



COMMUNITY  
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## Community Needs and COVID-19 Responses: Health Organizations

### Alzheimer's Association

We have seen a small reduction in staffing but we maintain our commitment to programs and services that help families touched by Alzheimer's or other dementia. Our switch to virtual program delivery means that caregivers can still participate in support groups, take part in education classes and receive care consultations by phone or video, without having to meet face to face. A broader range of programs includes classes in English and Spanish as well as education about the challenges of caregiving in the time of COVID-19. Our respite vouchers program remains a critical service for families experiencing additional stress at this time.

The annual Walk to End Alzheimer's will take place in a different format but with the same enthusiasm on October 24. Rather than gathering as one large group at Sparks Marina, walkers will instead be encouraged to walk in their own neighborhoods, on tracks and trails where they live, and only with their friends and family. There will be an opening ceremony streamed by video and a drive-up promise garden. There are still many opportunities to sponsor or participate in the Walk and, in this critical year, donations are so important to help provide care, support and education to the thousands of people living with or caring for someone with Alzheimer's in Northern Nevada. Sign up at [act.alz.org/renosparks2020](http://act.alz.org/renosparks2020).

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### Churchill Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs dba New Frontier

New Frontier is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) offering therapeutic services including psychiatric, primary health, medication assisted treatment, mental health, co-occurring and addiction counseling, targeted case management, peer recovery support services, psychosocial rehabilitation and basic skills training. Most services are still being offered via telehealth in light of Covid19 concerns. All other services including our detox, residential and transitional housing remain the same.

We did receive Payroll Protection money which kept our personnel and payroll safe through July. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada and our TEFAP program have been amazing throughout this pandemic but we need more produce and other food that our seniors and small families desperately need. My concern is all of our seniors and our small families getting the wholesome food that they need. Since the casinos closed our demand has increased dramatically and even now that they have opened somewhat the demand has not decreased.

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### **Community Health Alliance**

Like all health facilities we are facing the shortage of PPE. We are especially short on gowns. Because of the shortage of N95 masks, our top priority is for our providers and medical assistants. Other employees use the surgical masks or cloth masks. We are paying for extra janitorial services. The cost is in the realm of \$1,500 per month.

We received a grant for the tents that will pay for the tents through May. However, we are being advised that we will need to screen all patients prior to going through our doors for months to come. The tent rentals run \$10,000 per month. We also need to purchase the thermometers and shields for them periodically. That cost is about \$600 per month.

Volunteers are needed to help with the distribution of curbside prescription pantry food.

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### **Compassion Community Clinic**

We are currently one of the only free dental clinics in northern Nevada that serve the uninsured and low-income community. Veterans can go to adopt a vet, but others have nowhere to go other than compassion community Clinic for dental services. We need dental professionals such as dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants.

Future needs: Funds to cover rent at \$1200 per month and salaries of \$7000 per month.

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## **Immunize Nevada**

As routine immunizations have plummeted during the pandemic, we have a large need to support the community with back to school and flu vaccines; especially for those who are uninsured or lack access to a medical home. We have hosted two out of four scheduled back to school clinics, with the next ones on August 15 and 22. As we approach the availability of a COVID-19 vaccine, significant community support will be critical to ensure equitable access for potential recipients. This will be a major undertaking, and will need to be an all-hands on deck effort - the larger community collaborating with public health and health care. While federal funding may come in the short-term, other sources will need to be identified to sustain operations for the long-term.

Volunteers are needed and can provide virtual support to help connect clients with their immunization records and/or provide vaccination clinic referrals; as well as assist at in-person at community clinics.

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## **Note-Able Music Therapy Services**

In March, Note-Able Music Therapy Services transitioned approximately 60% of our services online, and had to suspend the remaining 40%. This resulted in a significant impact to our program income. As of June we have been able to resume limited on-site services and increase our remote services, so we are now serving approximately 80% of the clients we served prior to COVID. To support our in-person services, we are in need of additional PPE (especially sanitizing wipes and gloves). We are also in need of instruments that are easily cleanable. Our budget gap for these items is around \$10,000.

Many of our participants have lost funding to participate in our programs. They have either lost state respite funding (which has been cut for the current fiscal year), have lost employment, or have other financial hardships. We are projecting an \$18,000 gap in program revenue in the coming year due to these losses.

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### **Parkinson's Foundation Southwest Chapter**

We have had to minimized our outreach and turned all events and programs into virtual events. This has limited our ability to reach out to many area's within the state of Nevada. At the Parkinson's Foundation it is our mission to help people with Parkinson's live better lives, which includes staying safe while in the hospital. Three out of four people with Parkinson's do not receive medications on time when hospitalized and two out of three experience unnecessary complications, including death, as a result. With more frequent hospital visits and a high sensitivity to the timing of medications, the COVID-19 outbreak puts this vulnerable Community at an event higher risk than usual. The Parkinson's Foundations "Free" "Aware In Care" hospital kit empowers patients and educates hospital staff to ensure people with Parkinson's play an active role in their care. With the help of local volunteer Aware in Care ambassadors, who are specially trained, we are would like to get these kits in the hands of People with Parkinson's within the state of Nevada. With a cost of \$15 per kit we are looking to fund 500 kits with a total cost \$7500.

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### **Veterans Guest House**

The House was closed to new guests/veterans mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in keeping with government and health directives. The guests that did stay were undergoing life-saving cancer treatments. Staff, for the most part worked from home. As a community resource, the House was offered to hospitals and the Nevada National Guard as a housing option for frontline workers but was not used. With continued community support and an unexpected bequest, it is expected that our income should match our expenses. That forecast can change very quickly.

Update: As of June, the House is open under stringent operational protocols developed to keep our guests and staff safe. As the hospitals and doctors offices reopen, we will continue to open our doors to welcome our veterans and caregivers. Volunteers will be allowed to return to help with daily operations when it is deemed prudent to do so. Our Golf Tournament will be held on August 24<sup>th</sup> but our fashion show honoring women veterans has been cancelled. Additionally, many of the third-party events we count on for income have been cancelled. We continue to cut expenses to match our reduced income. "Flexibility" has become our middle name. Donations are gratefully accepted.

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