

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
April 10, 2014

In attendance:

Julie Calloway, Vice-Chair, City of Boulder City
Tim Burch, Clark County
Michael Husted, alternate, City of Henderson
Stephen Harsin, City of Las Vegas
Leone Lettsome, alternate, City of North Las Vegas
Annie Wilson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Dr. Cynthia Dodge, Veterans Administration
Paula Zier, Clark County School District
Jodie Gerson, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services

Absent:

Kathi Thomas-Gibson, Chair, City of North Las Vegas
Barbara Geach, City of Henderson
Captain Shawn Anderson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Maria Gatti, MGM Resorts International

Agenda Item 1. Call to order, notice of agenda compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Julie Calloway, Vice-Chair, City of Boulder City, at 2:05 p.m., on Thursday, April 10, 2014, in Commission Chambers in the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the April 10, 2014, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

No comments were given.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for April 10, 2014.

A request was made and to table 4, Approval of Minutes from the March 13, 2014. With this modification, the agenda was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of Minutes from the May 12, 2011, Meeting.

Item was tabled.

Agenda Item 5. Receive an update from the Regional Initiatives Office.

Tyrone Thompson, Regional Initiatives Coordinator, introduced Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator. She provided an update regarding the Continuum of Care (CoC) renewal awards. HUD announced the awards for Tier One projects for the 2013 CoC application. All of the renewal projects were funded, however, some were funded slightly lower due to adjustments in the Fair Market Rent (FMR) amounts. The Tier Two results are still pending. They are moving forward with the applications for 2014.

Mr. Thompson announced that Winter Shelter ended on March 31. The Summer Day Shelter will open on May 1 at various locations through September 30.

The Regional Initiatives Office received an assessment of Main Street and Foremaster in the City of Las Vegas. They coordinated with the community partners through the Corridor of Hope Alliance. Outreach teams went out daily to engage with people in the area. A homeless intervention event was held April 3.

Providers from 15 agencies participated. A team was set up on Foremaster at the “Neighborhood Porch” providing assessments and services for housing, health services, mental health, bus ticket program, drug treatment programs, and identification assistance.

Mr. Thompson thanked the CoH for their support of the Regional Initiatives Office (RIO). He also thanked the RIO staff and volunteers as well as the Clark County Social Services for their great services. Members congratulated and thanked and Mr. Thompson as this was his last CoH meeting. He accepted another position with Clark County.

There was no discussion by the Committee; and no motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 6. Receive an update on the Nevada Homeless Alliance and presentation from Project 150.

Stacey Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance provided an event announcement for the May 29th Summer Resource Fair to be held at East Las Vegas Community Center.

Patrick Spargur, Co-founder of Project 150, serves the homeless, displaced and disadvantaged high school students. He gave a presentation regarding their non-profit charity. It provides food, clothing, school supplies, cap and gown, mentorship and scholarship program opportunities to those in need. Project 150’s goal is to collaborate with schools and community organizations to maximize resources and allow students to focus in achieving graduation and be successful in life.

Mr. Spargur provided event details for the upcoming Free Teen Shopping Day sponsored by Project 150 and the City of Las Vegas. Events will be held April 12 and September 6 from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. at East Las Vegas Community Center.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 7. Receive an update from the Community Engagement Working Group.

Stacey Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance provided an update on progress made by the Community Engagement Working Group. Ms. Sutton Pollard shared tool kit components which were final drafts of one-sheets on Homelessness in Southern Nevada – Overview, Chronic Homelessness, Veteran Homelessness, Youth Homelessness, and Community Engagement Speaking Points. She showed a mock-up of the folders and asked for any feedback by May 1. Funding will be sought for professional printing and distribution of the folders. They are also working on additional items to complete the tool kit which include one-sheets on Families, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Responsible Donations, and Responsible Giving.

Ms. Sutton Pollard reviewed next steps to include a quarterly newsletter, free electronic template for community stake holders, development of a video blog and integrating items into upcoming updated HelpHopeHome website.

Tim Burch asked how close we are to building a dashboard that shows progress in relationship to homelessness that can be integrated with the newsletter and the website.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the one sheets included in the agenda packet as well as the logo. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 8. Receive an update from WestCare on the Community Triage Center.

Erin Kinard, WestCare reviewed programmatic updates using a PowerPoint presentation relating to internal Electronic Health Records (HER), adapting and implementing new systems to embrace and adhere to ACA & Medicaid Expansion, Focusing on program expansion and strengthening community collaborations while maintaining program excellence. Ms. Kinard provided the number of clients served in FY 2012-13 as well as the zip codes related to admissions. The presentation included stats on socio-economic factors, referral source, hospital referrals, discharge reason, discharge placements, primary drug of choice, mental health assessments, primary mental health diagnoses, primary mental health diagnoses, mental health data per client reported recent placement on legal hold, connection to SNAMHS and those transported to SNAMHS during stay.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 9. Receive an update on the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) from Bitfocus.

Robert Herdzik, Bitfocus provided an HMIS update. Mr. Herdzik gave a PowerPoint presentation that included details related to HMIS developments, 2014 goals, and technical support for the system. No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 10. Receive a presentation from Las Vegas Justice Court and Las Vegas Municipal Court on specialty courts.

Paula Haynes-Green, Las Vegas Justice Court and gave a presentation to the members explaining what specialty courts are and what problems are related to the crimes of offenders. She described in detail what problem-solving courts do in relation to drug and alcohol abuse, untreated mental health, domestic violence, veterans and homeless. She explained the approach to integrate treatment to law and order. The programs are designed to break the cycle of crime, incarceration, release and reoffending which also promotes public safety.

Beverly Golston, Las Vegas Municipal Court, Alternative Sentencing Manager she explained rehabilitation, accountability and habilitation in the following programs: Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Court, Habitual Offender (HOPE) Court, Prostitution Prevention (WIN) Court, Youth Offender Court (18-24 year olds), and Veterans Court. The National Associations for Drug Court Professional is the guideline source and provides best practices for the specialty courts.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 11. Receive an update from each committee member regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations related to homelessness.

Reminder from Jodie Gerson of Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health help individuals enroll in Nevada Health Exchange.

Agenda Item 12. Public comment.

Barbara Buckley, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, shared a current snapshot of the organization which provides free community legal services to those in need. She explained who they are and what they do. The groups practice areas are Consumer Rights Project, Domestic Violence Project, Children's Attorney's, and Senior Citizens. Ms. Buckley urged members to contact the agency if any of their clients are in need of civil law services.

Sergeant David Schofield, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Metro) Downtown Area Command, oversees the HOPE team. He spoke of intervention that occurred recently on Foremaster and Main. The Giving Project's purpose and goal is to give responsibly. They provide an alternative to people leaving donated goods on the street which can create unwanted debris. They will be hosting events on the 2nd Saturday of every month at varied locations.

Devon Brooks, Brooks Behavioral Health Center, introduced himself and the services offered by his organization. He would like to build connections with the community and engage with the homeless population.

Philip Hollon, Salvation Army spoke of the Day Shelter that is available all year long. Have a night shelter that they are currently utilizing. There is a need for bottled water and hygiene items. The Salvation Army will be partnering with the Las Vegas 51's at the game on April 28th. \$3 of ticket price will go towards Salvation Army in their efforts to purchase bottled water. Mr. Holland thanked Tyrone for his years of dedication and service in the Regional Initiatives Office.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn meeting at 3:38 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.