

NEVADA SENIOR CORPS ASSOCIATION

“Working Together For a Better Quality of Life”

I. Issues

The 2009 Nevada Legislature will be considering devastating reductions in funding that will impact Nevada’s aging population. While seniors constitute one of the largest voting blocks in the State, its voice has been expressed through program specific advocacy efforts. This was successful in the past; however, given the severity of the funding cuts under consideration, it will be necessary for seniors to speak with a single voice.

There are similar funding and policy challenges at the local level. While many believe these decisions do not impact them, because they are not elderly or poor, the programs that will suffer first are those that keep people independent and out of the higher cost services such as nursing homes. The cost shifting will cause a disruption or elimination of these essential services. To avoid pitting one program against another, or overburdening existing programs, a coordinated action plan will provide a mechanism to address the cuts and changes in a comprehensive way.

At the national level, there will be new initiatives and possibly funding. The aging population and programs serving them, have an opportunity to benefit from the upcoming budget and legislative efforts to serve the unique needs of the seniors residing in Nevada. Collective pressure, as well as the continuation of the efforts that each program has underway today, will be necessary to assure Nevada programs are funded at adequate levels.

II. Vision

Nevada Senior Corps Association (NSCA) safeguards services for the aging population, and works towards development of programs that provide a better quality of life for seniors.

III. Mission

NSCA’s mission through advocacy and education is to be the voice for the aging population, their families and the agencies that serve them.

IV. Action Plan

- ü To develop and disseminate information impacting the senior population by February 13, 2009.
- ü To identify and involve all programs that have a stake in the senior issues at the National, state and local level by March 1, 2009.
 - Ø Through the identified programs, establish a coordinated agenda for the legislature by February 20, 2009.
 - Ø Establish a Legislative tracking program for distribution to members. **Done**
- ü Distribute information at the Legislative Breakfast on March 3, 2009.
 - Ø Prepare handouts for the Legislative Breakfast by February 26, 2009.
- ü Develop a media campaign that will address senior issues at the state and local level by March 15, 2009.