

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
DIVISION OF WELFARE AND  
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**

**NOVEMBER 2014**

***The mission of the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services is to provide quality, timely and temporary services enabling Nevada families, the disabled and elderly to achieve their highest levels of self-sufficiency.***

**MAJOR PROGRAMS**

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Child Support Enforcement Program (CSEP)
- Employment and Supportive Services (E&SS)
  - New Employees of Nevada (NEON)
  - SNAP Employment & Training
  - Social Services
- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
  - Child Care Subsidy Program
- Medicaid Eligibility
  - Medical coverage for adults, children and families
  - Medical Assistance for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (MAABD)
  - Medicare Beneficiaries to include:
    - Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB)
    - Special Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB)
    - Qualified Individuals 1 (QI1)
    - Qualified Disabled Working Individuals (QDWI)
- Energy Assistance Program (EAP)

## **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

TANF provides assistance to needy families so children may be cared for in their homes or in the homes of relatives, and provides work-eligible individuals with job preparation, work opportunities and support services to enable them to leave the program and become self-sufficient.

TANF is a time-limited cash assistance program. Federal law allows a five-year lifetime limit on receipt of TANF benefits. In Nevada, recipients may receive 24 months of assistance, after which they must remain off for 12 consecutive months; unless they meet hardship criteria. Receipt of benefits may continue until the lifetime limit of five years is reached.

TANF is federally funded through a block grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, through the maintenance of effort (MOE) provision in the federal regulations, states are required to contribute state money equal to 80% of the amount spent on the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and JOBS programs during federal fiscal year 1994. The 80% MOE can be reduced to 75% for each year the work participation rates are met.

Program success is measured by the number of households that leave the TANF program due to employment.

In FY 14, the average number of recipients receiving cash benefits each month was 32,239. The total cash grant expenditure for TANF in FY14 was \$48,159,450 with an average monthly grant of \$124.49 per recipient. The average TANF grant household size was 2.61 people.

## **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

The Food Stamp Program was renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), effective October 1, 2008 by federal mandate in order to engender a more positive identity and provide broader nutritional support for low income families. The purpose of this program is to raise the nutritional level among low income households whose limited food purchasing power contributes to hunger and malnutrition.

SNAP benefits are funded with 100% federal monies. Administrative costs for SNAP are 50% federal and 50% state funds.

The monthly average number of persons participating in SNAP in SFY 14 was 375,506. The total amount of SNAP benefits issued to Nevadans in SFY 14 was \$527,560,395, which averaged \$117.08 per month per individual.

## **Child Support Enforcement Program (CSEP)**

The Child Support Enforcement Program (CSEP) was established in 1975 pursuant to Title IV, Part D of the Social Security Act. The Title IV-D program is a federal, state, and local partnership committed to ensuring that the financial, medical and emotional needs of children are met through child support enforcement services.

The state administered Nevada CSEP operates in all 17 counties, through a combination of participating District Attorney Offices, State Program Area Offices (PAOs), and a Central Administrative Office. Some participating County District Attorney Offices only provide child support services for non-public assistance cases while others provide services to both public assistance and non-public assistance cases. The state provides services in those counties where the district attorneys do not.

Federal Financial Participation (FFP) in the program is provided for most necessary and approved expenditures at the rate of 66%. In Nevada the state and ten participating counties contribute 34% toward the cost of the program. The federal government also provides performance based incentive payments to qualifying states. The majority of incentives are passed on to the participating county district attorney offices for future program enhancements. The federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) can also assess penalties for failure to achieve minimum performance levels. Penalties are withheld from a state's TANF grant.

At the end of state fiscal year (SFY) 2014, there were 100,883 cases receiving IV-D program services, 49% of which were public assistance related. CSEP collected \$204,824,526 in child support payments during SFY 2014 compared to \$203,324,553 in SFY 2013. More significantly, Nevada's CSEP continued to improve in each of the five federal performance measures<sup>a</sup>. For the time period FFY 2008 to FFY 2013, the following improvements were achieved: a 33.9% increase in the paternity establishment rate; a 14.6% increase in the number of support orders established; a 10% increase in the current support measure; a 5.8% increase in the number of cases with an arrears collection; and, an 11.8% increase in cost effectiveness. Improvements in the federal performance measures increase Nevada's ability to compete for federal incentive dollars which are used to enhance CSEP.

CSEP assists families in moving from public assistance to self-sufficiency. In SFY 2014, the program passed on \$359,493 in child support to families receiving TANF benefits. Prior to 1998 the federal government contributed 50% to these payments; however, since 1998 these payments have been totally funded by the state. During SFY 2014, the program also collected and distributed \$36,483,038 in child support payments to families who had previously received public assistance in Nevada.

## **Employment and Supportive Services (E&SS)**

The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services provides education and training to individuals via the New Employees of Nevada (NEON), the SNAP Employment and Training, and the Non-Custodial Parent Employment Assistance Programs. Clients are further assisted with social services to help them become self-sufficient.

### **NEON**

NEON provides Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients a means to acquire basic and vocational skills and overcome barriers to achieve economic independence through employment. Recipients are screened to determine if personal issues such as domestic violence, parenting, substance abuse, etc., are inhibiting a successful transition to productive employment. After completing the assessment, the participant enters into a Personal Responsibility Plan (PRP) with the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services. The PRP specifies the services the participant will receive from the agency and identifies what the participant must do to achieve goals. Services are determined based on the individual's needs and can range from short-term classroom training to placements in public or nonprofit settings where job skills are gained through practical experience. The PRP is updated as the participant's circumstances change.

The NEON program receives funding through the TANF Block Grant and State General Fund. Funding to provide child care services to NEON participants is obtained from the Child Care Development Fund.

### **SNAP Employment & Training**

Nevada operates a SNAP Employment & Training (SNAP E&T) program statewide to provide employment, education, training and support services to SNAP recipients required to participate in a work activity as a condition of eligibility for SNAP. Support services such as transportation, and money for work-related costs are available to participants. Exemptions from participation include being under age 16, age 60 or older, disabled, caring for young children (under age six) or disabled family members, employed at least 20 hours per week, homeless, complying with the NEON program, living outside the metropolitan areas of Clark and Washoe Counties, or temporarily laid off from a job.

Administration and operation of the SNAP E&SS program is 100% federally funded. Participant expenses are funded with 50% federal and 50% state funds.

In SFY 11, participants who obtained employment averaged 30 hours per week with an average hourly wage of \$10.13. In SFY 12, participants who obtained employment averaged 28 hours per week with an average hourly wage of \$9.57.

## **Social Services**

The challenge of working with the “hardest to employ” (HtE) participants, who are also facing cash assistance time limits, are addressed by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services social workers. The HtE families experience a multitude of barriers/issues preventing them from being both emotionally and economically self-sufficient. Some issues addressed by social workers with the HtE family are domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health, health and/or caring for children with severe medical or emotional problems.

Social service programs are funded through the TANF Block Grant and the State General Fund.

The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services also developed a protocol with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, and Vocational Rehabilitation to effectively address mental health and vocational rehabilitation issues with TANF clients serviced by these agencies.

## **Child Care Development Fund**

In Nevada, the Child Care and Development Program (CCDP) has been in operation for over twenty years. The program provides child care subsidies to low income families who are working, searching for work, or participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) New Employees of Nevada (NEON) program through the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services. The purpose of the program is to provide the necessary supports that assist families in moving from welfare to work. In addition to subsidizing child care for low income families, four percent of program funds are used for quality improvement activities which include increasing parental access and choice for child care services, improving the delivery of child care services, and improving the education level of the child care workforce. For 2014 the program provided over \$38 million in state and federal funds to serve over 5,000 children and 2,900 families statewide.

## **Medicaid Eligibility**

### **Medicaid**

The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services determines Medicaid and Nevada Check Up eligibility for low-income Nevadans. Medicaid provides free health care coverage for low-income people including:

## DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Children and adults between 19 and 64 whose household income is at or below 138% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Pregnant women whose household income is less than 165% of the FPL

Nevada Check Up provides medical and dental benefits for children from birth to 19 years. To qualify household income must be at or below 205% of the Federal Poverty Level. A small premium, paid quarterly, may be required.

<b>2014 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Chart</b>			
If your monthly income falls within one of these ranges you may be eligible for assistance			
	Nevada Medicaid Monthly	Pregnant Women	Nevada Check Up Monthly
Family Size	138% of FPL	165% of FPL	205% of FPL
1	\$1342	\$1605	\$1994
2	\$1809	\$2163	\$2687
3	\$2276	\$2721	\$3381
4	\$2743	\$3279	\$4074
5	\$3210	\$3838	\$4768
6	\$3677	\$4396	\$5462

### **October 2014 Medicaid Statistics:**

Total Medicaid Recipients: 565,935 (w/o retro); 621,570 (w/ retro)

Total Affordable Care Act (ACA) Optional: 156,835 recipients

Total ACA Mandatory: 7,314 recipients

Total ACA: 164,149 recipients

\*Adult Med (with ACA): 244,787 recipients (w/o retro); 277,099 recipients (w/ retro)

CHAP: 226,322 recipients (w/o retro); 246,691 recipients (w/ retro)

NV Check Up: 24,717 recipients

### **Medical Assistance for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (MAABD)**

Medical Assistance for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (MAABD) is a medical services only program. Frequently, many applicants are already on Medicare; thus, Medicaid supplements their Medicare coverage. Additionally, others are eligible for Medicaid

## DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

coverage as a result of being eligible for a means-tested public assistance program (i.e., Supplemental Security Income [SSI]).

The various categories of eligible persons who may qualify for Medicare, Medicaid or both are:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients;
  - Nursing facility residents with gross monthly income up to 300% of the SSI payment level (State Institutional Cases); Under an agreement with the Welfare Division, Nevada counties pay the non-federal share of costs for institutionalized persons whose monthly countable income is between 142% and 300% of the SSI payment level. These cases are known as County Match cases.
  - Individuals can receive medical coverage for up to three months prior to their application if they apply for or would be eligible for any of the Medicaid categories;
  - Identified individuals who have lost SSI eligibility, but would still be eligible if some of their income were disregarded (Public Law Cases);
  - Disabled children who require medical facility care but can appropriately be cared for at home for less cost (Katie Beckett Cases);
  - Aged or physically disabled individuals who require medical facility care but can appropriately be cared for at home and aged individuals who have been residing in nursing facilities who can appropriately be cared for in adult group care facilities (Home and Community-Based Waivers);
- Employed people with disabilities may obtain healthcare coverage. Disabled employed individuals may be eligible for Medicaid coverage by paying a premium; and
- Non-qualified non-citizens who do not meet citizenship eligibility criteria who have emergency medical services may qualify for some (not all) Medicaid services.

Applications are required for all benefits; they are processed as follows:

- SSI cases: 10 working days following receipt of the eligibility determination made by the Social Security Administration.
- Aged cases: Within 45 days of application.
- Disabled and Blind cases: Within 90 days of application.

## **Medicare Savings Program**

The Medicare Savings Programs are different from other coverage groups in that they do not receive the full scope of Medicaid benefits. The five groups described below comprise the Medicare Savings Program population. Application for benefits must be made and a decision rendered within forty-five (45) days. Success in the Medicare Savings Program is assessed by the fact there are program expenditures meaning: if the state can pay for a low-income individual's Medicare premium, it saves state dollars by ensuring Medicare coverage of medical services. For example, a medical service costing \$100 is incurred by a client with dual coverage. Approximately 80% of the charge, or \$80, is paid by Medicare. The remaining \$20 is paid on a 50/50 basis by the state and federal government.

The eligible groups are:

1. **Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMBs)** are Medicare recipients who have income at or below 100% of the federal poverty level. Medicaid pays for their Medicare premiums, co-insurance and deductibles. Eligibility begins the month following the month the eligibility decision is made.
2. **Special Low Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMBs)** are Medicare recipients with income between 100% - 120% of federal poverty level. Medicaid pays their Medicare Part B medical insurance premiums. Eligibility begins with the application month with three months of prior medical coverage available.
3. **Qualifying Individuals 1 (QIs-1)** are Medicare recipients with income of at least 120% but less than 135% of federal poverty level. Medicaid pays their Medicare Part B medical insurance premiums. Funding is 100% federal up to the state allocation. Eligibility begins with the application months with three months of prior medical coverage available.
4. **Qualified Disabled Working Individuals (QDWIs)** have their Medicare Part A hospital insurance premiums paid by Medicaid. Eligibility begins with the application month with three months of prior medical coverage available.

## **Energy Assistance Program (EAP)**

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) assists low-income Nevadans with the high cost of home energy. Funding is provided from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) block grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human

## DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Services, and from Universal Energy Charge (UEC) monies distributed through the Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation.

In SFY 2014, EAP expended \$16.5 million in FAC benefits, serving 24,348 households with an average benefit payment of \$677. One million dollars was expended in the arrearage program, serving 2,972 households with an average benefit of \$338.

### WELFARE DIVISION OFFICES

<b>Carson City - Central Office</b>
1470 College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89706-7924
PH (775) 684-0500 FAX (775) 684-0646
<i>(Investigation &amp; Recovery)</i> PH (775) 448-5298 / FAX (775) 448-5250
<b>Carson City District Office</b>
2533 North Carson Street #200, Carson City, NV 89706
PH (775) 684-0800 FAX (775) 684-0844
<b>Carson City - Energy Assistance Program</b>
2527 N. Carson Street, Suite 260, Carson City, NV 89706
PH (702) 486-1404 FAX (775) 684-0740
<b>Elko District Office</b>
1020 Ruby Vista Drive #101, Elko, NV 89801-3398
PH (775) 753-1233 FAX (775) 777-1601
<i>(Child Support Enforcement)</i> PH (775) 753-1187 / FAX (775) 753-1228
<b>Ely District Office</b>
725 Avenue K, Ely, NV 89301-2796
PH (775) 289-1650 FAX (775) 289-1645
<b>Fallon District Office</b>
111 Industrial Way, Fallon, NV 89406-3116
PH (775) 482-0122 FAX (775) 423-1450
<b>Hawthorne District Office</b>
1000 "C" Street, P.O. Box 1508, Hawthorne, NV 89415-1508
PH (775) 824-7433 FAX (775) 824-7450
<b>Henderson District Office</b>
520 South Boulder Highway, Henderson, NV 89015
PH (702) 486-1001 FAX (702) 486-1270
<b>Las Vegas – Belrose District Office</b>
700 Belrose Street, Las Vegas, NV 89107-2235
PH (702) 486-1675 FAX (702) 486-1634

## DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### **Las Vegas – Community Assistance Center**

1504 N Main Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101

PH (702) 486-5000 FAX (702) 486-3676

### **Las Vegas - Cambridge Community Center**

3900 Cambridge Street, Ste. 209, Las Vegas, NV 89119

PH (702) 486-1500 FAX (702) 486-9525

### **Las Vegas – Chandler Administrative Offices**

2505 Chandler Ave, Suite 1, Las Vegas, NV 89120

Hearings PH (702) 631-2323 FAX (702) 631-2391

Quality Control PH (702) 631-2323 FAX (702) 631-3010

CHRT PH (702) 486-1646 FAX (702) 631-2392

### **Las Vegas – Craig Road District Office**

3223 Craig Road Suite 140, North Las Vegas, NV 89032

PH (702)631-3386 FAX (702) 631-3387

### **Las Vegas – Greystone Office – Child Support Enforcement**

1900 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89119

PH (702) 486-1095 FAX (702)366-2333

### **Las Vegas – Lewis Complex**

628 Belrose Street, Las Vegas, NV 89107

PH (702) 486-1646 FAX (702) 486-8499

### **Las Vegas – Nellis District Office**

6111 N. Nellis Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89110

PH (702) 486-4828 FAX (702) 486-4827

### **Las Vegas – Flamingo District Office**

3330 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89121-4397

PH (702) 486-9400 FAX (702) 486-9401

*(Investigation & Recovery)* PH (702) 486-1875 / FAX (702) 4861895

### **Las Vegas - Owens District Office**

1040 West Owens Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89106-2520

PH (702) 486-1899 FAX (702) 486-1802

### **Las Vegas - Southern Professional Development Center**

701 North Rancho Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89106-3704

PH (702) 486-1646 FAX (702) 486-1438

### **Las Vegas, Energy Assistance Program**

3330 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 55, Las Vegas, NV 89121-4397

PH (702) 486-1404 FAX (702) 486-1441

## DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Las Vegas – Spring Mountain District Office

3101 Spring Mtn. Rd., Suite 3, Las Vegas, NV 89102

PH (702) 631-3077 FAX (702) 631-3078

### Pahrump District Office

1840 Pahrump Valley Blvd., Pahrump, NV 89048-6131

PH (775) 751-7400 FAX (775) 751-7404

### Reno District Office

4055 S. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89502

PH (775) 448-5108 FAX (775) 448-5094

### Reno - Child Support Enforcement

300 East Second Street, Ste. 1310, Reno, NV 89501-1586

PH (775) 448-5150 FAX (775) 448-5199

### Sparks District Office

630 Greenbrae Dr., Sparks, NV 89431

PH (775) 824-7400 FAX (775) 824-7450

### Yerington District Office

215 West Bridge Street, #6, Yerington, NV 89447-2544

PH (775) 463-3028 FAX (775) 463-7735

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF LISTING

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