Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow (FIT): \$1,044,013

Program name: Employment: The Antidote to Recidivism

Overview:

FIT's program will offer educational and vocational training activities, soft-skill development (with a focus on cognitive behavioral therapies and work readiness development), risk-need-responsivity and general education assessment. Most critically, there will be intensive one-on-one case management throughout the duration of each client's pre-release and post-release program.

The program combines this intensive, integrated case management with bundled services. Our program paradigm integrates self-determination theory (SDT) and social cognitive career theory (SCCT) into client interactions and employment-focused services.

Frequently, the situation that led a person into the criminal activity that landed them in jail was the need for money. Their criminal conviction creates new barriers to employment and, upon their release from incarceration, there is a heightened chance they will once again need money and revert to criminal tactics; recidivism will result. In contrast, we help clients close their skills gap through basic skills class curriculum aimed at increasing client efficacy and cognitive skills, and ultimately arming clients with industry recognized credentials that will qualify them for well-paying jobs on a career ladder. This, in turn, will reduce the likelihood they will re-offend, reduce victimization, and maintain public safety. With employment in a well-paying job, clients are relieved of the desperate need to support themselves and their family. Their employment will be designed to do just that without the need for burglary, robbery, or other illegal activity.

At the same time, employment will suddenly provide them with a new group of people with whom to associate. Of course, they have their case manager, with whom they have formed a very strong personal bond. They will also have other people to work with, and hopefully, new associates to befriend. This drastically reduces recidivism.

Research has shown that two (2) of the leading factors prompting recidivism are (1) lack of sufficient employment and (2) engaging with an undesirable cohort of colleagues. The Employment: the Antidote to Recidivism program overcomes both negative influences.

Goals:

This is a continuation program that will track:

- The number of clients employed annually.
- The amount to which their income increases.
- The amount by which their dependence on public assistance decreases.
- For those re-entry clients, the percentage of recidivism.

Accomplishments to Date:

- This grant started August 28, 2024, and was getting started through September. They did not have any accomplishments to convey through the June 1 through September 30 grant performance period.