

September 30, 2024

Board of Directors
Del Webb Foundation
PO Box 2427
Prescott, Arizona 86302-2427



Dear Board of Directors:

Based in Carson City, Spirit of Hope has been one of northwestern Nevada's primary service providers for the homeless since 2010. We employ a "housing-first" philosophy toward reducing homelessness, in which housing at one of our 15 locations is offered first, and other support services (such as addiction or mental health services) are offered afterward.

Once they are with us, clients pay their own way, first with their Social Security checks, and later with money from jobs which we help them to acquire. Spirit of Hope allows clients to pay only as much as they can afford, using a sliding scale based on their total income. By offering its services, Spirit of Hope saves Carson City millions of dollars per year. For our three dedicated staff, however, a challenge is baked into the model: Our commute.

As we currently lack a central location, clients must be first be picked up from each of our housing units across Carson City, and *then* taken out for groceries, medical care, and to run other errands. We also take clients on "field trips" to local museums and other attractions in order to build their social skills and sense of community.

For this purpose, Spirit of Hope currently has two vehicles, a seven-seater and a 12-seater. Spirit of Hope also has 75 clients. For this reason, we request funding toward the purchase of a 12-seater Ford Transit van. Our current 12-seater is a Ford Transit, and we are confident that this make and model is a good long-term investment in reliable transportation for our clients. Its use would allow us to expand and speed up our services to those in need, rather than watch helpless as clients' efforts to improve themselves are frustrated by our inability to support them.

We hope to share the details of this plan with the Board, and would like permission to submit a proposal for \$50,000.

Kind regards,

Ellen Jackson
Executive Director, Spirit of Hope