

Preparing for the Legislature: Funding Respite



Jeffrey B. Klein, FACHE
President & CEO, Nevada Senior Services

Nevada Virtual Respite Summit
August 28, 2020

The Environment

How serious will the trajectory of demographic shifts, COVID 19 and the effects of delivery system changes be on Nevada's most vulnerable populations?



Perfect Storm

- Increasingly aged population
- COVID-19
- Strained state budget resources



Perfect Storm

- Medicare Beneficiaries with Chronic Diseases

2+ = 63%

5+ = 21%

- 26% Functionally Impaired
- 95% Medicare \$ Related to Chronic Conditions



Perfect Storm



- Greater functionality with chronic conditions
- Living longer, yet sicker
- Bottom Line: necessity of high quality coordinated care!

Perfect Storm

Work Force Dilemma

- Increased demand
- Constricted supply
- Falling unemployment
- Low compensation direct care workers 70% funded by government programs



Perfect Storm

The dichotomy:



We want safety for those we love and we want autonomy for ourselves.

Respite services are often at the critical balance point in this equation.



PROBLEMS

NO MATTER HOW GREAT AND DESTRUCTIVE YOUR PROBLEMS MAY SEEM NOW,
REMEMBER, YOU'VE PROBABLY ONLY SEEN THE TIP OF THEM.

www.despair.com



GOVERNMENT

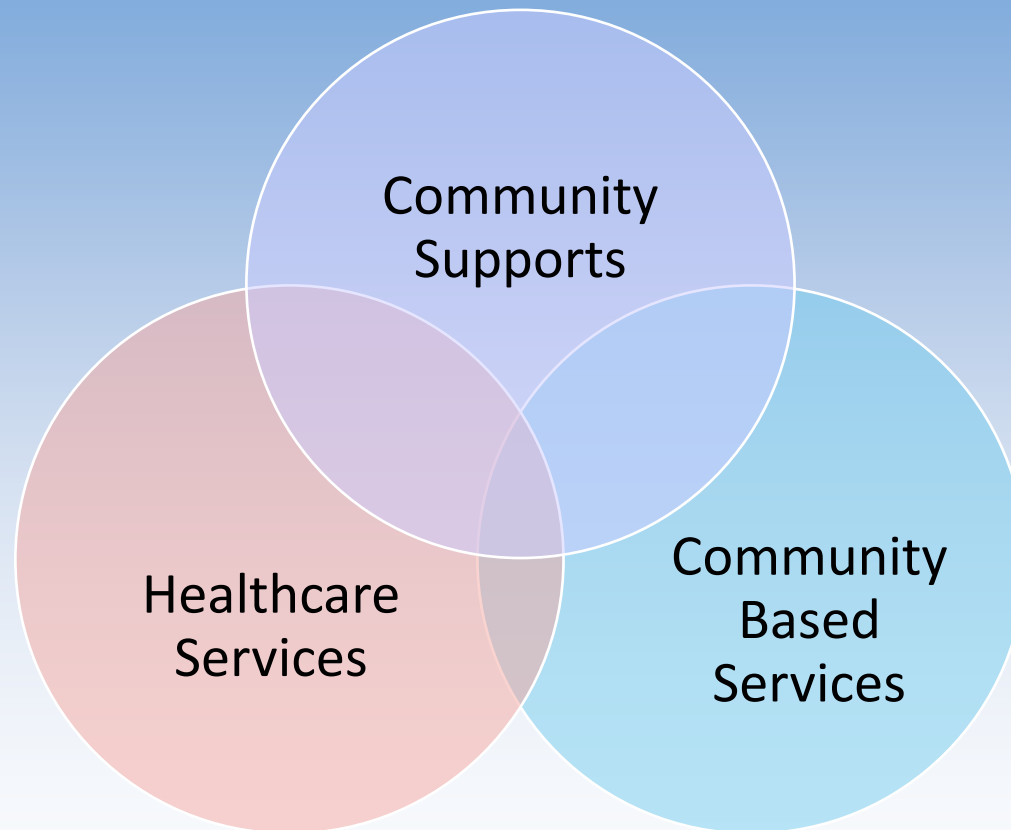
IF YOU THINK THE PROBLEMS WE CREATE ARE BAD,
JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE OUR SOLUTIONS.

www.despair.com

A Complicated Landscape



Respite: Integration of Delivery Systems



The Aging Network: Respite Services

Health, quality of life, and value of care in Nevada's community.

AND IN THE END,
IT'S NOT THE YEARS
IN YOUR LIFE THAT
COUNT. IT'S THE LIFE
IN YOUR YEARS.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Advocacy

Word origin: Medieval Latin advocatia, from advocare 'summon.

Definition: Call to one's aid.



Advocacy

Who answers the Call?

Hillel's Answer To Our Dilemma

“If I am not for myself, who is for me?”

- Self Advocacy
- Agency Leadership
- Board
- Clients

Advocacy

“When I am only for myself, what am I?”

- Making Common Cause Clients
- Senior Networks
- Disability Group
- Vulnerable Population

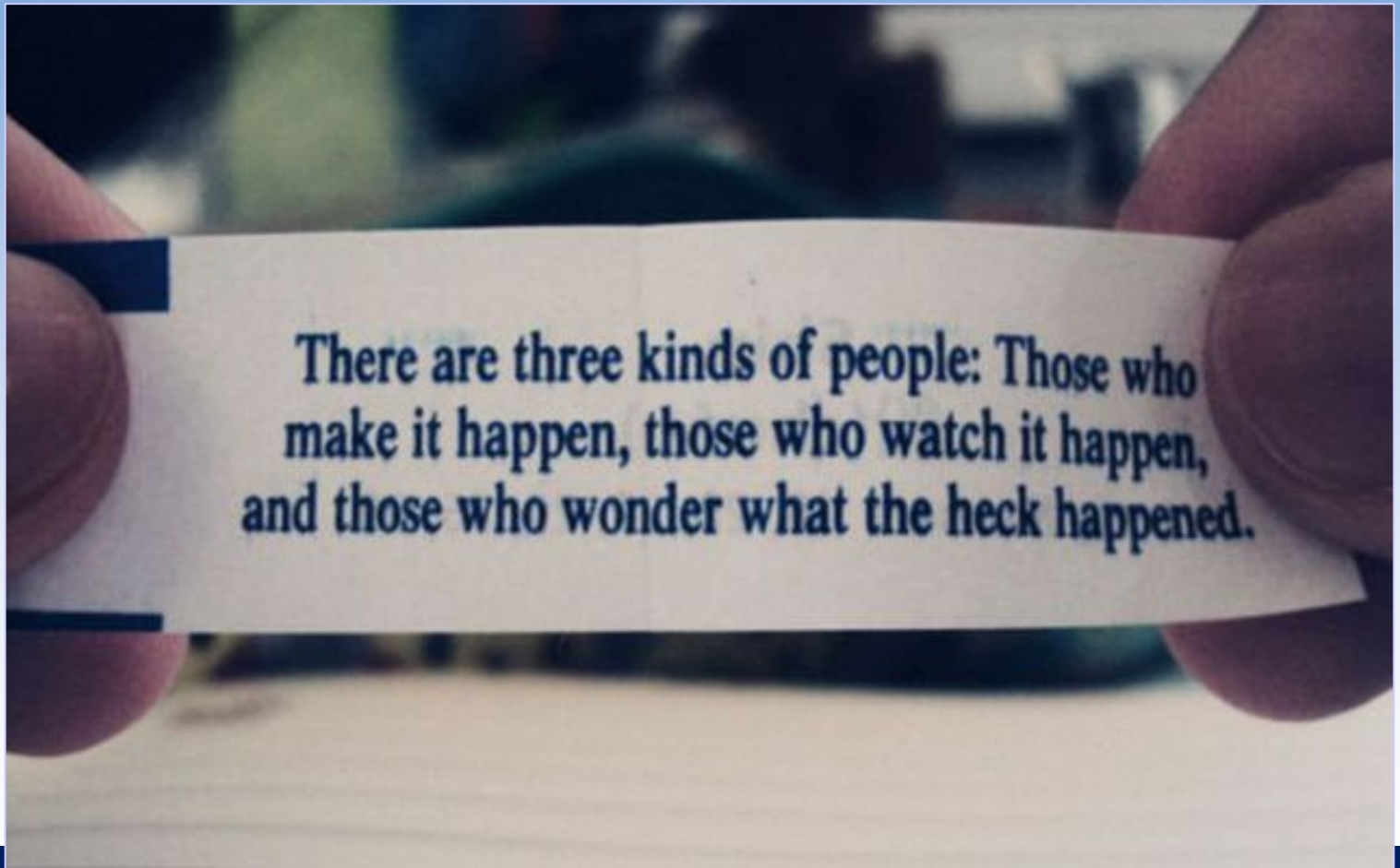
Advocacy

“If not now, when?”

The Future Is Now



But First: Why



But First: Why



Why Now?

Many new legislators unfamiliar with senior issues.

Changes in legislative committee assignments.

Session presents opportunities to address important issues.

Establish a framework for the future.

Today's Agenda

“Put A Face On The Issues”

Community & Board Engagement

Maintaining Communications with
Legislators

Engagement with the Legislative process

The Call to Action

“Put A Face On The Issues”

Host an event for your legislators

Tell Your Story

Introduce A Client

Discuss how important services are to your clients

Share the “Elder Issues in Nevada” information kit

Have an ask

Plan for follow-up

Partnerships for Advocacy

Commission on Aging

Commission on Aging's Legislative Subcommittee

ADSD

Other Aging Network services providers

AARP Nevada

Alzheimer's Association



Be Prepared to Answer Questions

DIMENSION	KEY QUESTIONS
R each	Is the program serving a priority population? What is need in their community?
E ffectiveness	Does the program impact Quality of life, health Nursing home placements Caregiver capacity Hospital readmissions
A doption	Are service providers fully engaged? Are consumers creating/using plans?
I mplementation	Is the program delivered as intended?
M aintenance	Can/should the program be sustained? Does the impact last?

The Issues”

Community & Board Engagement

Brief your Board

- Make the Case

- Ask for active involvement

Organize them for advocacy

Hold issue specific community events

Educate & engage your clients

Maintain Communications with Legislators

Letter writing

E-mail

Telephone calls

Follow-up client stories

Takeaway - Put It in Writing

2019 Session: Elder Issues in Nevada

Commission on Aging Subcommittee Concerning Legislative Issues

INFORMATION SHEETS
FOR LEGISLATORS

NEVADA COMMISSION ON AGING

Richard Whitley
Dena Schmidt
Senator Nicole Cannizzaro
Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel
Chris Giunchigliani
Daniel Corona
Stacy Gilbert
Jose Tinio
Jeffrey Klein
Barry Gold
Niki Rubarth
Lellani Kimmell Dagostino
Mary Liveratti

LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

Jeffrey Klein (Chair)
Barry Gold
Diane Ross
Larry Weiss
Mary Liveratti
Chris Ginchigliani
Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel
Dena Schmidt
Connie McMullen
Jane Gruner
Homa S. Woodrum

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jeffrey Klein
jklein@NevadaSeniorServices.org



LEARN MORE ABOUT IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS IN NEVADA

- Access to Services
- Living Alone With Dementia
- Legal Rights and Older Adults
- Caregiving
- Respite Care
- Affordable Housing for Seniors

Elder Issues in Nevada—Information for Legislators
Commission on Aging Subcommittee Concerning Legislative Issues
2019

Elder Issues in Nevada

Commission On Aging Legislative Subcommittee
Information Sheet for Legislators and Candidates
2015



AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
COMMISSION ON AGING

Engage in the Legislative Process

Educate your clients

Get them involved

Testimony at Committee hearings

Be there – in person visits

Engage in the Legislative Process

Issue specific communications

ALWAYS HAVE AN ASK

Brief, Personalized & Stick to the Issue

Engage in the Legislative Process

What is the issue?

What is your position?

What do you want to happen?

Engage in the Legislative Process

Why do you support it?

Is it important?

To who is it important?

Will it work?

Engage in the Legislative Process

Always follow-up

Thank you for response

Thank you for positive action

Reason for negative reaction

Advocacy

The Future Is Now –

Elder Issues Day @ The Legislature

Follow the Issues

Communicate with your state legislators

Attend hearings & make public comment

Carson City or Grant Sawyer Building

Advocacy

Hot Legislative Topics May Include:

- ☐ Waiver Slots
- ☐ Medicaid
- ☐ Behavioral & Cognitive Health
- ☐ Provider Rates
- ☐ Elder Abuse
- ☐ Transportation (possible sleeper issue)
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Nutrition

Parting Thoughts



Parting Thoughts



TRY NOT!
EITHER DO OR DO NOT

~Master Yoda

Parting Thoughts

The opportunity for advocacy brings with it the echoes of the ancient Chinese curse: “May you live in interesting times.” However, through proper planning, a courageous and open attitude, and the will to succeed, we can create a better future for all.

Preparing for the Legislature: Funding Respite



Jeffrey B. Klein, FACHE
President & CEO, Nevada Senior Services

702.648.3425

jklein@nevadaseniorservices.org

www.nevadaseniorservices.org