NEVADA GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

­­­Project Status Summary

FFY’ 24 Third Quarter Project Status Summary

For the period of April 1, 2024, through June 31, 2024

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GOAL 1: (In House) Individuals with I/DD and/or family members of individuals with I/DD will be able to make more informed decisions about their lives by improving access to information on services, support and rights.

# Areas of Emphasis and identified barriers addressed: Quality Assurance, not knowing what services are available, not enough or can't access services, targeted disparity (racial/ethnic and rural communities).

## Objective 1.1

Council members and staff will provide and participate in public education activities that increase Nevadan’s awareness of disability services, policies, and practices.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* Individuals with I/DD, families and professionals will report being better informed on disability services, policies and practices thus increasing their sense of choice and control in making informed choices.
* Participation in 25 Public Awareness Events by 2026.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Self-Advocacy coordinator will create and distribute a statewide quarterly newsletter in English and Spanish via email, direct mailing and social media that provides resources, information and supports in plain language on advocacy, current policy issues, health, mental health, social services, housing, transportation, employment, education, transition, quality assurance and other subjects relevant to the North, South and Rural areas of the State.

Activity B) Self-Advocacy coordinator will regularly collect input to gauge impact and inform future newsletters.

Activity C) Council members and staff will participate in at least 5 Public Awareness Events in communities across the State to inform individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals about resources and/or topics of concern identified through public input for this State Plan.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

The PM attended the Medicaid 101: Taking the mystery out of Medicaid with NACDD and NCIL webinar in April. This webinar was very important as it came as a request from the NACDD task force as it is a very complex topic and went into detail on how Medicaid works. In April the PM also attended the Miracle Minds Student Mental Health Conference in Las Vegas where we shared a table with the SILC. This event was great opportunity to connect with other resources in the community and also to give out important educational material to individuals and educators in the community while educating them on the Council efforts and goals. The PM was able to distribute educational material to approximately 50 individuals.

Another great conference attended by the PM and staff was the ADSD Conference on April 17-18, 2024, held at the Atlantis Casino which was put together by Aging and Disability Services. This was a great conference and helped facilitate networking for many state agencies as well as brining educational awareness to state, government, and other outside agencies. This was also great to help enhance and educate on service delivery and equity and how to improve service delivery. All around it was a great conference. Also attended by the PM was the Family Support Council 2024 Autism Fair in Douglas County. This was a great community event, and we love attending this event yearly as it brings local families and offers great educational resources for the I/DD community. We had approximately 8 families attend and benefit from the great resources.

And to end the quarter the NGCDD Executive Director, Projects Manager and Public Health Liaison all attended APSE from June 17-20. This conference was a great learning experience for me, and it went over great topics like: Supporting Best Practice Career Pathway Transition Programs within schools, Improving Work-Based Learning Experiences to Transition Age Youth, Collaborations with Vocational Rehabilitation, Employee Retention and Engagement, Embracing DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) and other great transitional and inclusive information and resource. They had two great Keynote speakers Lora Brugnaro and Andy Arias. My favorite was Andy Arias and how he spoke about his personal experiences which have helped him built a better system for him and others. He was direct and brought forward those struggles that the I/DD community experience in the workforce. He had excellent advice on how to strive for embracing diversity and striving for financial equity and how this can help innovate and bring forth stronger individuals and organizations in the I/DD community to break down barriers.

**Self-Advocacy Coordinator (SAC):**

## The SAC, the Executive Assistant, and the Intern attended the “Be a Hero Fun Run and Family Resources Fair on April 27, 2024, in Carson City. Information was provided to the community on transitioning into adulthood, preparing for an emergency, partners in policymaking, and other resources from the disability community. Other community services providers were present and provided resources for their individual entities.

**Public Health Liaison:**

## Our ongoing relationship with the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) and Heather Lafferty, as their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion / Access and Functional Needs (DEI/AFN) Coordinator continues. Our PHL over this reporting quarter was involved in continuing education within the Community Health Work (CCHW) and additional courses from FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute (EMI).

## Efforts continue as we add to our registry of volunteers that range from individuals with varying disabilities to friends and families that would like to participate in training exercises with Emergency Mangers (EM) across the state. Weekly updates are still given through the NV AFN Disaster Coalition, “Wednesday Brief”. There are over 150 participants across state agencies, local non-profits and other key stakeholders within our disability community. Our PHL and her counterpart Heather Lafferty have continued to support Emergency Preparedness efforts through their presentations across the state and often have weekly calls with local and national organizations. They continue to create educational materials to close gaps in getting information out in plain language and ensuring that all materials are accessible. The G-197 course will be offered again 2025 through the Nevada Training and Qualification Systems (NTQS). Both our PHL and Heather will have made their rounds to all three regions of the state by this fall in Elko. To date, we have successfully trained over 52 participants in just those two pervious courses.

## Objective 1.2

Council members and staff will participate in a minimum of 6 (councils/committees/coalitions) to promote communication within and between agencies to ensure cohesive information about services and supports is available to more individuals with I/DD and their families.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* Ensure people with I/DD are represented in Statewide Councils, Committees, and Coalitions.
* Information will be shared across agencies individuals w/I/DD and their family members, ensuring a more cohesive delivery of services and supports for people with I/DD and their families.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Council members and staff will participate in statewide committees and councils comprised of multiple agency representatives.

Activity B) Council members and staff will regularly report on information gathered to Council members and self-advocates. Self-Advocacy coordinator will include this information in the quarterly newsletter.

* The Executive Director is the President of the NDALC Board, a member of the NDALC PAIMI Council, and a Member of the NCED CAC Committee.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

This past quarter was a busy quarter for all involved in the coordination and organization of our upcoming 2024 Silver State Advocacy Conference. As Projects Manager it has been a great working in collaboration with Council Staff and individuals from the I/DD community committed to our 2024 Silver State Advocacy Conference Committee meetings. These meetings have brought great ideas and initiative from the I/DD community to bring forward a great Conference for the I/DD community. We hope that the dedication and input of these meetings will showcase the interests, educational value, and personal development opportunities we want everyone to achieve as self-advocates and individuals in the I/DD community.

The PM and other Council staff continue to attend the Employment First Coalition meetings and provide important input on developing and integrating ways to make employment options more accessible and integrating for the I/DD community. The NGCDD ED has made a great strive in that factor by providing information on upcoming employment opportunities like job fairs in the community and other job openings that could interest those individuals looking for job opportunities in their communities. There is a proposed Executive Order in the Governor’s Office that would implement Employment First in Nevada. The Projects Manager continues to attend monthly online White House Aging and Disability Calls. These calls highlight various topics in the disability community and how they are being addressed in the forefront of government.

This past quarter has been a busy one when it comes to meetings. Other meetings attended by the PM were: NACDD Public Policy Meetings, NACDD Monthly Task Force. The PM also attended several webinars offered by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) Office of Fiscal Operations in the month of May. These webinars included: Leading Engagement: Council Strategies for Engaging Diverse Communities and Backgrounds, WE Amplified: Maximizing Influence for Collective Success, Leadership and People with Developmental Disabilities: Supporting the Journey of Developing Leaders.

The Executive Director, Projects Manager, Public Health Liaison, and the Executive Assistant attended the Disability and Policy Seminar on April 8 – 10, 2024, in Washington, DC, and attended several breakout sessions which included “Leading the Charge to Update SSI,” and From the Classroom to the Workforce: Education and Employment. On the final day, staff attended “Hill Day” at the Capitol. During this time, staff met with Senator Cortez-Masto and the staff for Senator Rosen.

All staff attended the Aging and Disabilities Services Division’s Conference on April 17, 2024, in Reno, and attended several sessions which included the Plenary Session, “Diversity in the Workplace,” “Times of Disasters,” and “I/DD and Dementia.” The Plenary Session was a conversation with people with disabilities that have used State services and their experiences.

All staff attended the Information and Technical Assistance Center (ITACC) for the Administration for Community Living (ACL) update on May 7, 2024, via ZOOM. This meeting gave updates on Fiscal Year 2025 budgets, Medicaid Access rule, Direct Care Workforce, and the areas of emphasis for the 2023 Period Performance Report (PPR).

**SAC:**

The SAC actively participated in several key meetings, contributing valuable insights and observations.

The SAC attended the Certified Contracts Management Training on April 18 – 19, 2024, in Las Vegas. This training is offered through the State Purchasing Division. After completed the course there is a test to complete and pass to receive their certification. The SAC completed the requirements and is a Certified Contracts Manager.

The SAC attended the Human Rights Committee (HRC) meetings on April 25, 2024, and June 27, 2024. During both meetings, the SAC had concerns of rights restrictions. The concerns were presented, and the committee discussed possible changes/corrections for the individuals.

The SAC and the Executive Director had a meeting with Sabina Hagan-Finks from the Office of the Secretary of State. Ms. Hagan-Finks was inquiring about accessibility and how they can increase accessibility during voting. Catherine Nielsen explained accessibility especially for those who have visual impairments. Ms. Hagan-Finks also discussed creating some videos, to identify important issues for people with disabilities, and making these videos accessible for those who are visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, and the Shoshone language (this is a visual language).

Catherine Nielsen also attended a meeting with the Interim Committee for Veterans, Seniors, and Adults with Special Needs. Discussions were had on recommendations for the 2025 Legislative Session and how the Council can support their work. Additional conversation was had about potentially providing braille business cards through our braille printer.

**Public Health Liaison:**

Our Public Health Liaison continues her support and attend various councils, commissions, coalitions, committees, and boards. Covering areas of Transportation, Employment, Self- Advocacy, Health, Emergency Preparedness, including ones that were specific to the Deaf and Hard of hearing Community and the community involvement of the Crave camp. Attends all NGCDD Full Council/Subcommittees, is a part of the Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center- Board of Directors & PAMI Council (NDALC), is a member of the Rare Disease Advisory Council & Education Committee (RDAC),a commissioner for the Nevada Children's Commission & Education Committee (NVCC), a member of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NESHE), a participant to the NV Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, attends the NVEP Vaxx, attends weekly briefings with the Division of Emergency Management (DEM), member of the Statewide Independent Living Council Employment first taskforce (SILC), member of the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC), member of the Nevada Emergency Preparedness Association- Summit Planning Committee (NEPA), as well as a member of the Nevada Assistive Technology Council

She will continue to advocate for integration on behalf of the I/DD and AFN population before, during and after an emergency and/or disaster. But to also increase the knowledge through education that no matter the platform, those within I/DD and AFN population have a voice at the table. And attend national call like; National call like the Partnership for Inclusive Disasters weekly and our NACDD/Policy that are quarterly /weekly.

## Objective 1.3

Reduce identified barriers to accessing technology and digital information for individuals with I/DD representing racial and/or ethnic disparities, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Blind/Visually Impaired and/or those living in rural communities.

## Interpreter Grant – ASL Anywhere

Organization: Global Technical Communications

Project Director: Patty Kuglitsch

Project Period: Oct 01, 2022, to September 30, 2023

Fiscal Year: FFY 23

Total Grant Funds: $ 40,000

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* By 2026 individuals with I/DD (including identified targeted disparity groups) will report a significant increase in their ability to access and use the technology and tools required to get the resources and information provided through digital technology.
* Council will provide best practice recommendations and work with providers to ensure best practices.

**Activity Summary:**

Educate Tech service providers and policymakers on barriers faced by people with I/DD. Provide recommendations on best practices informed by Council efforts. Work with providers/policymakers to implement best practices. Target outreach to Hispanic, Blind/Visually Impaired, Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Rural communities to make informed decisions and track outcomes to inform ongoing needs.

**Grantee Proposal:**

GTC will provide training on how the ASL Anywhere app works and how it benefits individuals as well as agencies and organizations. Training will be provided to Individuals with I/DD’s, state and local agencies, organizations, and any interested constituents. GTC will collaborate with the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in consulting with service providers and policymakers. GTC will provide packages to NVCC, DETR/BVR as a mode of sample/trial period to monitor the need of sign language interpreting services in the I/DD community and the need for the application. These agencies will be monitored by GTC, and all findings will be reported to NGCDD to evaluate the need and effectiveness of the application and service provided. The monitoring and data collection will also help in determining any barriers and overall benefits of these services in the I/DD community and overall, for state/local agencies and any organizations interested in adopting this application/services beyond the first year.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) In Quarter 1 (October- December) GTC will offer 8 packages and training to Nevada Care Connection (NVCC), two packages for each center so that they can test the service. Offer 4 packages and training to Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation-Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DETR-BVR). This training and information will be offered to train the I/DD community and at the same time build relationships with the community and agencies offering the packages. GTC will collaborate with the Nevada Commission for Person who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing to bring forward a service that will benefit the I/DD Community/Individuals who are Deaf and or Hard of Hearing. GTC will collect consumer surveys and all data to understand and recognize the benefits of the application/packages being offered as well as any impacts and barriers. This information will be reported to NGCDD quarterly.

Activity B) In Quarter 2 (Jan-September 2023) grantee will create an outreach/marketing initiative on social media, e- mail and virtual platforms to engage the I/DD community and state and local agencies/organizations on the benefits of the ASL Anywhere service/application. GTC will create information and application forms in collaboration with Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Applications for individuals will be available online and online Training will be offered to the I/DD community via zoom and in person for the purpose of applying for the application services. GTC will report quarterly to NGCDD on all information, outcomes/impacts, and data applicable. This information can be gathered by providing consumer surveys to all trainees and agencies receiving training.

Activity C) In Quarter 3 (April-June) grantee will collect information/data on the impact of the services as well as how many new packages are purchased, number of people applying for the service, number of people registered and all information on impacts, barriers, and necessary modifications to the service. Continue outreach/marketing through social media, email, and virtual platforms. Training will be offered in accordance to individual and agency demand. GTC will continue collaboration through the process with the Nevada Commission for Person who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing to bring forward a service that will benefit the I/DD Community/Individuals who are Deaf and or Hard of Hearing. GTC will collect consumer surveys and all data to understand and recognize the benefits of the application/packages being offered as well as any impacts and barriers. This information will be reported to NGCDD quarterly.

Activity D) In Quarter 4 (July-September 2023) grantee will collect information/data on the impact of the services as well as how many new packages are purchased, number of people applying for the service, number of people registered and all information on impacts, barriers, and necessary modifications to the service. Continue outreach/marketing through social media, email, and virtual platforms. Training will be offered in accordance with individual and agency demand. GTC will continue collaboration through the process with the Nevada Commission for Person who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing to bring forward a service that will benefit the I/DD Community/Individuals who are Deaf and or Hard of Hearing. GTC will collect consumer surveys and all data to understand and recognize the benefits of the application/packages being offered as well as any impacts and barriers. This information will be reported to NGCDD quarterly.

**Of Note from Grantee:**

When consumers submit their applications, GTC reviews their eligibility for the ASL Anywhere app. Occasionally, GTC requests additional information if the application is incomplete. Consumers are notified via email about their eligibility status and whether they are eligible. GTC also follows up with consumers to offer training on using the app if needed.

GTC updated stakeholders' contact information and sent out a press release on April 8, 2024, announcing the securing of a second-year grant from the Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities.

On May 10th, GTC emailed all consumers with detailed instructions on how to update an app version.

GTC has trained individuals on how to use the ASL Anywhere app.

Four ASL Anywhere flyers were posted on the ASL Anywhere Facebook page and shared with Nevada residents via email.

The High-Fidelity Wraparound Care coordinator contacted GTC to inquire if her deaf consumer could apply for the ASL Anywhere app. GTC provided the application link.

GTC received consumer inquiries about ASL Anywhere services for employment and medical settings. The National Account Executive provided information about video remote interpreting (VRI).

GTC texted and emailed 34 potential consumers twice each month, informing them of their eligibility for the second 60 minutes and encouraging them to fill out the application. Assistance with the application was offered if needed.

From daily dashboard monitoring, GTC identified consumers experiencing issues and reached out to offer assistance.

GTC provided technical support to consumers experiencing app-related problems such as slow connection with the interpreter, poor signal connection, no sound, forgotten passwords, clearing cache, and login issues. Tips for resolving simple problems independently were also provided.

In April, GTC contacted the Presidents of Nevada Black Deaf Advocates and Deaf People of Color Connecting to explore collaboration opportunities. Several meetings were held through Zoom to set up community training dates, with the training scheduled for Sunday, June 2nd.

GTC worked with the Marketing Department to create two flyers for the community training.

Two PowerPoint presentations, "ASL Anywhere Workshop" and "ASL Anywhere Webinar," were developed. Both included tips on using the ASL Anywhere app and troubleshooting common issues.

Flyers and reminders about the workshop and webinar were disseminated to all consumers. GTC requested the Presidents of Las Vegas Deaf Seniors, Nevada Black Deaf Advocates, and Deaf People of Color Connecting to help spread the word about the upcoming workshop and webinar.

Interpreting services for the workshop and webinar were coordinated and secured. GTC hosted the workshop and webinar on May 15th and June 2nd.

GTC gathered testimonials from consumers who utilized the services.

The Nevada Mobile Communication Access Survey was sent to all ASL Anywhere app users on June 3rd and 17th.

GTC contacted fourteen (14) individuals who downloaded the app but had not yet filled out the application, providing them with information about ASL Anywhere and encouraging them to complete it to receive free services.

GTC participated in the Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Evaluation Committee meeting on May 13, 2024, and presented the last quarter's reports.

Some consumers contacted GTC to request more minutes as their current allotment was exhausted. Two consumers purchased additional minute packages, and one is in the process of buying more minutes.

GTC received nineteen (19) applications. Seventeen (17) applications were processed. Two (2) individuals were not eligible due to no cell number and residence.

GTC asked one consumer to re-apply because she used the wrong application.

The data showed that the new consumers got information mostly from agencies/service providers (5), social media (5), word of mouth (4) and ASL Anywhere representative (3).

Four (4) individuals asked for assistance in downloading the app and at the same time they received training on how to use the app. Seven (7) individuals asked GTC to help them fill out the application.

GTC provided a total of ten (10) consumers technical support and online training.

Hosted a workshop on May 15th via Zoom and only three (3) consumers participated. Hosted a webinar on June 2nd via Zoom and six (6) deaf and two (2) hearing consumers participated. The consumers gave their comments and shared their experiences. They asked good questions about the app and appreciated the tips of how to use the app and troubleshooting.

GTC received testimonials from twelve (12) consumers.

As of June 30th, ninety (90) consumers have received 60-minute packages.

**Testimonials:**

My clinic won’t provide an in-person interpreter. I wonder if I can get more minutes when I exhaust my 60 minutes. I have 15 minutes left. I must save the minutes for my foot surgery. I “kissfist” (love) ASL Anywhere and interpreters. Each time I am at the doctor’s office, the interpreter signs smoothly and I understand very clearly. ASL Anywhere is CHAMP!!!!

I have a great experience using ASL Anywhere app. I used the app for medical appointments. When my son was with the dentist, they talked with each other. I used the app so I could participate in their conversation. As a mother, I should know what they were talking about. ASL Anywhere gives me access to communication. Once a while it took a while to connect to the interpreter. I am very satisfied with ASL Anywhere services.

I am very satisfied with ASL Anywhere. On-site interpreters in Las Vegas are not that good. Some of them use Pidgin Sign English. I am 100% ASL user. ASL Anywhere interpreters are so good at signing ASL, and I understood them very clearly. When I had a medical appointment, the person at the front desk forgot to schedule an interpreter. I was so happy I had ASL Anywhere app ready and used it to communicate with the doctor. Is 60 minutes good for each month? (The response was no and it is good for one year). I feel the deaf community should get 60 minutes each month. 60 minutes for one year are not sufficient.

I used ASL Anywhere several times. I am not sure I like it. My co-workers and boss didn’t feel comfortable with my use of the app. I work at the warehouse, and it is hard for me to bring the device. The iPad works best because of the big screen. The screen on the iPhone is small and it is hard for me to see the interpreter. The interpreters signed very well. I feel the interpreters should be in a professional background… like Video Relay Services (VRS).

**Objective 1.4**

In house Council members and staff will address emerging needs of individuals with I/DD through state, regional, or local level systemic change.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* Targeted outreach to the I/DD community will address emerging needs across all levels of the state in hopes to ensure people with I/DD will report no current unaddressed emerging needs.
* Information from these efforts and community input will be utilized to direct future efforts.
* By 2026 individuals with I/DD and their family members will report having no current emerging needs or all emerging needs are currently being addressed.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Use information gathered from Council efforts and other stakeholder input to develop and implement advocacy and communication efforts in conjunction with individuals with I/DD, family members and other key stakeholders to address needed changes to statutes, rules, policies, procedures, practices, and/or funding/staffing issues that improve outcomes for individuals with I/DD.

Activity B) Work with key stakeholders and policymakers to implement best practice recommendations.

Activity C) Provide ongoing, coordinated outreach to Access and Functional Needs communities statewide on resources and supports for emerging needs and track outcomes to inform future needs.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

We continue to provide and participate in public education and also bring awareness of emerging needs to the I/DD community by bringing forth our Lunch and Learns. This past quarter the PM attended Lunch and Learns regarding various topics of interest to the I/DD community. As staff we have had the opportunity to take advantage of the learning opportunities with topics like Emergency Preparedness, Transition Options and Resources as well as Employment and Internship Options through Vocational Rehab. We have had a good number of participants ranging from 15 to 20 participants per virtual meeting. Our hour-long Lunch and Learns have become convenient for those that are short on time and maybe just want to take advantage of a great learning opportunity while having lunch and not having to go somewhere while having lunch at the same time. We hope that this has encouraged individuals to hop on and not feel time constrained.

The PM has also been speaking to our grantees about implementing a transition program in their curriculum. We have talked to Gigi’s Playhouse, and they have gratefully agreed to take our Y.E.S. program and try to implement it in their transitional curriculum and models of transition. Gigi’s Playhouse will be implementing our video and guides to help educate individuals on rights, transitioning, and other advocacy initiatives.

The Executive Director and the PM have been engaged in several discussions with the Guinn Center this past quarter regarding the housing report that has now been completed. After several meetings the Housing Report was completed, and finalized to show the final product which was approved by the Council. The new report shows the changes that the Council had concerns about and the representation of the resources that are offered to the I/DD community and how they are presented to the I/DD community. The final product being a great report that speaks of the many housing options and resources out there for the I/DD community and other individuals who need guidance. This report can be accessed through the Guinn Center website.

**Public Health Liaison:**

Our Public Health Liaison continues to gather information on the differing needs within the rural and tribal communities. Working with DEM as they navigate meetings with each Emergency Manager across the state and community members. There has been a substantial amount of conversation for the need of additional educational resources, transitional information and services that are provided across the state as a whole.

Heather Lafferty and our PHL both presented for our Partners in Policymaking on Emergency Preparedness and why you should share their stories to help navigate future emergencies for their families in a time of crisis, emergency or disaster. . Heather and our PHL continue to work alongside the Northern Nevada Independent Living Center and their PR Agency, as they navigate the creation of a statewide website for emergency preparedness for our disability community. For this reporting period they presented at the Aging and Disability (ASD) and Rural Summit conference. Our PHL attended the Disability Policy Summit, (DPS) spoke alongside DD staff with Senator Rosen staff, and with Senator Cortez-Masto on issues/legislation efforts our council has worked on along with our I/DD and AFN population across our state. Attended the Association of People Supporting Employment First (ASPE) conference along with other DD staff. The National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) conference.

GOAL 2: (In House) Individuals with I/DD will have the information, education, and training necessary to participate in local and state advocacy and policy making activities.

Areas of Emphasis and identified barriers addressed: Quality Assurance, Education (school aged through college), DD Act Mandates for Advocacy, DD Network Collaboration, Youth and Leadership.

## Objective 2.1

Council members and staff will establish or strengthen a minimum of one State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with I/DD in Nevada.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* Individuals with I/DD will identify common barriers, increase advocacy, knowledge, policy activities and connections to create a stronger unified voice and educate policymakers on key issues.
* Increase strength and leadership of self-advocacy groups led by individuals with I/DD in Nevada.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Support individuals with I/DD to participate in Legislative sessions by providing information on current policy initiatives and meeting with their legislators to educate them on issues important to them.

Activity B) Provide annual funding opportunities for individuals with I/DD to attend disability-related conferences and summits to increase their knowledge and share that knowledge with other Nevadans with developmental disabilities.

Activity C) Self-Advocacy coordinator will collaborate with DD Network Partners and other DD stakeholders to facilitate a DD Network Statewide Self Advocacy Summit every other year, led by individuals with I/DD for individuals with I/DD, to identify common barriers, increase advocacy skills, knowledge, and connections to create a stronger unified voice within the I/DD community.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

The PM has been working on our Silver State Advocacy Conference and working closing with Grand Sierra Resort to make sure all aspects of the Conference are covered. This includes Audio and Video, Venue set up, Food, room accessibility as well as accessibility all around the Conference Venue. We hope this will be a great Conference and that all the Self Advocates involved in the planning are proud of the final product. The PM has also been working with the ED on a Self- Advocacy Night that will include a magician from the I/DD community by the name of Cody Clark. This will be held the evening before the conference at the bowling alley that has been reserved for Conference attendees. The PM has also been in contact with a photographer to be at the Self-Advocacy night and also at the conference where everyone will be able to take pictures for a photo booth experience with photo strips so that all the attendees can remember this awesome conference. We have also put together an exhibit/resource fair and will have a quiet area for all attendees who need a break from the hustle and bustle. The PM was able to do a final run thru of the venue and the expected outcome as well as the accessibility for all. On the final day we will also be highlighting our Partners in Policymaking students for their graduation.

**SAC:**

The SAC attended the People First of Nevada meeting on May 9, 2024, in Reno. The SAC discussed what goals the Council is working on, the Silver State Self-Advocacy Conference coming up in August, and the Town Halls that will be coming up in the area.

The SAC attended the Self-Advocate Discussion Series on May 23, 2024, via ZOOM. The discussion was related to relationships and the LGBTQ+ population within the disability community. A question was raised on “Why can’t we have relationships?” During the discussion someone stated, “it is important for people with disabilities to be who they want to be.”

## Objective 2.2

Council members and staff will annually support individuals with I/DD who are considered leaders, to provide leadership training to 15 individuals with I/DD who may become leaders.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* By 2026, 75 students with I/DD Statewide will have information on self-determination, advocacy, post-secondary education, employment, and other transition options before graduation in order to become better leaders once they graduate.
* Self-Advocate leaders will provide leadership training.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Self-Advocacy coordinator will annually implement curriculums such as the NGCDD Youth Empowering Students Y.E.S. peer to peer education model in a total of 3 schools throughout the state (North, South and Rural) to provide students and teachers with information on self-determination, advocacy, post-secondary education, employment, and other transition options upon graduation.

Activity B) Council members will participate in the implementation of curriculums as appropriate.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

Our YES program currently is on hold as it was shared with the SILC to be implemented in their grant initiatives. Unfortunately, they were not able to continue with their grant because of staffing issues and the Y.E.S. program has been put on hold. Currently we have given access to Gigi’s Playhouse to implement it in their transitional training and curriculum and hope to hear great news back on how they are using it to educate individuals on rights and advocacy as well as other transitional initiatives.

## Objective 2.3

Council members and staff will support people with I/DD to participate on cross-disability and culturally diverse Coalitions.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* By 2026 25 individuals with I/DD will have or will be now participating in cross disability and culturally diverse coalitions statewide.
* Individuals with I/DD will be better included and represented in their communities.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Self-Advocacy coordinator will work with Council members and advocacy groups to annually identify 5 individuals with I/DD representing North, South and Rural areas of the state who want to participate on cross-disability and culturally diverse Coalitions.

Activity B) Self-Advocacy coordinator will work with Council members to support identified individuals to find Coalitions that would best fit their interests and support education to those Coalitions on the benefits of including individuals with I/DD, and how best to include them.

**Of Note:**

**SAC:**

GTC noted during the workshop/webinar, two consumers inquired if ASL Anywhere has interpreters who can speak and interpret Spanish, as they have family members who do not speak English. GTC responded that securing interpreters who can sign and speak Spanish is a goal.

GTC engaged with Nevada Black Deaf Advocates and Deaf People of Color Connecting to address targeted disparities.

**Public Health Liaison:**

NGCDD & DEM continue to navigate meetings with Emergency Managers across the state. We have made great strides in connecting individuals with disabilities across the state with their local EM’s or at least guide them to participate in Local Emergency Planning Committees. The G-197 course is intended to educate Ems and other first responders across the state on the Integration of Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Management, noting that two courses have already been completed in Carson City and Las Vegas with a third being held in Elko later this year. Noting that 52 participants currently have been trained. And we still have a class to go, is encouraging to see the amount of time and efforts put into this program pay off as we build out a more resilient whole community approach. We continue to have multiple requests for this course to be taught to other organizations, agencies. Efforts are being made to meet these requests and address the need for expanded materials.

## Objective 2.4

DD Network Partners: Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) and Council members; Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED); Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center (NDALC), will annually support leadership training for a minimum of 20 individuals with I/DD and/or family members of individuals with I/DD.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* By 2026 100 people w/I/DD and family members will have increased leadership abilities thus becoming better advocates for themselves and others.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Council staff will facilitate training.

Activity B) Council members will participate in trainings as appropriate.

Activity C) DD Network Partners will provide support and sponsorship as appropriate.

Activity D) DD Network Partners will recruit and promote training.

Activity E) DD Network Partners will provide staff as needed.

**Of Note:**

**SAC:**

The Partners in Policymaking Class of 2024 is almost complete. The students have been engaged with the presenters. Occasionally, the SAC needed to initiate the conversation, but after that, the students have added comments.

There have some unfortunate events with a few students needing to drop the class. We began with ten students and currently we have six students. All are on track with their assignments and meeting the qualifications to graduate.

GOAL 3: Develop and strengthen systems that improve quality services and access to quality services and supports, for individuals with I/DD and their families.

# Areas of Emphasis and identified barriers addressed: Quality Assurance, Employment, Health, Education (transition services in high school), Transportation and Housing, not knowing what services are available, not enough or can't access services.

## Objective 3.1 - Transportation

Create systems change through the implementation of policies to reduce the barriers to transportation for people with I/DD in Nevada.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

* Policies will be created that promote accessible transportation that reduces barriers to transportation for people with I/DD. Measurable progress will be made in reducing barriers to transportation for people with I/DD. More people with I/DD will have prominent roles in reduction of barriers through participation on transportation boards.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Use the NGCDD Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee White Paper and other best practice findings to educate transportation providers and policymakers on the barriers faced by people with I/DD and recommendations on best practice for systems change.

Activity B) Work with transportation providers and policymakers to implement best practice recommendations through the creation of a statewide transportation board(s), ensuring individuals with I/DD have prominent roles on those boards.

**Of Note:**

The SAC, Executive Assistant, and the Council Intern attended the iCan Bike Camp on June 17 – 21, 2024 in Reno. There were about twenty-four riders during four sessions. The riders went from not wanting to enter the facility to gaining the confidence to ride a bike independently. At the end of the camp, almost all riders were riding their own bicycle. This has been a good partnership with Diana Rovetti from the NCED. The SAC will connect with Ms. Rovetti to discuss the camps for 2025. We look forward to continuing to support such an impactful effort.

## Objective 3.2 - Employment

Educate individuals with I/DD, their families and community-based employers/employer groups on National best practices, and the benefits of hiring individuals with I/DD.

## Employment Grant

Organization: Best Buddies

Project Director: Anthony Shriver

Project Period: October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024

Fiscal Year: FFY 24

Total Grant Funds: $ 50,000

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

Through coordinated outreach and education, at least 30 individuals with I/DD and their family members will be provided information on their rights and employment options in Nevada.

Additionally, at least 20 employers/employer groups will be provided information on National best practices for employing individuals with I/DD in Nevada.

**Grantee Proposal:**

Best Buddies will create and develop project-specific training content to educate 20 community-based employers/employer groups on best practices for employing individuals with I/DD in Nevada. They will also create and develop project-specific training content to educate 30 individuals with I/DD and families on employment rights and options in Nevada. Both the Director and Deputy Director will deliver this training through 1 hour training sessions that will educate both employers and the I/DD community but with different subject matter. Individuals in the I/DD community will have the opportunity to experience available employment options, information and have access to integrated and competitive wages. During the training period Best Buddies will become more fluent and knowledgeable in speaking with community members and the benefits of hiring individuals with I/DD, best practices and employer rights and options. Best Buddies will report quarterly to NGCDD on the impact and needs of both the I/DD community as well as the impact and need from the employers.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) October - December Best Buddies will develop and create education material for both employers and individuals in the I/DD Community and their families. Employers should be educated on benefits of employing individuals with I/DD and national best practices for inclusive employment. Individuals with I/DD and their families will be trained and educated on rights and job options. Best Buddies will be in contact and reach out to employers and possible candidates within the I/DD community for possible training during this period/quarter to develop a training schedule for upcoming quarters.

Activity B) January - March Best Buddies will train 10 individuals with I/DD and 7 employers in the I/DD community using the educational materials produced in the first quarter. After each training consumer satisfaction surveys will be conducted in order to collect important data, information including gaps and barriers encountered by both individuals and employers as well as any stories of impact for Best Buddies and NGCDD. All information collected and events will be reported quarterly.

Activity C) April - June Best Buddies will train 10 individuals with I/DD and 7 employers in the I/DD community using the educational materials produced in the first quarter. After each training consumer satisfaction surveys will be conducted to collect important data, information including gaps and barriers encountered by both individuals and employers as well as any stories of impact for Best Buddies and NGCDD. All information collected and events will be reported quarterly.

Activity D) July - September Best Buddies will train 10 individuals with I/DD and 6 employers in the I/DD community using the educational materials produced in the first quarter. After each training consumer satisfaction surveys will be conducted to collect important data, information including gaps and barriers encountered by both individuals and employers as well as any stories of impact for Best Buddies and NGCDD. Before the end of quarter, survey 20 employers trained through the project to collect data on how employment practices have changed. All information collected and events will be reported quarterly.

Activity E) October - September Best Buddies will conduct 2-4 virtual/webinar training sessions since in person attendance is not always possible. These trainings should also include rural areas outside the Las Vegas area as well as other counties. This training will offer the same material that was developed and offered for the in-person trainings. These trainings should be offered for individuals and families as well as for employees. All information collected and event will be reported quarterly.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

In Q3, Best Buddies staff continued to deliver impactful training sessions, empowering individuals with IDD and educating employers on the benefits of inclusive hiring and creating more inclusive workplaces. They continue to strive to deliver impactful hiring and creating more inclusive workplaces. Best Buddies has partnered with Betty’s Village this quarter which has been instrumental in hosting these events for individuals with I/DD and their families. This collaboration has allowed them to reach new individuals and families, expanding their impact in the community. This past quarter they have hosted two trainings for individuals with I/DD and their families. The first event was April 27, 2024, which included 16 individuals with I/DD and seven family members in attendance. The second training was on June 27, 2024, and had 21 individuals with I/DD and 10 family members. Both events were held at Betty’s Village, resulting in a total of 37 individuals with I/DD and 17 family members across both sessions.

Additionally, they hosted two employer trainings, reaching three new employer groups and 56 employees. The first training was conducted on April 3, 2024, at World Market Center for ANDMORE, with 50 employees in attendance. The second training was a virtual session held on May 15, 2024, attended by employees from Capital One and Jersey Mike's, totaling six employees. These efforts have been crucial in promoting inclusive hiring practices and fostering more inclusive workplaces.

Through their training sessions, they have successfully delivered educational resources to individuals with IDD, families, and employers in the community. They have seen firsthand how this information has empowered individuals with IDD to start the dialogue of seeking meaningful employment opportunities.

An adult with IDD shared: “*I’ve been part of Best Buddies as a Buddy Director in high school, Citizens, Ambassadors, and the Jobs Program. Each program has taught me a lot about advocating for myself and then teaching others how to advocate for themselves. When I am attending the recent program on employment has been a fantastic opportunity to continue to learn and grow. I would love to have more one-on-one time to explore other training opportunities, with services and organizations that can support my personal and professional development. – Paul”*

Based on the NGCDD Consumer Satisfaction Survey they have shared with all employers, employees, individuals with IDD, and families, they distributed a total of 87 surveys, and 27 were successfully completed. The results indicate that 67% of respondents are self-advocates or individuals with IDD, and 52% are family members of a self-advocate. Additionally, 30% of the respondents live in a rural area of Nevada.

81% of respondents felt that the information provided will help them better articulate their needs and what is important to them. Furthermore, 74% are currently participating in advocacy activities, and 26% are serving on a disability policy or advisory board, or in a leadership position. 93% of respondents expressed satisfaction with the information presented.

## Objective 3.3 - Housing

Improve access to quality housing options and supports for individuals with I/DD Statewide.

## Housing Grant

Organization: Kenny Guinn Center

Project Director: Meredith Levine

Project Period: Oct 01, 2021, to September 30, 2023(extended)

Fiscal Year: FFY 23

Total Grant Funds: $ 44,380

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

At least 30 individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities will be educated on housing options and supports available. People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities will report an increase in options, supports, and access to affordable and accessible housing.

**Grantee Proposal:**

The Kenny Guinn Center (in a joint effort with the Nevada Housing Coalition) will seek to expand housing options for Nevadans with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. They plan to do so by studying current housing options available to people with I/DD, including but not limited to affordable housing options, group homes, etc. The grantee will also conduct a focus group to gather input on challenges faced in accessing housing options and the resources available. The grantee intends to describe the need for expanded housing options for people with I/DD and will prepare a resource guide that describes the options available/ways to access them.

**Activity Summary:**

Activity A) Study current housing options available in Nevada to people with I/DD. This will include all housing options and will not be limited.

Activity B) Conduct (1) focus group to gather information from individuals with I/DD and/or their family members about some of the challenges faced when accessing housing options and the resources available currently.

Activity C) Identify gaps/needs of current supply of available housing options for people with I/DD.

Activity D) Analyze policies other states/areas have undertaken/implemented to help individuals with I/DD access housing options (specifically affordable housing options).

Activity E) By April 2022, prepare a resource guide that describes available options for housing for people with I/DD.

Activity F) By June 2022, host at least (1) public event to share information from study and resource guide. If possible, (2) events will be held (1 in Northern Nevada, 1 in Southern Nevada).

**Of Note:**

Staff is making plans to distribute housing report.

## Objective 3.4 – Transition

Increase access to quality services and support for individuals with I/DD transitioning into or currently in adulthood.

## Transition Grant

Organization: Gigi’s Playhouse Las Vegas

Project Director: Justine Adams

Project Period: Oct 01, 2023, to September 30, 2024

Fiscal Year: FFY 24

Total Grant Funds: $ 40,000

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

At least 15 individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) living in group or nursing homes, 15 family members of those with I/DD, and 20 professionals will be educated on the rights, services, and options for individuals with I/DD after high school.

**Grantee Proposal:**

GiGi’s Playhouse plans to provide training, information, and resources to 10 individuals with I/DD and their families, this will include implementing their inaugural GiGi Fit, Gigi Prep and Gigi Kitchen. Additionally, the grantee will seek to educate at least 10 Professionals and 5 parents/family members in the I/DD community on the rights, services, and options available to individuals with I/DD after high school. The grantee will provide ongoing support to ensure individuals with I/DD and their families are aware of their rights, services, and options available to them throughout their lifespan. This information will include lessons to promote IEP’s, communication skills, self-advocacy, personal accountability, career skills and knowledge, personal wellness, and information to overall increase quality of life. Services provided will be in the form of hands-on, multi-sensory learning environments to help students live a well-rounded, healthy, confident and fully enriched life.

**Activity Summary:**

**Activity 1)– October 2023 - December – 2023**

GiGi’s Playhouse will establish a training facility with a signed lease. Gigi’s Playhouse will connect with local colleges/universities for volunteer recruitment while expanding on their Board to create a broader outreach plan. Grantee will collect start soliciting sign ups and attend resource fairs.

**Activity 2)– January 2024 – March- 2024**

Gigi’s Playhouse will start providing tours of their facility to community and connecting with local colleges/universities for ongoing volunteer recruitment. The grantee will begin purchasing all supplies during quarter one and complete background checks for volunteers. Volunteer training will begin, and community partnerships will start. Grantee will collect surveys and/or personal stories that accurately reflect the impact of the council funding. Taking possession on leave property late January and hosting Grand Opening on March 9th.

**Activity 3) – April 2024 – June 2024**

Grantee will complete volunteer training, start conducting information trainings, and create an outreach plan to hospitals, schools, therapy centers, and other community organizations. Grantee will begin sign-ups for community resource fairs and conduct facility tours with community connections. Gigi’s Playhouse will also launch the prep program early June which runs for 10 weeks. Grantee will collect surveys and/or personal stories that accurately reflect the impact of council funding.

**Activity 4)- July 2024- September 2024**

Grantee will continue its in house GiGi prep program training which runs for 10 weeks. Additional tours to take place and additional community events. These events include Clark County’s School District’s “Life After High School” evening at Silverado High School. Information given at events will include information on rights, services, and options available throughout a lifespan. Grantee will collect surveys and/or personal stories that accurately reflect the impact of council funding.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

GiGi’s Playhouse Las Vegas continues to give tours of their facility to families, community members and potential supporters. Information about the NGCDD, easy access to the American Disabilities Act and information on how the NGCDD grant funds support for their adult programming is easily accessible at the playhouse. GiGi’s Playhouse Las Vegas attended the Clark County School District’s transition fair in lieu of Silverado High School’s Life After High School event. The CCSD transition event was held Saturday, April 6 from 9am-2pm and gave GiGi’s Playhouse Las Vegas the ability to interact with many more families in one event. GiGi’s Playhouse connected with over a hundred families from our district, and specifically connected with 10 families with a loved one in CCSD that is at or nearing adult transition services. GiGi’s Playhouse was lucky enough to have Jackie Cantu former startup member join them which was helpful as she speaks Spanish. This was a huge asset to the event as six of the families that were met with has a loved one with Down syndrome and Spanish was their first language. GiGi’s Playhouse additionally participated in resource fairs with Best Buddies and the Children’s Heart Foundation.

Recruitment of volunteers for all their summer programs, including GiGiPrep and a session of GiGiFit Adult have been completed. These programs will all begin by June 12, 2024. Volunteer background checks have been completed and all volunteers are trained. Programming supplies continue to be purchased as needed for GiGiFit Adult and GiGiPrep. The first session of GiGiFit Adult ended May 21, 2024. GiGi’s Playhouse has had a total of 12 Participants and have collected 10 surveys total for this past session: 6 were participants and 4 family members. Nine respondents reported that they feel “the information learned will help increase my advocacy for myself or others” and all six participants reported that the “this information will help me be better able to say what I want or need and what is important to me.” Hannah Huse’s family reports that “Hannah’s participation in GiGiFit has been nothing short of transformative. Through this inclusive fitness program, she has not only embraced physical activity, but has also thrived in areas of social interaction, communication, and confidence building.”

GiGi’s Playhouse feels they are making an impact in the community by adding brand new resources for adult members of the Down syndrome community. GiGi’s Playhouse Las Vegas’s programs are evidence based, designed specifically for the needs of individuals with Down syndrome and can be life changing for individuals in the I/DD community. They opened their doors offering GiGiFit Adult which quickly filled. They are expanding by adding GiGiFit Adult for the summer session in addition to the inaugural GiGiPrep program.

## Transition Grant

Organization: Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council (NV SILC)

Project Director: Dawn Lyons

Project Period: Oct 01, 2023, to September 30, 2024

Fiscal Year: FFY 24

Total Grant Funds: $ 40,000

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s):**

At least 15 individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) living in group or nursing homes, 15 family members of those with I/DD, and 20 professionals will be educated on the rights, services, and options for individuals with I/DD after high school.

**Grantee Proposal:**

The grantee proposed to recruit and hire a Youth Outreach Specialist to travel to schools, community organizations, and camps, as well as through digital means, delivering education regarding youth transition and transition services throughout the entire State, including rural areas that may not have robust internet services. The program will utilize the video created for the YES Program to deliver the information in the classrooms. The Youth Outreach Specialist will be under the age of 33 to ensure students will feel connected with a peer that has recently navigated the system and can offer relevant and current advice and information regarding services available along with peer-to-peer support when it comes to self-advocacy and exercising their rights. They will serve as a live example of a student with I/DD or another disability who has had success in transition and understands the perspective of the student. Along with the 15 hours per week of paid time that this award will provide for this position, the SILC will supplement the position with an additional 10 hours per week and will seek additional funding to increase the hours and responsibilities of the position through the Pathways to Partnership (P2P) federal grant in partnership with the Nevada Department of Education (DOE) and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). This will optimize the results the Youth Outreach Specialist (YOS) will be able to affect and reach, if not exceed, the targeted goals of 15 students with I/DD and 20 family members and professionals respectively to be educated, as well as other students with disabilities. Outcomes will be tracked and reported in quarterly reports. The NV SILC will be working in partnership with the DOE and VR and participate in a formal Workgroup that tracks and evaluates the success of the P2P Program, contributing our own data that the YOS collects during interviews and through surveys.

**Activity Summary:**

# Activity 1)– October 2023 - December – 2023

Grantee will hire Youth Outreach Specialist and begin training on providing the P2P/YES/YOURS Program within the first 3 months of the grant. Information on impact of Council funding will be provided by quarterly reporting (January, April, July, and October) along with surveys and personal stories (when available).

# Activity 2)- January 2024- March 2024

Grantee will have Youth Outreach Specialist present to the NGCDD Partners in Policymaking (PIP) program, as well as reaching out to and attending all major disability councils and commissions as a guest speaker (when and where invited) to describe the programs. Information on impact of Council funding will be provided by quarterly reporting (January, April, July, and October) along with surveys and personal stories (when available).

# Activity 3)- January 2024- September 2024

Youth Outreach Specialist will attend STAR Fair and the Youth Transition Leadership Summit. YOS will train at least 5 students with I/DD, 5 parents or family members of persons with I/DD, and 5 professionals each quarter. By the end of the year, the YOS will have exceeded all required outcomes and will prepare quarterly reports to showcase YOUR Peers data and highlights of the program. The YOS will travel and/or visit outreach locations at least twice monthly to contribute to the accomplishment of the above goals for rural and underserved I/DD populations of students. Information on impact of Council funding will be provided by quarterly reporting (January, April, July, and October) along with surveys and personal stories (when available).

# Activity 4)- January 2024-September 2024

The YOS will also visit group and nursing homes and partners with the regional centers across the state to schedule presentations to speak with individual who are receiving their services. YOS will work with NV SILC, DOE, VR, NGCDD, the Centers for Independent Living and all other partners to address any avenues of outreach that have not yet been addressed on an ongoing basis. Interviews and/or a survey will be collected each time to assess the number of individuals with I/DD, their family members and professionals who are in attendance and collect measures of success on various topics.

**Of Note:**

**Projects Manager (PM):**

As of last quarter there were various changes in regard to the grantee and their ability to complete their goals and activities. After several meetings NGCDD decided at their last Council meeting to de-fund the SILC. Unfortunately, after reviewing and working closely with Dawn and the SILC it was clear that they would not be able to complete their goals and activities. We had given them options and time to try to re-evaluate and work through their time restraint, but it was not something that was going to work long. Term. Even thought they were able to hire a new Youth Outreach Specialist it was evident that they would not be able to train them and accomplish their goals and activities event with an extension. We hope them the best and hope that they are able to complete their goals on a transitional program in the future. After de-funding the SILC it was decided by the Council that we could use the funding for other transitional programs and events for transitioning.

We have Spoken with Lora Turner from the Nevada Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and have donated toward their transition Camp $8000 towards students who will attend the Beyond the Deaf Home Camp. They are collaborating with the Nevada Deaf Commission and Camp SignShine to provide Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind Students an immersive weeklong camp experience. The objective of this summer transitional camp is to help repair the transitional pipeline by exposing students to their potential and give them options within the state or event nationwide. These efforts are brining back Deaf heritage and traditions of Nevada back to our state. Students will receive education on career opportunities and higher education options while also giving them information about technology and support systems that can help them succeed as adults. They will also have the opportunity to make new friends and have fun during planned social activities.

The intended impact is for students to be empowered to self-advocate, increase accessibility and independence in the community, gain skills, supports and services to reach their post-secondary and employment goals. They can gain opportunities to get involved in the legislative process and create change by engaging with stakeholders and mentoring youth to strengthen the cultural heritage and traditions for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in Nevada.

# Glossary Of Terms

**Activity Summary** = A summary of grantees’ progress on their activities for that period. Information is summarized from grantee reports and from Project Manager meetings with grantee.

**Best Practice:** A practice that incorporates methods or techniques that have consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means, and that is used as a benchmark.

**Deliverables Summary:** Specific measurable outcomes the grantee said they would accomplish in their application.

**Goal(s)** = Over-all goal(s) identified by the Council in their current five-year state plan that the grantees are helping the Council accomplish through their grant award. Several grantees can be working toward the same goal but through different objectives.

**Grantee Proposal** = What the grantee said they would do to in their application.

**NGCDD Expected Outcome(s)** = What the Council expects to see as a result of grantee efforts.

**Objective(s)** = What the grantees have specifically agreed to accomplish during their grant period and how they said they would accomplish it.

**Of Note** = Any concerns, issues and/or additional information the Council needs to know. Will include any previous recommendations from the Council and the grantee’s progress toward those recommendations.

**Performance Measures** = Specific number of people affected by Council efforts.

**Promising Practice** = A practice with an innovative approach that improves upon existing practice and positively impacts the area of proactive. The practice should demonstrate a high degree of success and the possibility of replication in other agencies or settings but has not been tested.