

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
January 10, 2013

In attendance:

Stephen Harsin, Chair, City of Las Vegas
Rose Ann Rabiola Miele, City of Boulder City
Barbara Geach, City of Henderson
Kathy Somers, City of North Las Vegas
Tim Burch, Clark County
Paula Zier, Clark County School District
Annie Wilson, alternate, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Gordon Absher, MGM Resorts International
Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Jodie Gerson, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Dr. Cynthia Dodge, alternate, Veterans Administration

Absent:

Dr. Carolyn Hughes, Veterans Administration

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

A meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition's Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Barbara Geach, Chair, City of Henderson, at 2:04 pm, on Thursday, January 10, 2013, at North Las Vegas City Hall, Suite 521, 2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030. The agenda for January 10, 2013, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements. Ms. Geach thanked City of North Las Vegas for hosting the January 10, 2013 meeting at the City Hall.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

No public comment was given

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for January 10, 2013; for possible action.

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the December 13, 2012 meeting; for possible action.

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 5. Approval of changes in board membership; for possible action.

Ms. Geach stated that the CoH board membership rotates on an annual basis. She thanked the Regional Initiatives Office for all their support and hard work. She expressed that it was an honor to serve with her fellow board members. The meeting was led by the new chair of the committee, Stephen Harsin, City of Las Vegas. Kathy Somers, City of North Las Vegas will serve as the vice chair. A motion was made to approve the changes in board membership. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 6. Receive an update from the Regional Initiatives Office; for possible action.

Tyrone Thompson, Regional Initiatives Coordinator with the Regional Initiatives Office, gave the update. He stated that the new inclement weather shelter program is in effect at Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, The Shade Tree, and HopeLink (motel stay). Reports indicate that the inclement weather shelters have been at full capacity. This pattern will most likely continue to follow due to the changes in the weather.

Mr. Thompson stated that in November 2012, the Connection to Home Partnership began with Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA) and homeless service providers. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by SNRHA, the Regional Initiatives Office (RIO), Clark County Social Service, Catholic Charities, Family Promise, and HELP of Southern Nevada, Lutheran Social Services, U.S. Veterans Initiative, Southern Nevada Children First, and Women's Development Center. The program offers families from emergency shelters or transitional housing situations to move into permanent housing. Affordable housing through the SNRHA is available in City of Henderson, City of Las Vegas, City of North Las Vegas, and unincorporated Clark County. To date, 29 referrals have been received, 18 household have been interviewed, nine are scheduled to be interviewed, one was determined ineligible, and two families are in queue to be placed. Moving forward, other agencies in the community have the opportunity to join the MOU.

Mr. Thompson stated that Mainstream Programs Basic Training is held every fourth Wednesday of the month at the Clark County Government Center (500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV) in the Organizational Developmental Center, room 3, from 1pm-4pm. MPBT sessions did not take place in December 2012 and January 2013. Sessions will resume on the February 27, 2013. These training programs are offered to the community, mainly to the professional and grassroots case managers, faith-based organizations and the general public where they can learn about the community resources. Topic of the month is Housing Resources. Anyone interested in learning about the services offered in the community may attend. In 2012, 50-60 participants attended each MPBT session, 10-15 licensed social workers attend, and about 8-10 presenters.

A volunteer opportunity is available at the Regional Initiatives Office. A volunteer is needed to perform clerical duties for about 15 hours per week. Anyone interested can contact Tyrone Thompson at 702-455-5626 or at tyt@clarkcountynv.gov.

Asha Jones, formerly the Grants Coordinator at the RIO, is no longer with the office. She currently works at the U.S. Senator Harry Reid's office as the community liaison. The grants coordinator job opportunity will be posted on the Clark County website. Anyone interested in applying for the position may visit the website for additional information.

Agenda Item 7. Receive an update on the 2013 Southern Nevada Homeless Census; for possible action.

Catherine Huang Hara, Senior Management Analyst from the Regional Initiatives Office provided the update. United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandates that each Continuum of Care (CoC) in the nation performs a point in time count that should occur within the last ten days in January on odd numbered years of the homeless population in each of the CoC's. The information that is gathered through the point in time count impacts the funding amounts that could come into the CoC. HUD guidance is followed to perform a comprehensive enumeration, which includes different elements such as the street count canvassing, shelter count (emergency and transitional housing facilities), and street surveys. Southern Nevada urban area count will begin on Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 1 am. Agencies that provide emergency and transitional housing will gather subpopulation data within their facilities and submit the information to the RIO. There are currently eight deployment stations available throughout the community, including, Mountain Crest Neighborhood Services Center, Walnut Recreation Center, Catholic Charities, Rawson-Neal Psychiatric Hospital, Cambridge Recreation Center,

Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, Clark County Fire Station 66, and HopeLink. Led by HELP of Southern Nevada Mobile Crisis Intervention Team, tunnel and wash deployment will take place at 5am. In partnership with HELP of Southern Nevada Shannon West Homeless Youth Center and Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, the youth count deployment will begin at 10am on January 24, 2013 by the outreach teams. Clark County School District will also update their records on where their students slept the night before. Rural and outlying areas will be covered on January 25, 2013 beginning at 4:30 am. Colorado River Food Bank is the deployment station in Laughlin and Mesquite Family Resource Center at the Salvation Army is the deployment station in Mesquite. First responders will be assisting with reaching the outlying rural areas. Within two weeks following the street count from January 28-February 8, 2013, street survey will take place. The street survey data is used to extrapolate detailed information about the subpopulations in Southern Nevada. This year's survey will include the Clark County Vulnerability Index to assess each homeless individual's medical fragility. About 1500 surveys are expected to be completed in all of the geographical areas of the cities, shelters, and on the street. Random Digit Dial phone survey will also take place within the two weeks to capture the hidden homeless population.

Deployment station captains include many of the members of the CoH Technical Working Group at most of the locations. Volunteer recruitment is currently in progress as a result of the partnership with United Way of Southern Nevada Volunteer Center. Volunteers with flashlights and vehicles are needed to canvass the census tracts to get an accurate count of the homeless population. Over 500 volunteers are needed. Volunteers can sign up at <http://bit.ly/2013HomelessCensus> or call 702-455-6373. Volunteers will need to arrive promptly at 1:00 am on January 24, 2013. A brief training will be provided prior to street canvassing. About 50 homeless guides are needed to assist in finding and identifying areas where the homeless may be residing. Guides will be referred by homeless service providers.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department is contributing resources for the urban census, as well as providing air support to canvass the uninhabited areas. Clark County Fire Department is assisting with the urban and rural area deployment. Clark County Public Response Officers will also be helping with the urban and outlying areas.

Jodie Gerson stated that the address for Rawson Neal Psychiatric Hospital should be changed to 1650 Community College Drive, Las Vegas, NV, 89146.

More information about the homeless census can be found at www.helphopehome.org.

Agenda Item 8. Approval of updated recommendations for funding for the local 2012 Continuum of Care competition and authorize the Continuum of Care Coordinator to make necessary modifications for final application submission to U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD); for possible action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, gave the update. CoH members previously approved the Evaluation Working Group's (EWG) recommendations on the 2012 Continuum of Care competition. EWG ranked all the programs into tiers one and two. HUD will look at Tier 1 projects up to \$7,434,536, followed by examining the Permanent Housing Bonus (PHB) and finally at Tier 2 projects up to \$7,704,182. The PHB is not included in the Tier 1&2 amounts. However, since that time, HUD has released guidance regarding the ranking of projects. EWG examined the new guidance from HUD. The planning and PHB needed to be included in the ranking in the rank order of the projects. It does not come out of the annual renewal demand amount but still has to be ranked with all other projects. HUD determines which projects belong to tiers 1 and 2 based on the threshold for each tier. CoC's are encouraged to rank projects based on the local need and performance. HUD will be funding CoC projects in the following order for tier one: renewal projects new reallocated projects, CoC planning project, Permanent Housing Bonus projects, new PH projects, Homeless Management

Information System (HMIS), new transitional housing projects and new supportive services projects. This method will be followed for all CoC's in the nation until the tier one threshold is reached. Continuum's who score a minimum of 97 out of 130 will be considered for tier two. Highest scoring CoC's will receive their tier two funding first in the same order as tier one.

The EWG decided to closely follow the new HUD guidance in ranking all the projects. In doing so, they had to reexamine and realign the previous ranking recommendations they made to the CoH. The renewal amount in the ranking is same as previously noted, however the order of some projects are different. Projects that did not enter into a contract with HUD before the application submission date will not be included in this year's CoC consolidated application.

The motion was made to approve updated EWG recommendations for funding for the local 2012 Continuum of Care competition and authorize the CoC Coordinator to make necessary modifications for final application submission to HUD. The motion was passed. Tim Burch and Jodie Gerson abstained from voting.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a presentation from the Moonridge Group on community engagement and discuss next steps; for possible action.

Julie Murray and Miles Dixon from the Moonridge Group gave a presentation and led a discussion.

Agenda Item 9. Receive an update from each committee member regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness—the SNRPC Committee on Homelessness members may speak on any item under this section of the agenda. Members may comment on matters including, without limitation, future agenda items, upcoming meeting dates, and meeting procedures. Comments made cannot be acted upon or discussed at this meeting, but may be placed on a future agenda for consideration by the SNRPC Committee on Homelessness.

Stacy Sutton Pollard stated that the next Project Homeless Connect is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2013.

Jodie Gerson mentioned that the Nevada State Legislative Session is about to begin and this is the opportunity for the community to voice their opinions about various programs. The governor is about to do the State of State where he will present this budget.

Agenda Item 10. Public Comment.

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities, thanked the community for their support in providing more than 500 children with tremendous amount of toys during December, 2012. On Saturday, December 22, 2012, Catholic Charities collaborated with Shane Victorino Foundation for the Winter Wonderland Festival. More than 200 children had an opportunity to visit with Santa and have their pictures taken, played games and enjoyed meals. On December 25, 2012, more than 100 volunteers participated in providing help and hope in the community by serving over 2000 meals on Christmas Day. Mr. Hollon thanked the community and the committee for all that they do. Anyone interested can take a tour Catholic Charities, volunteer for a day, donate, and learn about other non-profit organizations in the community.

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 pm.