

Nye County

Health & Human Services



Annual Report - Fiscal Year 2024

October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

MISSION



Our mission is to help Nye County residents achieve and sustain self-sufficiency in order to reach their full potential.

VISION



Our vision is that our innovative programs, services, and referrals will assist in providing the building blocks for Nye County residents to establish strong foundations and well-being, creating a better community for everyone.

VALUES



Compassion, Accountability, Empathy, Integrity, Diversity, Passion, Guidance and Direction.

Our Staff

Karyn Smith – Human Services Director/Public Guardian

Jennie Martin – Program Supervisor/Chief Deputy Public Guardian

Health & Human Services

Amanda Pazarena – Senior Eligibility Supervisor

Christina Lee – Eligibility Worker

Shila Henderson – Eligibility Worker

Dominique Taylor – Eligibility Worker

Samantha Engel – Eligibility Worker

Jayce Prystup – Secretary I

Ryan White

Anita Lockhart – Ryan White Specialist

Scott Gill – Food Pantry Clerk

Ken Oberlin – Food Pantry Clerk

Patrick Terry – Food Pantry Volunteer

Senior Services

Jennie Martin – Program Supervisor/Chief Deputy Public Guardian

Public Guardian

Nikki Hartwick – Accounting Secretary

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

Maria Guerra – Eligibility Worker/CPA

Paula Murphy – Eligibility Worker/CPA

Maria Gomez-Farrow – WIC Clerk

Community Health Nurse (CHN)

Genie Walker – Support Specialist

Crystal Kennedy - Community Health Nurse

Gretel Rodriguez – Eligibility Worker/CPA



WORKING AS A TEAM



Our Role

Nye County Health & Human Services' (NCHHS) mission is to help Nye County residents achieve and sustain self-sufficiency in order to reach their full potential.

Programs offered through this department are geared toward at-risk and low-income County residents. As a recipient of the federally funded Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), NCHHS also serves as the local Community Action Agency. In this role, NCHHS works in collaboration with other community partners to address community-wide issues that contribute to family poverty, by coordinating various funding streams and services into a comprehensive plan for addressing the needs of low-income individuals and families in the community.

An important component of this work is the active involvement of a Tripartite Board - a diverse group of community members actively engaged in efforts to reduce poverty in the community.

Tripartite Board

As a Community Action Agency, NCHHS engages a diverse group of individuals to serve in an advisory capacity to the department, otherwise known as a Tripartite Board. To promote the participation of the entire community in the reduction of poverty, Board Members include public officials, private sector representatives, and low-income residents in assessing local needs and addressing the causes and conditions of poverty. The Tripartite Board is responsible for the development, planning, implementation and evaluation of the services and programs administered through the Community Services Block Grant.

Tripartite Board Mission Statement - Reduction of poverty through the empowerment of individuals, families, and communities to gain knowledge, skills, and resources to achieve self-sufficiency.

THE HONORABLE JUDGE SULLIVAN
DJ MILLS
DAWN SLIGAR
CHARLOTTE BRUCE
KARYN SMITH
SCOTT GILL
KEN OBERLIN

PUBLIC
PRIVATE
PRIVATE
PRIVATE
PRIVATE
COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY

Who We Serve

- 9.2% are uninsured
- 24.8% are disabled
- 24.8% are renters, while 75.2% own their own homes
- 15.5% live at or below the poverty line
- 31% receive some form of Social Security or a pension and 37% are employed
- 16.2% are Veterans
- 13.4% of adults 25 years or older lack a high school diploma or GED
- 35.5% have a high school diploma or GED and 30.2% have a college degree or some post-secondary education
- 44.4% are single person households and 46.4% two parent households

Our Community

An updated Nevada State Health Needs Assessment is expected to be released soon, which will include an analysis of local demographic information and some of the challenges facing the community; however, current statistics cited per the data sources found on pg. 6, offer a glimpse into the most recent numbers reported in the areas noted below.

Poverty

- ❖ In 2023, 15.5% of residents in Nye County lived in poverty.
- ❖ In 2023, the median household income was \$55,975.
- ❖ In 2023, 17.3% of single female households with children/dependents lived in poverty.
- ❖ An average of 19.7% of children live in a state of poverty in Nye County, significantly greater than the state average of 12%.

Education

- ❖ In 2023, there was a 86.7% high school graduate or higher rate for persons ages 25 years +.
- ❖ As of 2023, 12.7% of residents ages 25 years + had a bachelor's degree or higher.

Nutrition

- ❖ In 2024, 14.7% of the population was food insecure.
- ❖ 10,285 persons received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps) benefits during 2022.

Health Care

- ❖ An estimated 10.3% of Nye County residents under age 65 were uninsured in 2023.
- ❖ According to the 2022 Nevada State Health Needs Assessment, Nye County's top priorities were access to healthcare, chronic diseases, mental health and substance abuse.
- ❖ In 2015, Nye County Regional Medical Center in Tonopah was closed, leaving the nearest medical center over 100 miles away.

Employment

- ❖ For 2024, Nye County had an unemployment rate of 9.5%. A 5.2% higher rate than the national average and nearly 3.9% higher than Nevada.
- ❖ In 2023, 71% of the population age 16 years + were in the civilian labor force.

Data Sources: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2019-2023. Source geography: County
US Census Bureau, Quick Facts July 1, 2024
2022 Nevada State Health Needs Assessment - <https://dhhs.nv.gov>
Nevada Department of Equipment, Training and Rehabilitation, Local Area Unemployment Statistics
Social Security Administration, Face Sheet December 31, 2024
Three Square, Map the Meal Gap
FRED Economic Data, SNAP Benefits Recipients in Nye County
Bureau of Labor Statistics, The Employment Situation

Basic Needs

Welfare Set Aside (WSA)/Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF)

We were able to help alleviate various challenges with rent, utility, or security deposit fees in situations where the client was experiencing a qualified emergent need.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

We were able to assist clients who were at risk of becoming homeless, showed an inability to pay their housing expenses and did not have sufficient income and/or resources immediately available, by assisting them through case management with rent, and deposit/application fees.

Rural Nevada Continuum of Care Rapid Rehousing (RNCoC RRH)

We were able to assist two clients who were homeless and had no other resources or ample income to sustain stable housing. This funding allows us to provide in-depth case work to clients for up to twenty-four months to help overcome barriers that may have led them to the state of homelessness, and with the goal to permanently stabilize their housing. These funds can also provide assistance with rent and application/deposit fees.

Basic Services

We responded when low-income residents were faced with difficult challenges to overcome and had no other means to obtain food, hygiene products, home repairs, rent, essential services, and transportation.

IMPACT

- ❖ 535 families were assisted through our food program and 162 individuals received transportation assistance.
- ❖ 44 households were assisted in preventing an eviction and 19 for utility disconnect.

Education

Early Childhood Education

Through a partnership with Community Chest, Inc., we were able to provide early childhood education to children ages 3 to 5 through a home visitor and library-based model in Tonopah, who would otherwise not have had access to or received such services.



IMPACT

- ❖ Community Chest established this program in the summer of 2014, and it has been received very well by the community, students, and parents. The program continues to provide high quality education to local children.

Nutrition

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

WIC provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk.



Along with providing Monday – Friday services at our Pahrump office, WIC also hosts a quarterly Saturday clinic and sends a caseworker to Tonopah once a month, as well as Beatty and Amargosa quarterly.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

IMPACT

- ❖ Through WIC, we improved the health of over 9,811 residents in Pahrump and Tonopah during FY 2024.

Health Care and Guardianship

Ryan White

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS program helps to support people living with HIV/AIDS by offering case management, transportation assistance, food pantry and vouchers for fresh/frozen fruits/vegetables/meats and personal hygiene/cleaning supplies, and aids in Emergency Financial Assistance for rent and utilities.

Public Guardian

The Public Guardian's office is on call 24/7 and is responsible for ensuring the daily proper care, well-being and treatment of court appointed Protected Persons, while performing duties necessary for the maintenance/preservation and protection of their estate and finances. Cases are becoming increasingly complex and challenging with complicated asset oversight and management.

IMPACT

- ❖ The Ryan White program started with our office more than 17 years ago and assisted 41 residents in obtaining needed services in FY 2024.
- ❖ The Public Guardian's office has helped 27 Protected Persons with Guardianship during FY 2024

Employment

Adult Employment Assistance

We are committed to helping unemployed and under-employed adults gain and retain jobs by better preparing individuals for the workforce and removing barriers that would otherwise prevent sustainable employment. Engaging local employers is a key part of understanding and matching potential employees to the skills and employment needs within the local community.

Youth Employment Assistance

Through a partnership with NyE Communities Coalition, youth between the ages of 16 and 21 are given the opportunity to engage in a workforce development program, dedicated to preparing participants through education and work skills training. Youth are also given work experience opportunities through local employers to further develop workforce readiness.

IMPACT

- ❖ 29 adults participated in the Adult Employment Incentive Program during FY 2023 and 11 of those obtained employment or better employment.

Senior Services

Congregate Meals

Nye County Senior Nutrition is dedicated to providing quality nutritious meals to seniors in a congregate setting at the Tonopah Senior Center, promoting social interaction and further support of independent living and well-being.

Home Delivered Meals

We partner with Nye County Senior Nutrition Program to ensure that meals are available in the communities of Beatty and Tonopah to homebound seniors in need of a hot, nutritious meal delivered to their home.

Transportation

Nye County Transportation Services helps seniors and the public access local and long-distance essential services and resources, such as groceries, prescriptions, and non-emergency medical appointments.

IMPACT

- ❖ In FY 2024, we helped to serve 9,165 congregate meals at the Tonopah Senior Center and 9,928 meals to homebound seniors in Beatty, Gabbs, and Tonopah.

Community Engagement/Projects

Coalition Building

Nye County Health & Human Services is dedicated to being a key partner in addressing poverty throughout Nye County. Engaging community partners is necessary to bring together important stakeholders to develop strategies toward this critical topic. To do so, Nye County Health & Human Services enlisted the help of Shaun Griffin, Executive Director of Community Chest, Inc. to bring together community members within Pahrump and Tonopah through the Pahrump Community Outreach Committee and the Tonopah Community Coalition. Each coalition worked this year to identify key strategies to address poverty within their respective community.

Pahrump Community Outreach Committee:

- 1) Affordable Housing
- 2) Food Security
- 3) Substance Misuse Prevention and Education

Tonopah Community Coalition:

- 1) Youth Programs/Substance Use and Abuse Programs
- 2) Sustain Food, Mental Health and Social Media Progress
- 3) Recruit & Retain Volunteers
- 4) Market/Promote Coalition
- 5) Transportation/Emergency/Community Development

Community Crisis Intervention Committee

- 1) Homeless Wraparound Events (Quarterly)
- 2) Monthly Showers for the Homeless
- 3) Outreach



IMPACT

- ❖ The Community Crisis Intervention Coalition sponsored quarterly events for FY 2024 and provided needed services and resources to approximately 201 attendees, including food, water, clothing, blankets, and transportation.
- ❖ Approximately 61 showers and 50 haircuts were provided, along with handing out over 100 Hygiene Kits and toothbrushes!
- ❖ In FY 2024, Pahrump Valley Transportation provided an average 1,600 trips to local community members.

Community Partnerships

FASTT/MOST Program – Community Deflection

Agreement with NyE Communities Coalition to coordinate contracted services for the FASTT/MOST Program for the Community Deflection Program Manager to provide case management to inmates at the Nye County Detention Center. Services provided to reduce recidivism are case management, screening, assessments, case plans and referrals to needed community resources upon release.

IMPACT

- ❖ 94 inmates served in FY 2024.

Medical Services

RAM

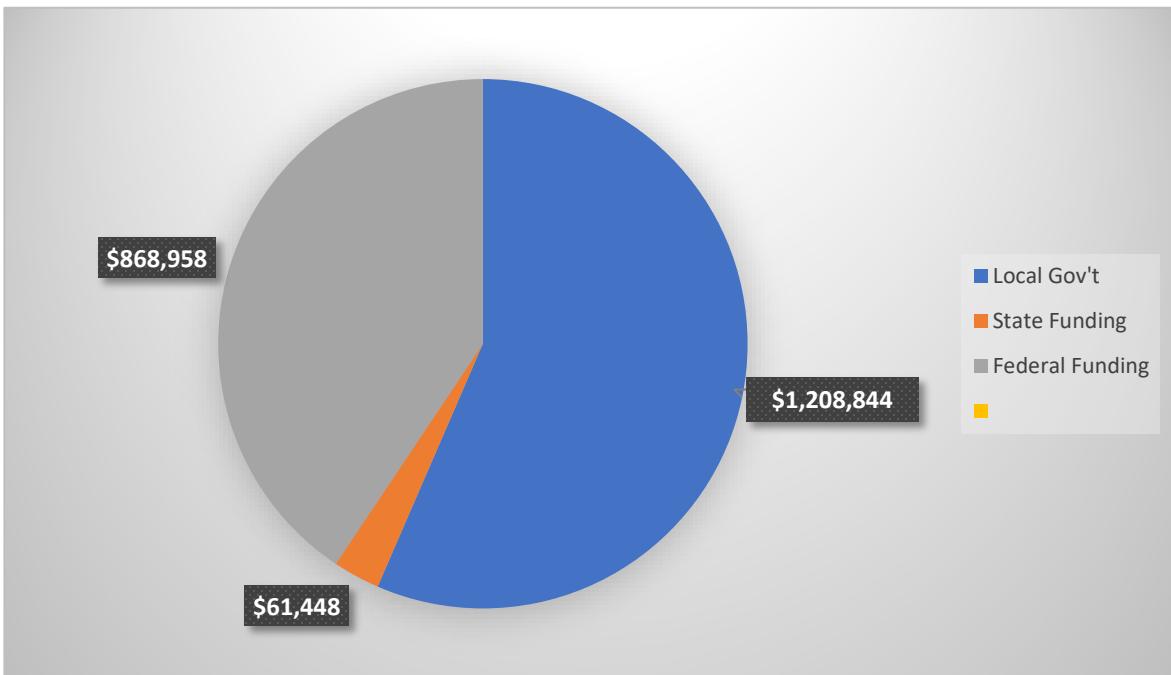
Remote Area Medical (RAM) is an international nonprofit that provides an array of free medical services to those who need them, regardless of insurance status and with no identification needed. The goal is to assist underserved and underinsured individuals who may otherwise not be able to obtain necessary health care exams and procedures.

IMPACT

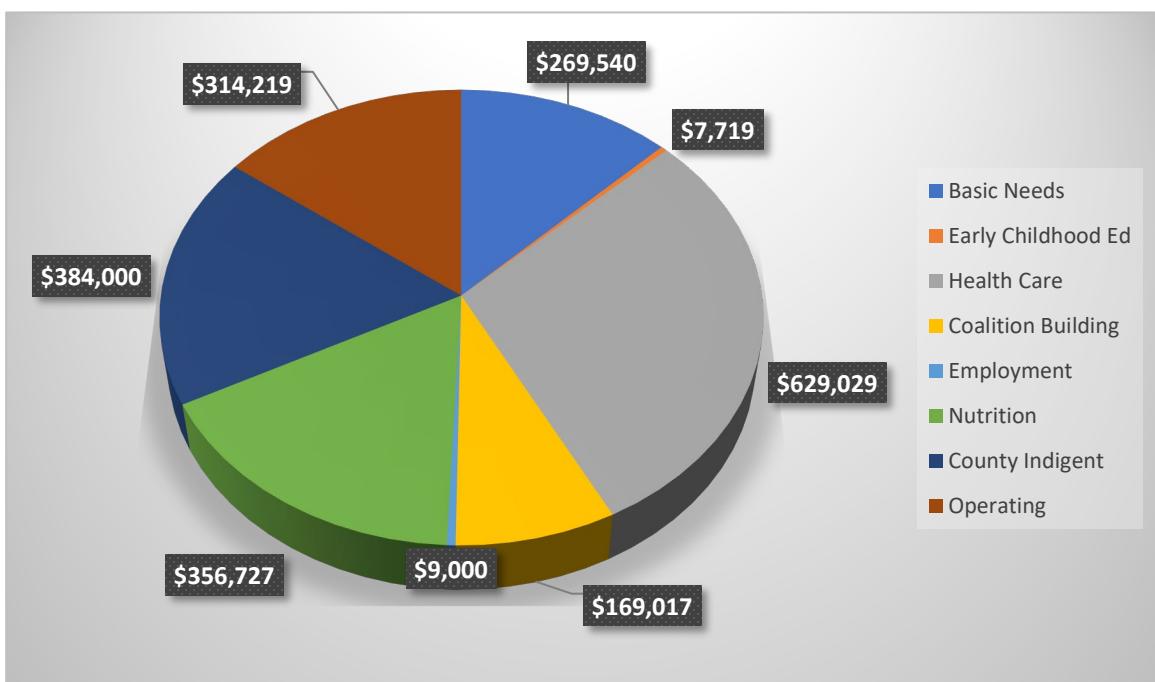
- ❖ RAM served 452 people in Pahrump FY 2024.

Financials

Sources of Income



Use of Funds



Looking Ahead

With 60 years now gone since the passing of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and the resulting birth of the Community Action Agency (CAA), Nye County Health and Human Services (Nye HHS) carries on a commitment to fight the War on Poverty. As a CAA, we rely on core funding from the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) to provide critical support in areas such as food insecurity, access to transportation, home repairs, essential services, past due rent and utilities. However, as 2024 drew to an end and 2025 started, our nation faces yet another period of uncertainty as we wait to see the full impact of political shifts and their effect on the economy.

For the first time in the last 20 years by which Nye HHS has been administering CSBG funding, program services are at risk of significant reductions, or the possibility of total elimination due to federal level delays for funding. Fellow CAAs at all levels throughout the country are working hard to now fight the “War on Funding”. Information about the release of budget funds and updates are scarce and only trickle in. The same can be said for the other funding sources our department relies on, such as Nevada Housing Division Welfare Set-Aside and Affordable Housing Trust Fund, WIC, and Ryan White.

Local support and resources for food, transportation, housing, and employment may be needed more than ever as we move through this next year. This potential downturn in the provision of services may also exacerbate other crisis worries that have been increasingly impacting the health of our rural areas, i.e., homelessness, opioid use, increase to the number of guardianship cases, etc.

Resilience, innovation, and the spirit of hope might be key in overcoming the unknown challenges lying ahead; we hold true to the work we do to help change and improve the lives of the people in Nye County. We are committed to fulfill our mission as public servants to continue serving all with compassion, accountability, empathy, integrity, diversity, passion, guidance and direction - we will succeed at creating a better community for everyone!



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
– Helen Keller



Nye County Health & Human Services

PAHRUMP LOCATION

250 N. Hwy 160, Ste. 1
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Phone: (775) 751-7095
Fax: (775) 751-4284
Hours: 8:00am – 5:00pm
(Closed Lunch 12:15pm-12:45pm)
Monday – Thursday, Excluding Holidays

TONOPAH LOCATION

101 Radar Road / P.O. Box 926
Tonopah, NV 89049
Phone: (775) 482-8125
Fax: (775) 482-7261
Hours: 8:00am-5:00pm
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Monday – Thursday, Excluding Holidays

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

www.nyecountynv.gov

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