

# NYE COUNTY AGENDA INFORMATION FORM

Action    
  Presentation    
  Presentation & Action

<b>Department:</b> Public Petitioner	<b>Agenda Date:</b>
<b>Category:</b> Regular Agenda Item	March 12, 2018

<b>Contact:</b> Susan Haas	Phone: 775-687-4680 x 2	Continued from meeting of:
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<b>Return to:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	Phone:
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**Action requested:** (Include what, with whom, when, where, why, how much (\$) and terms)

Discussion and deliberation regarding a request for funds for the Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Program in the amount of \$14,510.00 to assist seniors to remain independent and in their own homes. This can be funded from Fund 10101 Nye County General Fund.

**Complete description of requested action:** (Include, if applicable, background, impact, long-term commitment, existing county policy, future goals, obtained by competitive bid, accountability measures)

RSVP has been serving seniors and disabled persons for more than 43 years by providing volunteers who are well prepared for their assignments with orientation and ongoing training. Services include assistance with everyday needs such as transportation to the doctor, to pick up prescriptions, socialization, grocery shopping, respite care, companionship, pro-bono legal services, homemakers, access to food pantries, commodity food distribution, personal emergency response systems, farmer's market coupons, resistance exercise training, and providing volunteers to assist agencies to achieve their goals. RSVP volunteers are able to provide these lifesaving services at no charge to the clients; however, volunteers are not free. They are an extremely valuable resource and the costs to provide services are considerable.

The last donation was made to RSVP in FY13 of approximately \$12,500.00 from the budget for the Pahrump Senior Center.

Any information provided after the agenda is published or during the meeting of the Commissioners will require you to provide 20 copies: one for each Commissioner, one for the Clerk, one for the District Attorney, one for the Public and two for the County Manager. Contracts or documents requiring signature must be submitted with three original copies.

**Expenditure Impact by FY(s):** (Provide detail on Financial Form)

No financial impact

**Routing & Approval (Sign & Date)**

1. Dept	Date	6.	Date
2.	Date	7. HR	Date
3.	Date	8. Legal	Date <i>N/A</i>
4.	Date	9. Finance	Date <i>SR 02.20.18</i>
5.	Date	10. County Manager	Date

Place on Agenda  
  
 ITEM # 38

# NEVADA RURAL COUNTIES RSVP PROGRAM, INC.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JERRY THURMAN  
Board President  
President Insured Financial  
Services

CAROLINE PUNCHES  
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STACEY GIOMI  
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Emergency Preparedness  
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Home Instead Senior Care

KEVIN S. KIRKBY  
Board Director  
Business Analyst,  
ElectraTherm

NICK MARANO  
Board Director  
Carson City Manager

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
& CEO

SUSAN C. HAAS

501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Tax Exempt Agency and Program of The Corporation For National And Community Service

February 5, 2018

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shaas@nrvsvp.com  
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Nye County Board of Commissioners.  
County Commission Chambers  
P.O. Box 153  
Tonopah, NV 89049

Dear Nye County Commissioners:

Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Program is pleased to submit a request for funding to continue to provide essential programs and services to seniors who desperately need our help.

RSVP's Mission is to help frail, homebound, and low-income seniors remain independent by providing high quality programs which allow them to stay in their homes with dignity. Additionally, RSVP coordinates a volunteer network of seniors who use their skills and talents to provide support to community agencies and address community needs through service.

In 2017 we were able to help 162 seniors and disabled persons in Nye County who were at risk of institutionalization remain independent and in their own homes. If you had institutionalized even a fraction (5%) of those we served it would have cost the county \$648,000.

We are writing today to request \$14,510 or 5% of the total cost of these services in order that we may continue to provide essential programs to seniors who come to us for help. This represents a Return on Investment of \$20.00 for every dollar you invest! These programs are fiscally and programmatically cost effective in maintaining seniors in their homes for as long as possible.

RSVP has been serving seniors and disabled persons for more than 43 years by providing volunteers who are well prepared for their assignments with orientation and ongoing training. Services include assistance with everyday needs such as transportation to the doctor, to pick up prescriptions, socialization, grocery shopping, respite care, companionship, pro-bono legal services, homemakers, access to food pantries, commodity food distribution, personal emergency response systems, farmer's market coupons, resistance exercise training, and providing volunteers to assist agencies to achieve their goals. RSVP volunteers are able to provide these lifesaving services at no charge to the clients; however, volunteers are not free. They are an extremely valuable resource and the costs to provide services are considerable.

Living our lives independently and with dignity is something that we all aspire to. Seniors living in your community face a wide range of challenges as they age from mobility, economic security, and health care, to physical and social isolation. They want to age in place and stay in their own homes where they are comforted by familiar surroundings and their own possessions for as long as possible. To do so is a viable alternative for persons in need and can be accomplished if given help to access the goods and services that they need to remain independent people.

## Mission

To help frail, homebound, and low-income seniors remain independent by providing high quality programs which allow them to stay in their own homes with dignity. Additionally, RSVP coordinates a Volunteer network of seniors who use their skills and talents to provide support to community agencies and address community needs through service.

*Named Outstanding 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Agency in Nevada for 2001 - Governor Kenny Guinn's "Points of Light Award"*  
*Named Volunteer Program Serving Veterans in Nevada for 2017 - Governor Brian Sandoval's "Points of Light Award"*  
Carson City - Churchill Co. - Douglas Co. - Elko Co. - Esmeralda Co. - Eureka Co. - Humboldt Co. - Lander Co. - Lincoln Co. - Lyon Co. - Mineral Co. - Nye Co. - Pershing Co. - Storey Co. - White Pine Co.

The Nevada Demographers office reports that 26% of those in Nevada over 65 years of age have incomes that are below the federal poverty guidelines. Many of these seniors are Veterans (an average of 14.9% of this population and growing).

According to the Administration on Aging 2010 Report, a significant number of older persons in Nevada have at least one chronic condition and many have multiple conditions, while the Census shows that 102,136 or a third of the people aged 65 and older were reported as having a disability. The Alzheimer's Association of Northern Nevada shows the number of patients over 65 years of age with Alzheimer's and dementia increased by 38% between 2010 and 2012, a number that is expected to increase. To exacerbate this disparity, Nevada has one of the highest geriatric suicide rates in the nation. The Nevada Dept. of Public and Behavioral Health's Office of Suicide Prevention reports that suicide rates among Nevada seniors over 60 is over double the national average for the same age group — 33 per 100,000, compared with 17 per 100,000 nationally.

Without supportive services which enable seniors to remain at home, they are often forced to relocate, move to an assisted living facility, and ultimately to move to a nursing home. According to a research study "Aging in Place in America", when Seniors (age 65 and older) were asked what they fear most, they rated loss of independence (26%) and moving out of home into a nursing home (13%) as their greatest fears.

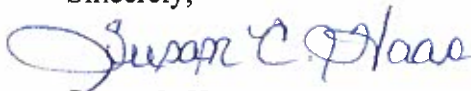
Whenever possible, living independently is the best possible solution as it saves millions of tax-payer dollars spent on unnecessary institutionalized care. State funds are stretched thin as more and more people in need of long and short term services are seeking assistance. Providing services which keeps seniors at home is the best alternative because if indigent, counties must pay up to \$80,000 per person, per year, for the costs of living in a care facility.

Keeping seniors in their own homes is advantageous for many reasons. Not only is it the most fiscally prudent way to help them, it's the right thing to do. Living independently helps to retain the dignity and lifestyle of the individual. RSVP provides a service that honors the elderly who have given so much to our communities and to our nation.

Thank you for your consideration of our request to assist our elderly population that are disadvantaged in many ways. Your past support has meant so much to seniors who are struggling to find ways to remain independent. Your continued assistance is critical.

I am pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Susan C. Haas  
Executive Director & C.E.O.

cc: Timothy Sutton, Nye County Manager  
Mitzi Corey, RSVP Nye County Field Representative  
Nancy Maslach, RSVP Nye County Field Representative

## RSVP Programs Provided to Nye County in 2017

- ❖ 2016 Dodge Caravan – RSVP Placed in Pahrump for volunteers to assist clients to receive rides and companionship for essential doctor’s appointments, shopping and socialization – value of vehicle is more than \$35,000.
- ❖ 51 Lifeline Units for low-income homebound seniors. Maintenance and repairs @ \$50 each = **\$2,550 TOTAL**.
- ❖ 1,898 hours of respite care services provided to 70 caregivers and loved ones valued at \$20 per hour = **\$37,950** plus mileage reimbursement for 6,309 miles at .40 per mile = **\$2,523** = **\$40,473 TOTAL**
- ❖ 318 hours of Independent living services such as Home Companionship and hours in long distance and around town rides from RSVP volunteers who provided transportation in a personal vehicle (medical, shopping, socialization etc.) valued at \$20 per hour: = **\$6,360 TOTAL**
- ❖ 11 seniors & Veterans received 91 trips in long distance and around town rides from RSVP volunteers who provided transportation in a RSVP VAN (medical, Vet Transportation, shopping, etc.) valued at \$10 per trip: = **\$910 TOTAL**
- ❖ 22 frail low income Seniors received Homemaker Services valued @ \$20 per hour for 966 hours = **\$19,320 TOTAL**
- ❖ 8 seniors received 6.25 hours of pro bono legal assistance valued at \$300 per hour = **\$1,875 TOTAL**
- ❖ 162 low-income seniors received services which helps to maintain their independence at home by RSVP providing independent living services. (Institutionalization for even a fraction (5%) would have cost \$648,000 based on \$80,000 per person per year if indigent).
- ❖ Admin Costs, Nye County Field Representative – out of pocket expenses, supplies, mileage, travel = **\$6,404 TOTAL**
- RSVP volunteers gave of their time and talents in Nye County for the good of the community to help others this year. Fifty senior volunteers gave 10,616 hours of their time at area nonprofit organizations valued at \$20 per hour = **\$212,320 TOTAL**
- Total value of RSVP services: **\$290,212**      Your Cost: **\$14,510**
- Value of keeping elders independent – priceless!
- RSVP respectfully requests that Nye County cover a minimum of **\$14,510**. This is the cost of institutionalization of one person for less than 6 months! Your support will ensure the continuation of these vital services to seniors.

**THANK YOU!**