

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
May 9, 2013

In attendance:

Stephen Harsin, Chair, City of Las Vegas
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
Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Jodie Gerson, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Dr. Cynthia Dodge, alternate, Veterans Administration

Absent:

Rose Ann Rabiola Miele, City of Boulder City
Dr. Carolyn Hughes, Veterans Administration
Gordon Absher, MGM Resorts International

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 Stephen Harsin, at 2:03 pm, on Thursday, May 9, 2013, at Clark County Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155. The agenda for May 9, 2013, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

Mr. Matt Haynes, representing The Salvation Army Family Services Department stated that The Culinary Challenge, an event put forth in partnership with Le Cordon Bleu Cooking School will take place on Thursday, May 16, from 6-8 pm. The culinary challenge will be between 2 Salvation Army vocational students and 2 Le Cordon Bleu students. All proceeds from will directly benefit the Salvation Army Department of Family Services. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at www.salvationarmysouthernnevada.org.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for May 9, 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 April 11, 2013 meeting; for possible action.

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

Agenda Item 5. Receive an update from the Regional Initiatives Office; for possible action.

Catherine Huang Hara, Senior Management Analyst from the Regional Initiatives Office provided the update. Inclement weather shelter services resumed May 1, 2013. Day shelter providers include Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army, and The Shade Tree. HopeLink in Henderson is providing motel vouchers for those who do not qualify for the shelter.

Mainstream Program Basic Training will be held on May 22, from 1-4 p.m. in the ODC 3 of the Clark County Government Center. This month's topic is Homeless Youth and Young Adults Services. Two outside vendors, HomeBase and Strategic Progress were selected to conduct the gaps analysis and update of the implementation schedule, respectively. Strategic Progress representative, Jennifer Roulette will begin work to get updates that will be in contact in the providers. HomeBase is the HUD technical assistance provider who will also be conducting the gaps analysis in the community. Jodie Gerson asked when the homeless census data will be released to the public. Ms. Huang Hara stated that the results will be released at next month's CoH meeting.

Agenda Item 6. Approval of the Committee's 2013-2014 Strategic Plan; for possible action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, provided the updated overview of the results of the strategic planning session.

Mr. Harsin acknowledged The Moonridge Group for their assistance with the Strategic Planning Session.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the 2013-2014 Strategic Plan has three overarching goals with 17 objectives under each goal, and 28 sub-categories under those goals. Each key objective has a champion, a representative from the CoH, whose duties under work plan include ensuring that teams meet needs of the work plan and pull together, design the makeup of the teams, and organizing the work plan for the objectives to meet the goals timely. The goals and objectives are:

Goal 1: To develop and implement the directives to ensure compliance with the HEARTH Act

Objective 1: Research, select and prepare for Unified Funding Agency (UFA) Implementation

Objective 2: Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan

Objective 3: Develop and ratify a governance structure

Objective 4: Complete and post written standards and policies and procedures

Objective 5: Conduct a gaps analysis to determine current community need

Objective 6: Implement directive to achieve the goals of the CSC Community Action Plan

Goal 2: To update and further implement the "Help Hope Home: Southern Nevada's Regional Plan to End Homelessness"

Objective 1: Further align the plan with Federal strategies (HEARTH Act, Opening Doors, etc.)

Objective 2: Evaluate progress on current objectives

Goal 3: To develop and implement a Community Engagement Plan

Objective 1: Assign Community Engagement (CE) related roles and responsibilities to CoH parties and partners

Objective 2: Align CE with strategic plan to determine goals, and set expectations

Objective 3: Identify all relevant CE audiences; begin developing key relationships

Objective 4: Identify and develop key messaging

Objective 5: Develop a CE Tool Kit

Objective 6: Update the Economic Case for ending homelessness in Southern Nevada

Objective 7: Build an integrated, collaborative development organization

Objective 8: Produce a comprehensive CEP that reflects all efforts to date

Objective 9: Align all initiatives to the plan

Mr. Harsin encouraged CoH members to look through the document and actively participate as a champion in one or more of the objectives. He also suggested that each champion provide an update at the monthly CoH meeting of the progress.

Mr. Harsin then turned to Stacy Sutton Pollard to report on the progress on the Community Engagement meetings. Ms. Sutton Pollard thanked Moonridge and Julie Murray. Her committee met on April 29 to set goals for the Community Engagement Workgroup. In partnership with City of Las Vegas, a 5 minute film about homelessness in Southern Nevada will be produced and viewed at the Mayor's Faith Initiative. The production should be ready in about 2 weeks and will be presented in the near future. At the meeting scheduled for June 3, the census data will be used to determine how to further engage the community to determine how to move forward.

Tim Burch stated that there has been a lot of work done by the Performance Measurement Working Group. Does the performance measurement document drafted by the work group go under Goal 1, Objective 2: Develop and implement a measurement monitoring and evaluation plan?

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer agreed that Mr. Burch's assumption is correct. She asked the CoH if a reference needs to be made to the Performance Measurement Working Group document or should the goal be slightly amended regarding monitoring, measurement, and evaluation.

Mr. Harsin opened the floor to discussion. Ms. Sutton Pollard stated that including monitoring and evaluation seemed to be the appropriate thing to do.

A motion was made to approve the 2013-2014 Strategic Plan with an amendment under Goal 1 action item be reworded "develop and implement a measurement monitoring and evaluation plan". The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 7. Approval of the 2013-2014 Regional Homeless Budget; for possible action.

Catherine Huang Hara, Senior Management Analyst, Regional Initiatives Office gave the presentation. Ms. Huang Hara presented the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition's Committee on Homelessness, Interlocal Budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 for direction of staff at the local jurisdictions. The proposed budget is the same as the current fiscal year. Once approved, the budget will be circulated with the current draft of the interlocal budget for the next fiscal year.

Motion was made to approve the proposed budget. Motion was passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 8. Receive an update on faith-based initiatives from the City of Las Vegas; for possible action.

Maria Castillo-Couch, City of Las Vegas gave the update. Earlier in the year, City of Las Vegas hosted a conference for local faith leaders to identify the major issues in the community as they see them. The following issues were identified: addictions, strengthening the family, finding jobs, education, homelessness, human trafficking, There are currently active workgroups under each of the identified issues.

Homeless Services Connect: Linking Faith Leaders to Resources will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 to create a collective vision of homelessness and how each faith leaders can assist the homeless service providers in serving the population. The event is divided into three panels: current homeless Services in the community, Homelessness and Hunger, **WHAT WAS THE 3RD PANNEL?**

Agenda Item 9. Receive an update on the Southern Nevada Rapid Results Team; for possible action.

Kelly Robson, HELP of Southern Nevada, and Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Regional Initiatives Office gave the update. Ms. Robson is the team leader for the Southern Nevada Rapid Results Team.

Ms. Robson stated that the team's goal was to house 100 chronically homeless in 100 days. As of the 60th day, 75 chronically homeless individuals were housed. Some key accomplishments are as follows:

1) data is being analyzed to ensure all permanent housing placements are captured including chronic and

veteran sub-categories, 2) SOAR training (2 day) being scheduled in June or July, 3) SOAR refresher training being developed and scheduled, 4) mini-boot camp scheduled for May 16, 2013.

Some of the process and systems changes are as follows: 1) HMIS report developed to capture PSH and permanent housing placements of those experiencing chronic homeless, 2) All HMIS housing placements have been analyzed and adjusted to reflect accuracy, 3) SOAR refresher training is in development, 4) Have reached out to those providing PSH and not using HMIS to express the importance of reporting data.

In the next 40 days, the team aims to 1) Reach the audacious goal of 100 chronic placements, 2) takedown worksheet will be updated with 2013 Homeless Census data and new calculations will be released, 3) Mini-boot camp will have been conducted where the next 100 day goal will be established, new team members will recruited, and determine how to increase monthly placements.

Some obstacles through the process is as follows: 1) Data collection: Housing Authority, VA, Faith based groups, community stakeholders that are not reporting or fully reporting housing placements, SOAR outcomes (2 agencies reporting outcomes out of 41), 2) These are system-wide issues that are being addressed.

The team would like support from national leaders in the following ways: 1) Need to know when the 2013 VASH vouchers will be released; 2) Determine if anyone encountered a Housing Authority that is able to collect chronic placement data for public housing vouchers; 3) Need champions for the next 100 day goal to be set at the Rapid Results Mini-Boot Camp.

The team would like support from local leaders: 1) Assistance in reinforcing to the community the need for reporting housing placement and SOAR applications/approvals/denials, 2) Need champions for the next 100 day goal to be set at the Rapid Results Mini-Boot Camp, 3) Suggestions/Guidance for increasing the monthly housing placements.

Local Mini-Boot Camp will take place on May 16, 2013 from 8:30am-12pm at Cambridge Recreation Center, Valley of Fire room, at 3930 Cambridge Street, Las Vegas, NV, 89119.

Jodie Gerson asked what the team needs are. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that it is critical to report any SOAR outcomes. Report partial assistance with accessing SSI/SSDI benefits on behalf of the client. Identify the available permanent housing placements in the community.

Ms. Robson stated that the community really lack funding for intensive case management services.

Ms. Gerson stated that Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services is willing to help in any way possible.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that it is important to eliminate the barriers that are currently in place to house a homeless person in permanent housing.

Annie Wilson asked what SOAR stands for. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that it stands for SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR)

Agenda Item 10. Receive an update from the Nevada Homeless Alliance and a report on the 2013 Veteran Stand Down from United States Veterans Initiative; for possible action.

Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance, stated that Family Connect event is scheduled for May 15, from 1pm-6pm at East Las Vegas Community Center. This event is primarily set forth to connect low-income families to resources during the summer months. All services are free to the public.

There will be about 60 + providers at the event. Still in need of non-perishable food items, hygiene items, and volunteers for Family Connect. www.volunteercentersn.org

Shalimar Cabrera, Executive Director for U.S. Veterans Initiative gave the presentation on the 2013 Veterans Stand Down that took place on March 27 and 28th, 2013. She is also the chairperson of the event.

U.S. Vets' is dedicated to the successful transition of military veterans and their families through the provision of housing, counseling, career development, and comprehensive support. The agency has

been in Las Vegas since 2001. A total of over 300 beds are run through U.S.Vets. They have been serving veterans through the Stand Down for 10 years.

At the Veterans Stand Down, there were 117 partnering agencies (128 booths) and 447 volunteers served (95 served 2 days or more). A total of 911 veterans plus over 250 family members were served over the course of two days. 619 veterans were served in 2012. 70% of total participants were reported as females. All 5 branches of the military were represented. Vietnam and Post-Vietnam homeless veterans were highly represented. There was an increase in the number of young veterans that were seen this year at the stand down. 684 veterans were served with meals, 222 veterans received showers and haircuts, 867 veterans shopped at the Stand Down Store, 200 veterans received legal assistance, 150 veterans received assistance with closed warrants, 82 veterans received dental assistance, 109 veterans were served by VA medical, and 114 veterans received assistance with getting their military records. Ms. Cabrera thanked Nellis Air force Base for their support with showers and Goodwill of Southern Nevada for leading the Stand Down Store. 16 veterans were housed during the event plus 86 follow-up appointments were made. 17 veterans were hired on-the-spot.

2013 Stand Down Awards were given to the best performing agencies for the first time. Salvation Army received the Stand Down Housing Provider of the Year. Goodwill of Southern Nevada and 707 Property Management received the Stand Down Employer of the Year award. 707 Property Management received the Stand Down Partner of the Year for going beyond in efforts to assist in the planning of Stand Down. Event highlights: 2013 Stand Down was held at Cashman Center, new use of technology (The Stand Down smart phone app), all online registration, and live tweeting from the event. All provider and client surveys were completed online. The children's activity center was well-attended. Congressional Delegation and mayor attend opening ceremony.

Ms. Cabrera thanked all of the event sponsors for raising over \$13,000 and a special thanks to Department of Labor for their \$10,000 support grant. She also thanked all of those who made the stand down possible.

Anyone would like to join U.S. Vets to review the full post-event report can do so on May 22, 2013 at 9:30am at 525 East Bonanza Road in the Dining Hall.

Agenda Item 11. Receive a presentation on Operation Relocate from Veterans Tribute Career and Technical Academy; for possible action.

Alexandria Robertson, Junior at Veterans Tribute Career and Technical Academy, gave the presentation. Everything the Veterans Tribute Career and Technical Academy is based on the acronym PRIDE, which stands for Professionalism, Responsibility, Integrity, Determination, and Excellence. Professionalism is exhibited by the dress code, display responsibility going to school on time, completing their work time management, integrity and honestly at all time, and have determination by striving to be the best and setting goals, and excellence is portrayed by high moral character.

Operation Relocate is an annual practical based exercise that is meant to reinforce skills taught at the academy. 400 of the 9th and 10th grade students learn and develop empathy for homeless populations. 320 of the 11th and 12th grade students acted as first responders to location of homeless individual. The students were accompanied by law enforcement, CSI, 911 dispatch, and EMS. The exercise is completely student run with the assistance from first responders.

Veterans Tribute Career & Technical Academy thanked the community agencies and organizations for their support.

Stacy Sutton Pollard thanked the academy for their assistance with inputting data into HMIS. Tim Burch thanked Ms. Robertson for her presentation. He also thanked Clark County School District for creating such programs as Operation Relocate to educate the youth about homelessness.

Agenda Item 12. 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.

Jodi Gerson, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) asked the committee members of the plan for Mr. Tyrone Thompson's position as the Regional Initiatives Office Coordinator, as he is currently away at the legislative session.

Mr. Burch stated that he is acting as the immediate supervisor for the Regional Initiatives Office. If Mr. Thompson chooses to run for a assembly seat, the committee will need to decide next steps.

Mr. Harsin complemented Michele Fuller-Hallauer and Catherine Huang Hara for continuing their work at the Regional Initiatives Office.

Ms. Huang Hara stated that the new grants coordinator, Brooke Reid will start at the Regional Initiatives Office on Monday, May 13, 2013.

Ms. Gerson mentioned that Salvation Army has closed their mental health programs and a program call Gateway is taking place of the closed programs. She requested that Salvation Army come to the CoH to give a presentation of their new program.

Ms. Gerson asked if shower services can be added to Project Homeless Connect (PHC). Ms. Sutton-Pollard stated that it is difficult to accommodate the large number of clients that attend PHC.

Mr. Burch stated that he met with several county agencies that are experiencing funding issues because of the increase in mental health issues. There are several hundred individuals in the Clark County detention center who could be discharged to house arrest if they had a house to go to. There is a rapid rehousing project in the works. This will potentially reduce the systemic cost. He would like the CoH revisit the topic at later meetings. Mr. Burch also mentioned that the "Take down number" can be used as a reverse thermometer to track the progress in the community to get the number of homeless to zero.

Ms. Gerson stated that SNAMHS is partnered with Clark County to assist with mental health issues.

The new state legislature, SNAMHS will be receiving additional monies that have been cut in the previous years.

Mr. Harsin requested a presentation on services available through SNAMHS.

Agenda Item 10. Public Comment.

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities, stated that the agency is open for the Summer Day Shelter that opened on May 1, 2013 from 9am-5pm at 1511 Las Vegas Blvd, North. There are about 20 different programs that are operated at Catholic Charities. They have a community meal that is served Mon-Fri 10-11am and 11-12 on the weekends. Clark County Social Service (CCSS) and Department of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) are also present on site.

An average of 70 clients per day is seen at Catholic Charities, but can serve up to 130.

Mr. Hollon asked community members to reach out to him in assisting the agency with donating hygiene items that are in desperate need.

Meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.