

The Nevada Commission on Mentoring Progress 21-22

*Capturing Progress for NCOM for the Nevada State Board of
Education*

Presented by Chairman, Karl Catarata

The Commission on Mentoring was established to support and facilitate mentorship programs in the state of Nevada and to work in consultation with the Nevada Department of Education to provide direction and guidance to the State coordinator for mentorship programs.

What We Already Know

During COVID-19, young people who have some form of mentor or trusted adult are 55% less likely to skip school, 46% less likely to be addicted to harmful substances, and 81% more likely to get involved in activities to benefit the course of their education. Not only this, having a trusted person to talk to increases the chances of success for students in our K-12 system.

- 1) Cost to public for support services over the lifetime of each individual who does not finish high school is approx. \$300,000.
- 2) Fiscal cost to taxpayers associated with young people neither working or attending school is over \$1.6 trillion to government.
- 3) Annual cost to federal and state governments in foregone tax revenue for unemployed adults is approx. \$4,000.

Current Priorities

1. Establishing a National Mentoring Affiliate
2. Providing capacity-building grants to local mentoring organizations in Nevada through return of funding
3. Statewide Annual Conference on Mentoring

Thanks!

Connect with the Nevada Commission on Mentoring at @MentoringNV on
Twitter and Instagram!



January 3, 2022

Mr. Karl J. Catarata
Chairman, Nevada Commission on Mentoring
Las Vegas, Nevada
karl.catarata@unlv.edu

Dear Representative,

I hope this letter finds you well after the recent 33rd 2021 Special Session of the Nevada Legislature.

My name is Karl Catarata, Chairman of the Nevada Commission on Mentoring. On behalf of the 2021-2022 Nevada Commission on Mentoring (NCOM), I write to you to communicate our commission's current priorities. As you may know, AB-144 (2017) and AB-235 (2019) outlines my responsibility to report to you about NCOM's work, needs, and updates.

NCOM was established to support and facilitate mentorship programs in the State of Nevada, to work in consultation with the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) to provide direction and guidance to a state coordinator to facilitate mentorship programs. As you might know, NCOM was the vision of the late State Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, who passed away in 2019. We hope to continue the Assemblyman's dream of providing qualified mentors to mentees in the State of Nevada. During the COVID-19 pandemic, a majority of boards and commissions in our state had their funding removed. Nonetheless, our commission stands ready to continue serving Nevada's children - connecting them to mentorship programs, non-profits, and opportunities in our state.

Our legislative priorities include:

- **Education**
 - AB235 (2021), focused on financial education for pupils and their parents/guardians (BDR-34-42).
- **Health & Wellness**
 - Mentorship occurring throughout the medical, nursing, and healthcare profession
 - Impact of mentorship on mentee's physical and mental health
- **Criminal Justice**

- Support for mentorship programs that help re-integrate youth transitioning out of the criminal justice system into civilian life
- **Employment and Post-Secondary Development**
 - Mentorship and the development of future workplace talent pipeline
 - Budget 2618 - NDE Professional Development Programs
- **Business**
 - Mentorship in the workplace and the positive impact young people have on fueling Nevada's future economic growth

NCOM seeks to renew efforts to fund our programs that are critical to supporting non-profit organizations and leaders in our state, which includes:

1. Establishing a National Mentoring Affiliate (\$125,000)

- a. An affiliate serves a unique role as a clearinghouse for statewide trainings, resources, public awareness, advocacy, staff, and provides a critical link between national efforts and local organizations to foster and support quality mentorship relationships across the State of Nevada. It provides the leadership and infrastructure necessary to support awareness, community support and engagement; as well as; evidence-based approaches in providing and the expansion of quality mentoring relationships.

2. Providing capacity-building grants to local mentoring organizations in Nevada (\$50,000 = \$25,000 per year for 2-years for organizations)

- a. Assist statewide mentoring organizations by providing capacity-building grants in effort to expand mentoring programs for youth and in response to needs identified through current mentoring organizations. The needs include the ability for organizations to obtain more qualified mentors, adequate staffing, proper facilities to conduct mentoring programs to students in an appropriate manner, and funds to support basic operational needs.

3. Statewide Annual Conference on Mentoring (\$10,000)

- a. Provide funds for the commission to conduct an annual statewide mentoring conference. The conference will include sessions on effective mentoring practices, identifying evidence-based approaches for mentoring, conducting assessments and evaluations on mentoring programs, and other mentoring components based on statewide community-identified needs.

We hope that we can continue to work together to successfully create positive outcomes for mentoring organizations in the State of Nevada, and move forward in funding these programs one step at a time to realize the late Assemblyman's vision that will benefit mentees and mentors. As Chairman, I appreciate your time and consideration, and I look forward to your response.

Thank you and we look forward to working with you!

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karl Catarata', with a stylized, cursive script.

Karl Catarata

Chairman
Nevada Commission on Mentoring 2021-2022

Cc:

The Honorable Steve F. Sisolak, Governor, State of Nevada

The Honorable Jhone M. Ebert, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Nevada