

November 15, 2021

To: Washoe County Board of Commissioners
1001 E. Ninth Street
Reno, NV 89512

Re: American Rescue Plan Act

Fr: Senior Advisory Board

The American Rescue Plan Act for older residents presents an opportunity to increase services to Washoe County's older adults through the expansion of priority services and the creation of additional much-needed services. The Senior Advisory Board's plan for an Age Friendly Livable Reno seeks funding for five priorities:

1. **Housing Services:** Specifically, a housing navigator/real estate expert within the Human Services Agency to assist low income elders and, if funds available, mid-income elders to:
 - a. Obtain affordable housing,
 - b. Negotiate with landlords,
 - c. Obtain tax credits,
 - d. Obtain emergency housing,
 - e. Coordinate repairs and maintenance and other housing needs.

2. **Access to Community & Healthcare Services:**
 - a. Increase in-home supports by adding at least 200 elders to the homemaker program.
 - b. Provide technology training, equipment and online access for seniors thus giving them better access to social media, online access to healthcare services and community support services.
 - c. Provide additional nutritional supports by purchasing additional meal-delivery vehicles.
 - d. Support programs to address health disparities and mitigate isolation among elders.

3. **Transportation Services:**
 - a. Increase access to transportation on a regional level to organizations providing transportation services.
 - b. Increase transportation options by leveraging idle buses and vans thus expanding the transportation network for seniors.

4. **Substantial Building Improvements:** Building improvements to serve low income/homeless elders, including:
 - a. Renovate outdated kitchen and replace outdated equipment to increase capacity to reflect growth,
 - b. Replace flooring,
 - c. Purchase new furnishings,
 - d. Upgrade bathrooms.

5. **ARPA grant funding:** to support local nonprofits serving elders in Washoe County to increase capacity for
 - a. Agencies to coordinate resources,
 - b. Elders to access resources,
 - c. Agencies to provide transportation.

Sincerely,

On behalf of the Senior Advisory Board

Attachment: **Age Friendly Livable Reno Plan, 10/6/2021**