

Reported Grant Barriers in Nevada (agenda item 6c)

SOURCE	BARRIER	EFFORTS	AREA OF OPPORTUNITY
2010 Sage Commission Report	<p>This Commission was established by Governor Gibbons to provide recommendations to explore the streamlining of state government. Of the report's 44 recommendations, 2 identified barriers to grant funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Interim Finance Committee (IFC) thresholds & processes; and • Create a common structure to disseminate grant opportunities and application efforts. 	<p>2011 legislative session created the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination & Management with the mission to assist state agencies by identifying funding opportunities, supporting grant application efforts, and coordinating with local and non-governmental organizations.</p> <p>2015 legislative session enabled agencies to request a grant award be approved through a single work program.</p>	
2014 Lincy Institute Special Report	<p>The Lincy Institute's special report "Competing for Federal Grant Dollars in Nevada" reported several barriers related to grant funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural Incompatibility: Interviewed stakeholders reported a stagnant, difficult-to-navigate, and ultimately costly IFC approval process. Home Rule requires locals to work through state officials to apply for federal funding. • Capacity: Interviewed stakeholders reported a lack of qualified grant writers and administrators with the ability to implement competitive and sustainable projects. Additionally, stakeholders reported the level of administration, evaluation, and reporting is prohibitive to the utilization of funding. • Match: Interviewed stakeholders reported the numbers were too great to count. <p>This same report stated that to-date no organization has been able to quantify the amount of money Nevada is leaving in Washington.</p>	<p>Structural Incompatibility: The Grant Office is working with IFC and state agencies to identify a grant application to pilot a pre-award approval process. To help with Home Rule, the Grant Office is working proactively to increase collaboration and coordination with local and non-profit partners in both our rural and urban areas.</p> <p>Capacity: The Grant Office is working with the State Grant Workgroup:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To vet a revision to the State Administrative Manual; and • To standardize and adopt grant management policy and best practices. <p>Additionally, the Grant Office provides training and technical assistance for grant writing, implementation, and evaluation. The development of web-based workshops is expected to be completed in Spring 2018.</p> <p>Match: The Grant Office is working to identify the impact of this barrier; it is anticipated that the impending grant management system will</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Appropriate External Education (key stakeholders, legislators)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Important Data to Grants in Nevada</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Match Identification</p>

		<p>allow for a greater understanding of the number of bypassed applications resulting from a lack of match.</p> <p>Identifying dollars in Nevada: The 2017 Governor’s budget and legislative approval provided an enhancement to purchase a statewide grant management system. The Grant Office is currently working on bringing the contract to the Board of Examiners for approval.</p>	
<p>Grant Office Survey (2012, 2014, & 2016)</p>	<p>In each even-numbered year, the Grant Office solicits input from stakeholders on a variety of topics. Respondents are from state, local and non-profit organizations. The barriers below have been reported consistently over the last 6 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty meeting sustainability requirements; • Lack of personnel to manage grants; • Knowledge of grant management; • Time (to apply for, or hire new staff); • Partner development; and • Lack of staff to implement the new programs which would lead to increased eligibility for future grant awards. 	<p>Survey results have informed the Grant Office Work Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide grant support assistance to all requesting agencies; • Standardize best practices and policies • Provide grant-specific professional development; • Develop training workshops for all levels of grant management; and • Coordinate cross-agency and external partners to enhance project collaboration. 	<p>Sustainability Solutions</p> <p>Implementation Solutions</p>
<p>State Grant Workgroup December 2016</p>	<p>In Fall 2016 the Grant Office hosted a facilitated discussion with state grant professionals to identify areas for improvement.</p> <p>The SGW identified many of the same topic areas previously acknowledged in the biennial surveys conducted by the Grant Office.</p>	<p>Of the additional 29 areas identified for improvement, it is expected that 19 will be positively affected by the implementation of a grant management system.</p> <p>Of the remaining 10 areas, 6 of them have been addressed by the Grant Office Work Plan. The remaining 4 will be addressed through an SGW-specific training series.</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;">Southern Nevada Strong Strategic Framework May 2017</p>	<p>In May 2017, after 6 months of community held meetings, with several local non-profits, Southern Nevada Strong produced a Strategic Framework to improve Southern Nevada Non-profits' grant capacity and competitiveness. The work group decided upon several objectives. Listed below are a few of them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater identification of funding opportunities that 'fit'; • Increase communication tools for efficient partnering; • Enhance data and evaluation quality; • Provide expertise in grant writing; • Expand availability of matching resources; • Increase in training and toolkit resources available; • Greater ability to track and report grant funds in Nevada; and • Creation of searchable, community organization data base. 	<p>One of the keys to increasing grant funding in Nevada is to create stronger, more efficient communities that can become direct recipients of grant funding. Addressed as part of the Grant Office work plan, we are working with community partners to increase awareness, training opportunities, best practices, and outreach.</p> <p>The implementation of the grant management system will assist to provide greater funding opportunities; training resources; and data tracking for grants in Nevada.</p> <p>Additionally, the Grant Office is exploring current databases that capture community organization and services as to not duplicate efforts. 2-1-1 has been identified as a possible source to contact for partner identification.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Resources for Outreach and Coordination</p>
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