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Leslie, Sheila Assemblywoman

From: Anne Cory [acory@uwayreno.org]
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2003 10:56 AM
To: Sheila Leslie
Subject: Today's Hearing

Sheila,

I'm sorry, but there is no way I can leave the office for the afternoon to testify at the committee hearing on AB 201. I don't know if there is any way to insert comments into the record without being there, but I would like to relay that United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra began granting funds on three-year cycles six years ago. The experience has been extremely positive for United Way, for our volunteers, and for the funded programs. Community Investment volunteers (they make the funding decisions and monitor the grants) feel that they know and understand the funded programs better now than they did with annual grant application processes. Instead of yearly "dog and pony shows" by the programs, volunteers have the chance to review regular reports on program outcome measures, annual site visits, periodic problem-solving discussions when priorities change, and other higher quality interactions with the programs. Agencies are able to concentrate on program operation more effectively when they don't have to prepare annual grant applications. They are also given a longer planning period with known program funding levels, which improves their planning processes.

The longer grant period does demand a stable focus for grant priorities. This stability has been positive for United Way and our Partner Agencies. It may be more difficult to agree to long-term priorities in a governmental process, but the exercise is valuable.

I am happy to provide any further information or assistance that you may require.

Anne

Anne Cory
President and Chief Professional Officer
United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra
775 333-8278 phone
775 322-2798 fax
acory@uwayreno.org

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ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DATE: 03/03/03 ROOM: 3138 EXHIBIT C
SUBMITTED BY: Anne Cory