

**Request for Information from  
Nevada Department of Education  
as Provided by**

***SB 515, Section 23***

**Social worker or other licensed mental health  
professional**

**Due: December 14, 2015**

**Return to:**

**Victoria Blakeney  
Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment  
Nevada Department of Education  
700 E. Fifth St.  
Carson City, NV 89701  
(775) 687-9130  
vblakeney@doe.nv.gov**

## **SECTION II NARRATIVE**

### **Describe the population of the school.**

Our district is made up of just over 10,000 students. Of these, 6% are American Indian/Alaskan Native, 30% are Hispanic, 60% are White, and 4% other. Our school district covers over 17,000 square miles with more than two-hours' drive time between some schools. Our campuses range from one room school houses to high schools with over 1,200 students. This diverse population is affected by geographic isolation, generational poverty, and a lack of access to services.

According to Elko County Healthy People Highlights, a report published by Nevada Vital Statistics and Records, Elko County has the highest attempted suicide rate in the state, higher than average teen pregnancy rates, and an alarming rate of drug-induced death.

### **Describe the needs of the population, using supporting data.**

The students in our schools need direct access to services, particularly in the areas of suicide prevention, bully prevention, mental health supports, truancy prevention, substance abuse prevention, and wrap-around services to address the needs of students living in poverty.

During the month of November alone, the Elko County School District School Resource Officers responded to 4 reports of bullying, 15 child welfare reports, 24 drug/alcohol related calls, 31 cases of truancy (appendix B). These officers are making home visits and referrals to services, running an alternative sentencing program for drug and alcohol offenders, in addition to responding to typical calls for service. The calls for service responded to by the School Resource Officers are in addition to the services being offered by school counselors, teachers, and administrators at each of our 17 schools.

PACE Coalition prepared a Comprehensive Community Prevention Plan in June of 2015 supported by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA) through State General Funds, and SAPT Block and Partnership for Success federal grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)(Appendix D). This report details primary risk factors for youth in our community including Early Aggressive Behavior, Lack of Parental Supervision, Substance Abuse, Drug Availability, and Poverty. The report went on to identify gaps in youth services including affordable, timely, and appropriate levels of mental health care and a positive behavior support program for students.

The National Center for Injury Prevention & Control reports Elko County among the counties across the nation with the highest suicide death rates with 17-99 deaths per 100,000 residents (Appendix C). Students reporting thoughts of suicide to school staff are referred to our local hospital's emergency room or are transported to a facility in Reno (4 hours away) for treatment.

According to the State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Social Workers, there are currently 840 Licensed Clinical Social Workers in the State of Nevada. A Google search

reveals 5 of those are practicing in Elko County serving a population of over 50,000 residents. Access to mental health services in our community is in a dire state and providing access to these services on our school campuses will bridge the gap, providing critical services to students and families who would otherwise go without.

**Describe how you would propose to use the social worker or other mental health professional to meet the needs of the population.**

The following is an excerpt from an article published by the National Association of Social Workers, it illustrates the importance of social workers in the schools and accurately describes how social workers would meet the needs of Elko County students.

“School social workers pick up where teachers leave off. They are perhaps the professionals best equipped to address the social and psychological issues that can block academic progress. Through counseling, crisis intervention and prevention programs, they help young people overcome the difficulties in their lives, and as a result, give them a better chance at succeeding in school.

Besides helping youth with traditional academic problems, social workers aid others whose specific social, psychological, emotional or physical difficulties put them at risk for falling through the cracks. These include homeless youth, gay and lesbian youth and young people with physical or mental health disabilities.

Because social workers are trained to think of innovative solutions to complex problems, their interventions often make a strong difference for young people at risk for academic failure.

School social workers make an impact in many other arenas as well. For instance, they have designed successful violence-prevention programs. They’ve created alternative programs for gay and lesbian youth who might otherwise leave school because of peer taunting and abuse. And they are experts at intervening in crises such as teen suicides, alcohol-related deaths or school violence. In these situations, social workers use a variety of organizational and empathic tools to help both students and the community address their grief, to heal and to move on.”

The clinical social worker, social worker, and social worker interns funded by this grant will work hand-in-hand to implement and support district-wide initiatives such as bully prevention programs, suicide prevention programs, and positive behavior interventions. These staff will join the existing Safe & Respectful Learning Environment Committee to coordinate and implement the bullying prevention initiatives across the district.

On a more individual level, these personnel will provide wrap-around services to our families experiencing poverty or crisis. These services include but are not limited to assisting in accessing local and regional services, economic support, emotional supports, physical function supports, peer issues, and other related resources. The clinical social worker in our school district will work with families to help them access services and supports that identify and address mental health needs. They will provide family counseling, individual student counseling, social and emotional learning instruction, and follow-up counseling with students who are exiting treatment facilities and returning to schools.

# SECTION III BUDGET/EXPENDITURE

Budget Detail / Supplemental Schedules					
Agency <b>Elko County School District</b>			Project Name <b>SB 515 Social Worker Grant</b>		
A	B	C	D	E	F
OBJECT CODE	TITLE OF POSITION / PURPOSE OF ITEM	PROJECT TIME (FTE)	QUANTITY	SALARY, RENTAL, OR UNIT COST	BUDGETED AMOUNT
100	SALARIES				
	Clinical Social Worker (MSW + 3000hrs)	1	1	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
	Social Worker (BS)	1	1	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	Social Worker Intern with Supervision	2	2	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
200	Benefits				
	Clinical Social Worker Benefits	1	1	\$ 34,560.00	\$ 34,560.00
	Social Worker Benefits	1	1	\$ 22,020.00	\$ 22,020.00
	Social Worker Intern Benefits	2	2	\$ 8,502.00	\$ 17,004.00
	SUBTOTAL			\$217,584.00	
893	Indirect Costs - 2.92%			\$ 6,353.45	\$ 6,353.45
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$223,937.45</b>

If additional space is needed, duplicate this page and number the additional pages. All items must be explained in specific terms.  
All items must be named and must be directly related and necessary to the operation of the program.

# SECTION IV ASSURANCES

The undersigned provides the following assurances:

1. Through training, professional development and collaboration – all Social Workers and Mental Health Professionals are subject to abiding by the theory of action and mission statement of the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment.
2. The funding will be utilized to fund the mental health professional. The funds will not be used for any other purpose.
3. The schools and districts funded will administer that Nevada School Climate/Social and Emotional Learning Survey in the spring annually.
4. The district will submit data as requested for the required annual report.
5. If it is determined that a school or district is not implementing the programs or services for which it received money, or does not meet performance levels, a plan of corrective action will be developed and implanted that results in meeting the requirements and/or performance levels.
6. Any remaining balance of funds will not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2016, and will be reverted to the State General Fund after all payments of money committed have been made.
7. Districts will submit an annual Financial Report.

Signature:

Todd J. Peterson  
Authorized Representative

12/11/15  
Date

TODD J. PETERSON  
Print Name Here

ECS D  
Organization

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Letters of Support**

- Great Basin College
- University of Nevada, Reno
- Department of Health & Human Services, Division of Child & Family Services



**December 10, 2012**

**To:** Victoria Blakeney  
Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment  
Nevada Dept. of Education  
700 E. Fifth St.  
Carson City ,NV 89701

**From:** Wendy Charlebois, MSW, LSW  
Coordinator, University of Nevada, Reno/Great Basin College 3+1 Social Work Program.  
1500 College Parkway  
Elko, NV 89801

Dear Ms. Blakeney,

Please accept this letter in enthusiastic support of the Elko County School district's School Social Worker grant proposal. The presence of social workers in Elko County schools would indeed be a wonderful asset to our rural community.

I am the Coordinator of the University of Nevada, Reno(UNR)/Great Basin College (GBC) 3+1 Social Work Program. This program was designed to educate and graduate rural, place bound students in order to fill critical social work positions throughout rural Nevada. We are "growing our own social workers." The 3+1Program has been small but successful in achieving its mission. It is called a "3+1" program because rural students complete their general education requirements, social work pre-requisites and their core social work classes through Great Basin College. In their junior year, students apply to UNR and the School of Social Work and if accepted, they finish their professional sequence as UNR students, taking online classes as well as a monthly week-end class at UNR. The Bachelors of Social Work degree is conferred by UNR. As part of the social work curriculum, required by the Council on Social Work Education, students must do a four hundred and fifty hour internship in their senior year. Rural students complete these internships in agencies within their local communities. Public agencies and non-profit organizations in Elko County have benefitted from having interns. They have brought fresh ideas and new energy to these agencies. Interns have provided countless hours of unpaid labor. These interns, now employed, will continue to work in Elko County helping to empower the most vulnerable. Elko County Schools could also benefit from utilizing the unique skills of social workers

The Elko County School District is located in the northeastern corner of Nevada. The district covers 17,000 square miles and has twenty two schools located in six major communities and four rural communities throughout the county. Twelve percent of the children live in poverty.(Kids Count, 2014) Elko County, like many rural counties throughout the state and the nation has difficulty recruiting professional people to provide mental health services and hands on assistance (Medicaid/food stamp applications, referrals) for children and families. As a result we have a severe shortage of service providers to assist our citizens. Unfortunately we have the familiar and complex challenges with young children and teens such as abuse and neglect, suicide, teen pregnancy, substance abuse and truancy. Elko county youth also face mental health disorders such as depression and trauma induced behavioral problems. As would be expected, these problems very often surface at school. School social workers pick up where teachers leave off. According to the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) "they are perhaps, the professionals best equipped to address the social and psychological issues that can block academic progress. Through counseling, crisis intervention, and prevention programs, they help young people overcome the difficulties in their lives and as a result, give them a better chance at succeeding in school."

When students are struggling in their personal lives, perhaps not feeling safe or worrying about their daily necessities, it is very difficult for them to be successful in school. Because social workers are trained to think of innovative solutions to complex problems, their interventions often make a strong difference for young people at risk for academic failure. It would be such a wonderful opportunity for the UNR/GBC 3+1 Social Work program and the Elko County School District to collaborate and assist students and their families with some of their life challenges. Please grant the Elko County School District the chance to do this.

Sincerely,



Wendy Charlebois



University of Nevada, Reno  
Statewide · Worldwide

December 10, 2015

Todd Pehrson  
Elko County School District  
850 Elm Street  
Elko, Nevada 89801

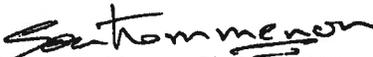
Dear Mr. Pehrson,

I am writing this letter in support of the Elko County School District's application for funding through Senate Bill 515 to hire school social workers within the district. As you know, school social workers play a pivotal role within the entire student support team and are qualified to offer prevention and intervention services that create positive learning environments while addressing barriers that may inhibit student learning. The School of Social Work at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) is excited by the potential impact that social work services in our public schools may have on children as well as their families and our communities.

Our school is an accredited program with the Council on Social Work Education. We currently offer a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree and a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. In collaboration with Great Basin College, our "3 + 1 program" was designed for students who reside in rural Nevada and who are interested in pursuing a BSW degree from an accredited institution. We are also in the process of developing an online MSW program that will be available to students from Elko County in Fall 2016. For all of our programs, students are required to complete a structured field practicum in social work.

Your proposal to hire bachelor and master level social workers within the Elko County School District will create opportunities for the school district to also become a qualified field-training site for both undergraduate and graduate social work students. Training students locally will not only add additional supports to your team, but will also develop a pool of qualified applicants for future positions. The field program within our school is committed to providing the necessary support to establish school social work internships within Elko County School District and to provide training for your social workers in supervising student interns. We appreciate your equal support of our program and look forward to partnering with you in developing a school social work program in Elko County.

Sincerely,

  
Goutham Menon, Ph.D., M.S.W.  
Director, School of Social Work

cc: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson

School of Social Work  
1664 North Virginia Street  
University of Nevada, Reno/090  
Reno, Nevada 89557-0090  
(775) 784-6542 office  
(775) 784-4573 fax  
[www.unr.edu/social-work](http://www.unr.edu/social-work)

**BRIAN SANDOVAL**  
Governor

**STATE OF NEVADA**



**RICHARD WHITLEY**  
Director

**KIRSTEN COULOMBE**  
Administrator

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES**

**1010 RUBY VISTA DRIVE, SUITE 101  
ELKO, NEVADA 89801**

December 11, 2015

Victoria Blakeney  
Nevada Department of Education  
700 E. Fifth Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Ms. Blakeney:

As the Social Services Manager for Rural Region 1 of the Division of Child and Family Services, I am writing this letter in support of the Elko County School District application for a grant to hire school social workers.

This is a much needed service in our area. Currently we have a significant deficit of mental health services in our area and the majority of those offered are via tele therapy. The ability for a school social worker to provide family and individual counseling will assist with bridging the gap created from the lack of resources in our community at this time to address mental health needs.

While our community is made up largely of families with one or more adults employed by the mines we also have significant issues with families that do not have the resources to meet the basic needs of their family. While some of the families have other deficits which lead to the inability to meet the needs of their children, there are also many families that lack job skills or have low paying jobs. These families do not meet the criteria to be served by our agency. Having school social workers who can assist families with addressing these issues resulting from poverty or crisis will assist with providing services not being addressed elsewhere.

Finally, due to our continual work with school aged children, we are very much in support of programs offered through the school to address bullying, homeless youth, gay and lesbian youth and crisis services resulting from school violence. These are services which are much needed and valuable in any community.

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*Child welfare agencies in Nevada believe families are the primary providers for children's needs. The safety and well-being of children is dependent upon the safety and well-being of all family members. Children, youth and families are best served when staff actively listens to them and invite participation in decision-making. We support full implementation of family centered practice by engaging families in child and family teams and offering individualized services to build upon strengths and meet the identified needs of the family.*

Should you require further information from the Division, please contact me at (775) 753-1300. Otherwise, the Division will look forward to the outcome of the request for a grant to establish a school social work program in the Elko County School District

Sincerely,



Jerolyn Tennyson, LASW  
Social Services Manager

# APPENDIX B

Elko County School Resource Officer Statistics provided by the City of Elko Police Department and the Elko County Sheriff's Office.

## SRO STATISTICS – November 2015

ACTIVITY	
Student Contacts	470
Parent Contacts	165
Teacher/Admin Contacts	148
Other Contacts	24
Traffic Stops	28
Citations	1
Parking Warnings	11
Arrests	2
Cases Opened	11
Cases Closed	11
Classes Instructed	0
Special Events	10
<b>Total Activity:</b>	<b>861</b>

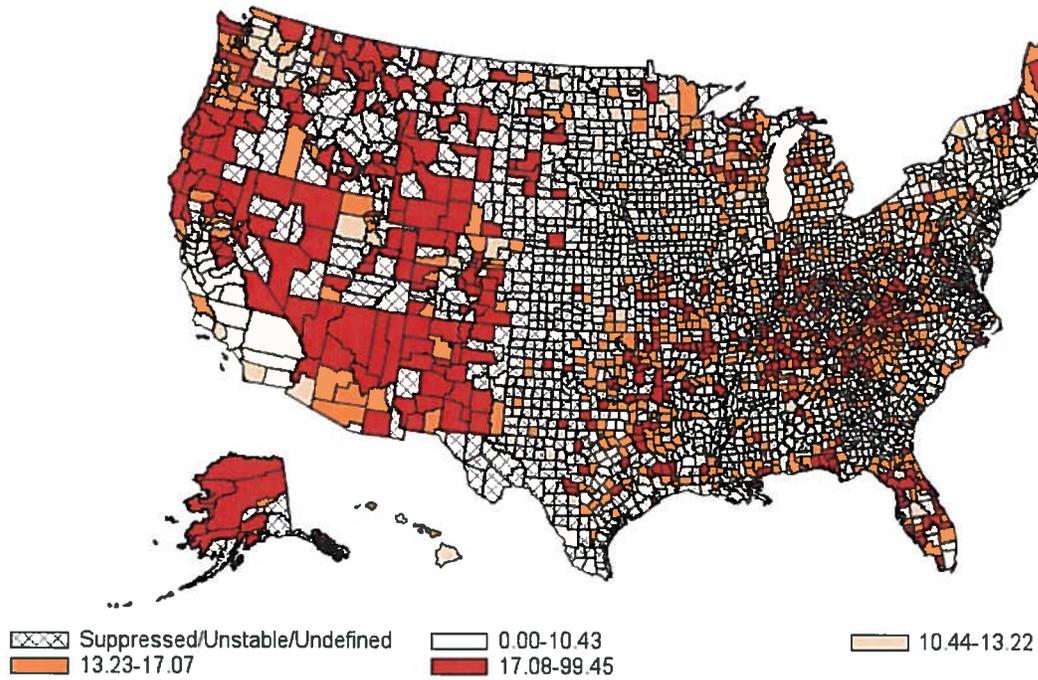
REPORTS TYPES	
TYPE	NUMBER
BOMB THREATS	0
BULLYING	4
CHILD WELFARE	15
DRUG/ALCOHOL	24
PROPERTY DAMAGE	0
STUDENT FIGHT(S)	3
TRUANCY	31
REFERRALS	3
OTHER	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82</b>

HOURS	
High Schools	
Elko High School	119
Spring Creek High School	32.5
Carlin Combined	21
Wells Combined	6
Jackson Combined	2
West Wendover Combined	2
<b>Total High Schools</b>	<b>182.5</b>
Elementary/Middle/Interim	
Adobe Middle School	24.75
Flag View Intermediate	6
Spring Creek Middle School	4
Mountain View Elem.	0
Northside Elem.	3.5
Grammar #2 Elem.	10.25
Southside Elem.	10.5
Sage Elem.	12.5
Spring Creek Elem.	2.5
Carlin Elem.	5
Wells Elem.	0
Jackson Elem.	0
West Wendover Elem.	2.5
Charter School	0
<b>Total Elementary/Other Schools</b>	<b>81.5</b>

MISCELLANEOUS HOURS	
Administrative	70.5
Reports	61
Classes Instructed	14
Training Provided	8
Training Received	10
Special Events	8.5
Sports Events	0
Other	66
Court	5
Follow Up Investigations	32.5
ALERT Drug/Alcohol Testing	29.5
<b>Total Miscellaneous Hours:</b>	<b>305</b>

# APPENDIX C

**2004-2010, United States**  
**Death Rates per 100,000 Population**  
All Injury, Suicide, All Races, All Ethnicities, Both Sexes, All Ages  
Annualized Crude Rate for United States: 11.59



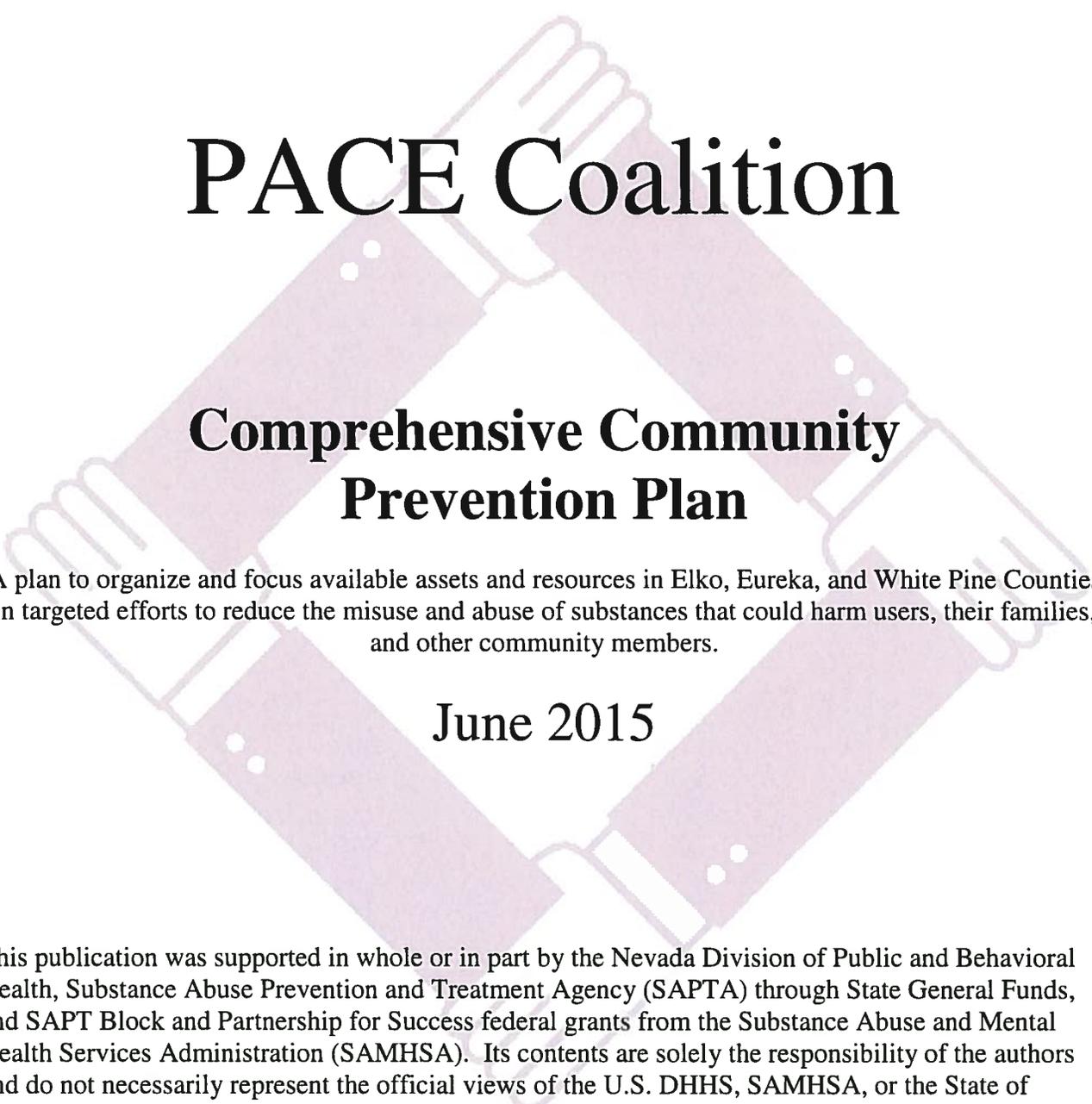
Reports for All Ages include those of unknown age.

\* Rates based on 20 or fewer deaths may be unstable. These rates are suppressed for counties (see legend above); such rates in the title have an asterisk.

**Produced by: the Statistics, Programming & Economics Branch, National Center for Injury Prevention & Control, CDC**  
**Data Sources: NCES National Vital Statistics System for numbers of deaths; US Census Bureau for population estimates.**

## **APPENDIX D**

PACE Coalition Comprehensive Community Prevention Plan Excerpt (Complete plan available upon request).



# PACE Coalition

## Comprehensive Community Prevention Plan

A plan to organize and focus available assets and resources in Elko, Eureka, and White Pine Counties in targeted efforts to reduce the misuse and abuse of substances that could harm users, their families, and other community members.

June 2015

This publication was supported in whole or in part by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA) through State General Funds, and SAPT Block and Partnership for Success federal grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. DHHS, SAMHSA, or the State of Nevada.

Prepared by:



## ABOUT PACE

PACE Coalition is one of 12 coalitions serving the State of Nevada. These coalitions are partially funded and supervised by the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA). Coalitions are key to Nevada's Five-Year Strategic Prevention Plan (2012-2017).

### *Vision Statement*

To create an environment in Elko, White Pine, and Eureka Counties where every person is supported by family, peers, and the community and where every individual will receive all that he or she needs to become safe, healthy, substance-free, educated, and a contributing member of the community.

### *Mission Statement*

To engage people from every sector of Elko, White Pine, and Eureka Counties to form a community alliance for healthy youth and families that focuses on strengthening the character and competencies of our youth and families. PACE's slogan is:

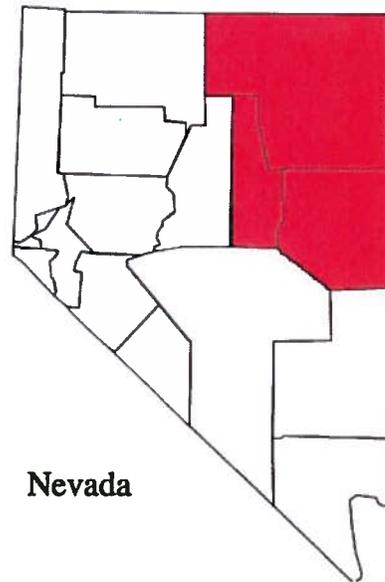
*Healthy Communities...Whatever It Takes*

### *Geographic Area Served*

PACE Coalition serves Elko, White Pine, and Eureka Counties.

### *Target Population*

PACE supports a holistic approach to substance abuse prevention that meets the needs of all ages and racial/ethnic groups within the service area.



**Data Review:** We gathered qualitative and quantitative data for nearly all of the validated indicators for risk and protective factors. These risk and protective factors for youth are based on research from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The cornerstone of PACE’s quantitative outcome data is the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The YRBS is a multiple-choice survey administered every other year by the Nevada Department of Education and the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), School of Community Health Sciences. The questions cover a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, academics, violence and family issues.

We also reviewed several sources for archival data that are cited throughout Appendix A.

**Assessment of Community Infrastructure**

**Resource Assessment:** The goal of a resource assessment is to: 1) identify services existing within the community that are available to impact risk and protective factors; and, 2) to find any gaps in services. Tables outlining existing resources in the service area are attached as Appendix B.

The following tables identify gaps in services or activities:

<b>GAPS IN SERVICES - YOUTH</b>		
<b>Domain: Individual</b>		
Risk Factor: Early Aggressive Behavior		
Protective Factor: Self-Control, Academic Success		
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Affordable, timely and appropriate levels of mental health care	All	All
Medical providers who accept Medicaid/Medicare	All	All
Public Health Nurse	All	All (Except White Pine County)
Options for affordable preschool	Preschool/Family	All
Affordable, accessible tutoring programs	Youth	All
Positive Behavior Support program for all students	Youth/Family	All
<b>Domain: Family</b>		
Risk Factor: Lack of Parental Supervision, Parental Substance Abuse		
Protective Factor: Parental Supervision, Clear Rules that are Enforced		
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Options for affordable daycare	Infants and Toddlers/Family	All
Options for affordable preschool	Preschool/Family	All
Positive Behavior Support program for all students	Youth/Family	All

<b>Domain: Peer</b>		
Risk Factor: Substance Abuse by Peers		
Protective Factor: Peers Who Do Not Use Substances		
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Scholarship program for youth to participate in alternative activities	Youth	All
<b>Domain: School</b>		
Risk Factor: Drug Availability		
Protective Factor: Anti-Drug Use Policies Opportunities to Connect with School and Community		
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Options for affordable preschool	Youth	All
Positive Behavior Support program for all students	Youth/Family	All
Affordable, accessible tutoring programs	Youth	All
Opportunities to connect neighborhoods to schools	All	All
School Resource Officers for all schools	Youth	All
<b>Domain: Community</b>		
Risk Factor: Poverty		
Protective Factor: Strong Neighborhood Attachment Clear Community Expectations about Substance Use Limited Access and Availability of Alcohol or Drugs Opportunities to Connect with Community		
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Opportunities for families and neighbors to meet one another	All	All
Options for affordable housing	All	All
Opportunities for intergenerational connections	All	All
Underage Alcohol Compliance Checks	All	All
<b>GAPS IN SERVICES - OLDER ADULTS</b>		
<b>Domain: Individual</b>		
Risk Factor: Memory Loss that Contributes to Over Consumption or Mixing Meds Lack of Purpose		
Protective Factor: Medical Care, RX Disposal, Sense of Purpose		
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Affordable, timely and appropriate levels of mental health care	All	All
Inadequate numbers of health care providers accept Medicare	Older Adults	All
Public Health Nurse	All	All (Except White Pine County)
Easily accessible safe RX medication disposal	All	All

<b>Domain:</b>	<b>Peer</b>	
Risk Factor:	Loss of Health, Loss of Social Contacts	
Protective Factor:	Increase Social Connections	
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Opportunities to meet neighbors	All	All
<b>Domain:</b>	<b>Community</b>	
Risk Factor:	Social Isolation	
Protective Factor:	Opportunities to Connect with Community	
<i>Activity/Service</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Community</i>
Opportunities to meet neighbors	All	All
Opportunities for intergenerational connections	All	All
Opportunities for social interactions outside normal business hours (evenings, weekends, holidays)	All	All

***Evidence of Level of Readiness***

**Awareness of Substance Abuse in the Community:**

- Adults seem to be generally aware that some young people in the community are using drugs and alcohol. Adults tend to grossly over-estimate use among young people
- Adults look to local schools and community agencies for solutions
- Informants did not demonstrate a formal understanding of prevention theory or risk and protective factors. However, they used their own words to describe individual characteristics, community factors, school environments, and family influences that they believe lead to substance use and abuse. These typically fell in line with the official risk and protective factors. In other words, very few people tended to provide flippant, cliché responses

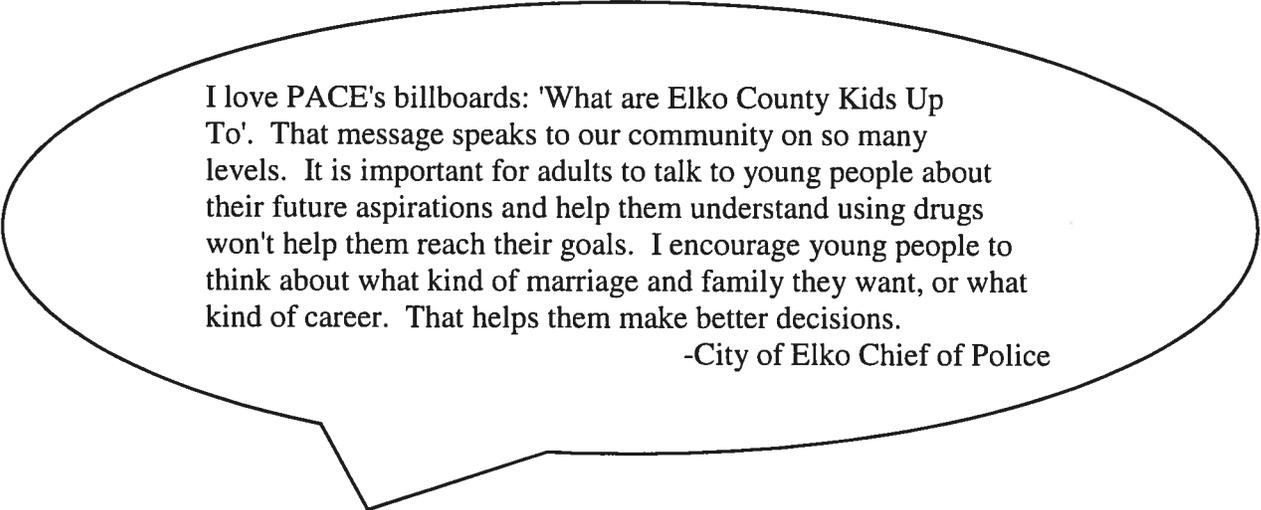
**PACE Coalition:**

- Staff has received over 263 hours of training in coalition development, prevention theory and practices in the past year. Staff appear to be motivated, energetic, and positive about their work in the communities. Some recent trainings include: Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness; Mental Health First Aid; Youth Mental Health First Aid; and, Safe Talk
- PACE’s prevention coordinator has a long history in early childhood education and is comfortable and skilled in communicating with parents and families from all socioeconomic levels and ethnicities
- PACE routinely offers to send community partners to substance abuse prevention trainings (law enforcement and school district personnel have recently attended trainings)

- PACE provides general substance abuse prevention training for sub-recipients. Full-time employees of subrecipients must attend 20 hours per fiscal year; part-time employees must attend 10 hours per fiscal year
- Staff is in need of additional training pertaining to emerging drug use trends, specifically synthetic drugs
- PACE's name is recognized by community members; parents; school district employees; city, county, and state government officials; law enforcement; court personnel; religious leaders; and, other non-profits and service agencies as being vaguely connected with substance abuse prevention. There is not a clear idea of exactly what PACE is doing other than "helping people". They are most familiar with ads during broadcast sports and billboards
- Community members seem confident and excited about possibilities for collaborating with PACE
- PACE is seen as a source of expertise in substance abuse prevention and social services in general. It is not uncommon for someone to ask, "Do you think PACE would know anything about this?" in a meeting. With that name and expertise recognition comes some measure of criticism. Occasionally one will overhear a comment such as, "Why isn't PACE taking care of that problem?"
- Most people are enthusiastically supportive of PACE and recognize their name; however, they are not aware that PACE funds partner agencies for prevention programming.

#### Law Enforcement/Court Personnel:

- Law enforcement and court personnel know PACE's name and understand that they work in substance abuse prevention. Again, this is a vague awareness. Most mentioned bar tender trainings and underage checks at community events
- Many people in this sector of the community have attended substance abuse prevention trainings (ie EUDL) through PACE funding
- Many in this sector work for PACE on their off time at ID check points during community events
- Many in this sector admit to feeling jaded about substance abuse because they "see the worst," but they generally seem confident that communities can work toward substance abuse prevention among the majority of young people



I love PACE's billboards: 'What are Elko County Kids Up To'. That message speaks to our community on so many levels. It is important for adults to talk to young people about their future aspirations and help them understand using drugs won't help them reach their goals. I encourage young people to think about what kind of marriage and family they want, or what kind of career. That helps them make better decisions.

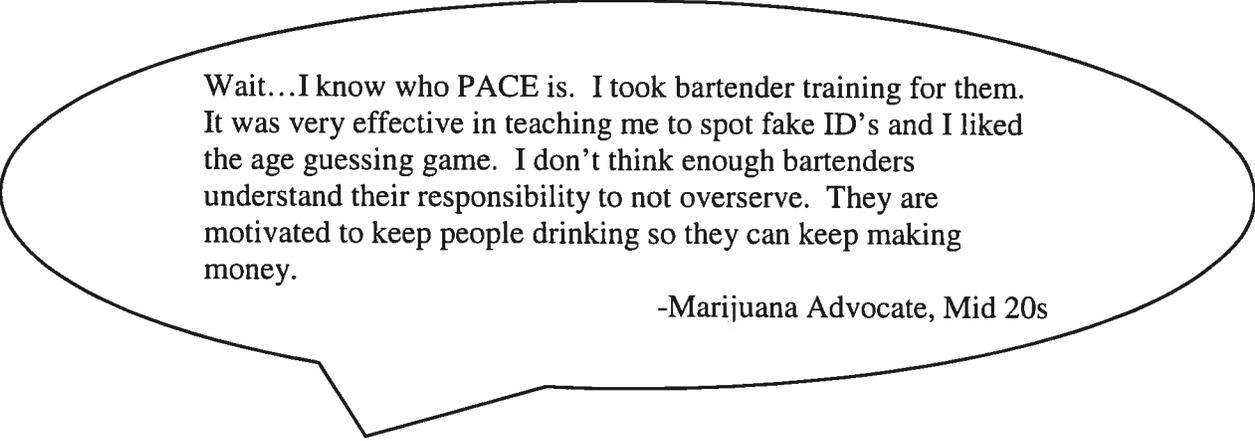
-City of Elko Chief of Police

#### Business:

- Some people in the business community are aware of PACE because of the executive director's involvement with the Chamber of Commerce and service on the hospital board
- Some are aware of PACE because of their Rental Property and Smoking Assessment project and their tobacco use in the workplace project
- Many in this sector mentioned the high profile loss of a liquor license from a local bar. Most were supportive of this decision by the Elko City Council and discussed the impacts of overserving on neighboring businesses
- PACE facilitated a training for healthcare providers and court personnel about prescription drug use and abuse. It was attended by approximately 14 people. Included in this training was information about the State of Nevada's Prescription Monitoring Program. The program was voluntary until the 2014/2015 legislative session
- Age identifying wristbands have become the norm at community events such as business-centered wine walks, the Elko County Fair, the Silver State Stampede, etc. In previous years PACE was able to utilize grant funds to pay for these activities; however, grant funding has not been available recently. Boards of directors and private establishments have recognized the value of this precaution and are willing to pay PACE for the service. This is a direct result of PACE's educational efforts in the business sector

#### State/Local Government and Tribal Agencies:

- Responsible Beverage Server Training is required before a bar card is issued within the City of Elko; the Elko County District Attorney requires servers who are convicted of selling alcohol to underage patrons to attend Responsible Beverage Serving Training



Wait...I know who PACE is. I took bartender training for them. It was very effective in teaching me to spot fake ID's and I liked the age guessing game. I don't think enough bartenders understand their responsibility to not overserve. They are motivated to keep people drinking so they can keep making money.

-Marijuana Advocate, Mid 20s

- PACE continues to work with local tribal agencies with respect to the safe prescription dropoff box and various programs (e.g. suicide prevention and domestic violence prevention).

#### Elko County School District/Great Basin College:

- PACE collaborates with the Elko County School District, the Elko County Sheriff's Dept., and the City of Elko Police Department to fund 5 full-time School Resource Officers. Several community members mentioned the addition of the officers during interviews
- School District personnel are excited about potentials for collaboration; they consider PACE an expert in substance abuse prevention and contact them routinely. However, when a local governmental agency approached the school district with a plan to make prevention-themed presentations to students with the school resource officer nobody mentioned a collaboration with PACE. No principals, counselors, or school resource officers suggested that the agency representatives contact PACE to refine their presentation or seek materials or funding
- The Elko County School District recently amended their tobacco policies to include all forms of tobacco and nicotine products. The policy now reads: "For the health of everyone, smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco and nicotine products are prohibited in our facilities and on our property." They looked to PACE to provide guidance for this undertaking
- The Elko County School District provides office space for PACE Coalition free of charge as an in kind donation
- Individual teachers contact PACE to present to classrooms
- PACE is actively involved with the residential housing staff at Great Basin College. Their involvement with student government and student groups has waned with changes in leadership. This is an area for growth

Yes, I know who PACE is. I have done some research on their website.

-21 YO GBC College Student

#### Youth Serving Organizations:

- Boys and Girls Club: There is occasional contact between PACE and Boys and Girls Club for specific programs or educational materials. This is an area for growth.
- Head Start staff regularly attend monthly coalitions meetings and have been presenters in the past year. They invite PACE to provide staff and family education. In past years PACE provided HSNN families with at-home craft projects or activities and healthy recipes with some type of prevention theme. This year PACE is bringing a “Being Me & Tobacco Free” presentation to HSNN classrooms. Cathy McAdoo, Executive Director of PACE Coalition, and a PACE board member teach child abuse & neglect; substance abuse prevention; and domestic violence every September for HSNN staff. They received training several years ago to provide this training specifically for Head Starts of NE NV. They were not invited to the training in 2014, but are willing to continue to provide it in future years
- Communities In Schools operates a “Fellows Program” that support students who are struggling to complete high school for whatever reason. PACE has provided support and miscellaneous educational programs as requested.
- The Elko and Eureka County Juvenile Parole and Probation Departments operate alternate activity programs for youth in West Wendover and Eureka that are funded by PACE Coalition.
- MAGIC (Making a Group and Individual Commitment) is a youth program operated by the UNR Cooperative Extension in West Wendover, NV. PACE funds this program.
- Faith based: PACE provides materials and education as requested by faith based institutions.

After reviewing and comparing the basic levels of readiness for governmental agencies, businesses, schools, law enforcement/court, and PACE Coalition, it was determined the general level of readiness is: Stage 8: Confirmation/Expansion (<http://captus.samhsa.gov/access-resources/stages-community-readiness>).

**Potential Barriers:** The most prevalent barrier to the success of PACE Coalition in implementing an effective prevention strategy is a lack of continuity in relationships when there is a change of leadership in a partner agency. PACE Coalition will continue to focus on engaging the service area’s key stakeholders, long-standing partnerships already established within the community and our growing coalition members.