

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
August 9, 2012

In attendance:

Barbara Geach, Chair, City of Henderson
Tim Burch, Clark County
Stephen Harsin, City of Las Vegas
Kathy Somers, City of North Las Vegas
Annie Wilson, alternate, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Gina Gavin, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Paula Zier, Clark County School District

Absent:

Jodie Gerson, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Gordon Absher, MGM Resorts International
Mark Smasal, Veterans Administration
Unknown Representative, City of Boulder City

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

Meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Barbara Geach, Chair, Neighborhood Relations Manager, at 2:03 pm, on Thursday August 9, 2012, at Clark County Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155. The agenda for August 9, 2012, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

Melody Nelson stated she is starting a new community group called At the Table and Urban Movement. They are located at 1240 West Owens Ave. Open every Thursday at 6 pm. It's a community based self-sustaining type of agency. They hold support groups for families of incarcerated individuals. The support groups will provide these families with psychologists and therapy from other community members. Email att@clarkcountycluster.info or call 702-771-0416 for additional information.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for August 9, 2012; for possible action.

Agenda Item 7 was tabled. A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the July 12, 2012 meeting; for possible action.

Barbara Geach requested the following corrections be made to the July 12 meeting minutes. On page 3, third paragraph, the fifth sentence should read "experiencing homelessness". Also, the end time for the meeting should be changed to 3:18 pm. A motion was made to approve the minutes for July 12, 2012. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

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

Tyrone Thompson, Regional Initiatives Coordinator with the Regional Initiatives Office, gave the update. Mr. Thompson stated that the Cooling Stations were opened this week due to excessive heat

warnings. Cooling Stations are opened in community centers, recreation centers, and faith-based community partners. Cooling Stations are located in North Las Vegas, City of Las Vegas, City of Henderson and in unincorporated Clark County. The Cooling Stations were activated in the community from Wednesday through Sunday (August 8-12, 2012) due to excessive heat warnings with the temperatures more than 111 degrees. The Islamic Society of Nevada will remain open on Sunday. The three Cooling Stations that are open throughout the summer are Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, and The Shade Tree.

Mr. Thompson stated that information regarding the Cooling Stations is sent to the Law enforcement, Help of Southern Nevada's Nevada 211, as well as the O.U.T.R.E.A.C.H. workers from various agencies that notify the homeless of the excessive heat conditions.

Mr. Thompson stated that he is looking to partner with faith-based or community organizations to become a Compassion Station. The Compassion Stations would serve as a resting stop for those individuals and families looking to escape the extreme heat conditions in the event there is inadequate cooling at their homes. If anyone is interested in opening a Compassion Station within their organization, contact Tyrone Thompson at 702-455- 5626 or email tyt@clarkcountynv.gov.

Mr. Thompson stated that Mainstream Programs Basic Training is held every fourth Wednesday of the month at the Clark County Government Center in the Organizational Developmental Center, room 3, from 1pm-5pm. 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. The next training is offered on August 22, 2012. Topic of the month is Legal and Financial Literacy Services. It's open to the public and it is completely free. Anyone interested in learning about the services offered in the community may attend.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Outside Agency Grant (OAG) applications are now available. The following excerpt about the Outside Agency Grants was read by Mr. Thompson: "To be eligible for funding, a project must provide services and assistance that substantially benefits Clark County residents. Projects that provide a substantial benefit are programs or services needed by disadvantaged citizens to increase their self-sufficiency and personal independence, programs or events that foster community pride or cohesiveness, and/or facilities and projects that strengthen the community's infrastructure. Generally, these OAG are intended to supplement services provided directly by the County, or are funded in lieu of the need for the County to establish such programs. Grant applications can only be accepted from non-profit organizations and local government entities, not by individuals or by for-profit firms." The deadline for submitting completed OAG application is Thursday, September 6, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. Interested parties can go to Clark County Government Center at 500 Grand Central Parkway and go to Community Resources Management. The information can also be found on the Clark County website at www.clarkcountynv.gov, under administrative services and the application can be downloaded from Community Resources Management.

Mr. Thompson stated that the 2013 Homeless Census has been scheduled for January 24 and 25, 2013. Urban areas will be covered on January 24, 2013, starting as early as 1 a.m. and ending at 6 or 7 a.m. Specialized teams such as the Law Enforcement, Fire Department, Public Response Units and etc will go out to cover the rural areas on January 25, 2013. The coordinators of the Homeless Census have an excellent understanding of the flow of the event. However, the exact methodology is unknown at this time due to the changes in the HEARTH Act. Anyone interested in volunteering for the Homeless Census can contact Divya Narala at 702-455-6373. Individuals can also sign up on the United Way of Southern Nevada's Volunteer Center website in the upcoming months.

Stephen Harsin, City of Las Vegas, requested that Mr. Thompson return to the Committee on Homelessness to give an update about the Homeless Census when the federal guidelines are released. He also stated that there must be discussion around the strategies that would satisfy the federal guidelines, as well as to accurately count and represent the homeless population in the Nevada.

Agenda Item 6. Receive an update on the Committee on Homelessness strategic plan; for possible action.

Tyrone Thompson gave the update on the Committee on Homelessness strategic planning goals and activities. Strategic Planning Session last convened in December 2011. At that time, there were some goals that were established.

The Committee will attempt to ratify the bylaws in September 2012. The Regional Initiatives Office is currently in the process of working with the deputy district attorney to ensure that the bylaws are in alignment with the HEARTH Act.

Mr. Thompson stated that strategic planning goal 3 is to follow and integrate the Continuum of Care (CoC) Community Action Plan (CAP). He informed the committee that Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) expansion grant was awarded through the CoC grant application process. A technical submission letter has been awarded to the recipients of the HMIS expansion grant that must be sent out to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Mr. Thompson continued that goal number 4 to Conduct Homeless Service Gaps Analysis is currently in progress. A formal presentation will be given to the Committee on the Homeless Youth Services Working Group, Housing Inventory Count and Point in Time Count.

Mr. Thompson stated that a formal report will be given to the committee regarding an initiative to house the most chronic, vulnerable homeless Veterans in Southern Nevada as part of a 100 day goal. The initiative was collaboration with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, Veterans Administration, U.S. VETS Initiatives, and the Regional Initiatives Office.

Divya Narala, AmeriCorps VISTA at the Regional Initiatives Office is currently working with Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator to compile a fully updated list of the Homeless Glossary and an Acronym list. The two documents should be ready by the September CoH meeting. They will also be posted on helphopehome.org.

Mr. Thompson gave an update on goals 6 and 7 to create greater public awareness and to increase fundraising and awareness for initiatives. The Public Awareness Working Group convened on July 24, 2012. The group will be working on updating the helphopehome.org website to make it user-friendly and navigation-friendly. They would like to change the faces of homelessness from the stereotypical images to portray the wide range of subgroups that are also affected by homelessness. The working group will also be looking to reach out to the social media sites to bring public awareness to the issues at hand, as well as to inform the public of upcoming announcements and events such as the Cooling Stations, Project Homeless Connect, and Southern Nevada Homeless Census.

Mr. Thompson stated the process of goal number 9 to continue to pursue HUD Technical Assistance where appropriate. Meetings have taken place to discuss the Technical Assistance on how to serve the homeless Veteran. In July, 2012, a conference call took place with the key organizations. On August 16, the regional director from HUD, David Uhler to provide technical assistance to the CoC projects, as well as meeting with the Continuum of Care office. From August 28-30, 2012, Matthew Doherty, Regional Director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) will be coming to the Southern Nevada area to familiarize himself with the local CoC as well as to provide any assistance on behalf of USICH.

Mr. Thompson stated he and the Regional Initiatives Office would like guidance from the committee to coordinate another strategic planning session in December, 2012. Mr. Thompson recommended a planning session primarily because of the HEARTH Act regulations. Ms. Geach stated she would like the Regional Initiatives Office to coordinate a strategic planning session. She continued that it would be a perfect time to examine the progress of the current strategic goals, as well as to ensure they are in alignment with the HEARTH Act. Mr. Harsin is support of the planning session. However, he proposed

that the session to be held in mid November or early January. Mr. Harsin stated he would like to hold the planning session at the new City Hall building.

Mr. Burch requested that the Homeless Youth Services Working Group look at the outcome measures, best practices, gaps in services, and closely examine the outcome indicators in youth services. He would like the aforementioned objectives to be included in the fall presentation to the committee.

Mr. Burch asked Mr. Thompson is he is able to meet with the USICH representative, Mr. Matthew Doherty. Mr. Thompson stated he will coordinate a meeting time on behalf of the committee members.

Agenda Item 7. Approval of the SNRPC Committee on Homelessness bylaws; for possible action.

Agenda item has been tabled.

Agenda Item 8. Receive an update on the local Continuum of Care; for possible action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator gave the update on the CoC interim HEARTH regulations, CoC local application process, and the 2013 Homeless Census.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the HEARTH regulations and the interim CoC regulations were released on July 14, 2012. They are currently open for public comment. Public comment is due to HUD by October 1, 2012. The regulations will go into affect for the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) as early as 2012. The regulations can be found at

<http://hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewResource&ResourceID=4650>. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer encouraged the committee members to read the regulation and provide public comment. Several community meetings will be coordinated by the Regional Initiatives Office to illicit public comment from the partners to provide HUD with a consolidated community response to the regulations. Upon gathering all the information, the three CoC's in Nevada will meet to compile a statewide response. Though public comment can be given on any portion of the regulations, HUD has requested comment for specific segments of the regulations.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the CoC Program is a combination of multiple components of the CoC such as the Shelter Plus Care, Supportive Housing Program, HMIS and etc. The CoC Program is designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness, provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local government to quickly re-house homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness. The CoC Program also promotes access to effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families and optimizes self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer continued to say that the CoC Program rule is organized into seven subparts: subpart A is the general provisions, subpart B is establishing and operating the Continuum of Care, subpart C is application and grant award process, subpart D is program components and eligible costs, subpart E is high performing communities, subpart F is program requirements, subpart G is grant administration.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the regulations highly promote systems change within continuums as it related to transparency, funding planning, centralized or coordinated assessment system, and reallocation.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer continued, the process and actions of the CoC must be transparent. To ensure this, the CoC must: have in place, and follow, a written, ratified process, that is reviewed at least once every 5 years of selecting a Board that meets the requirements of the regulation. Develop, follow, and update annually a governance charter, which includes all procedures and policies needed to comply with Subpart B of the CoC interim rule and the HMIS requirements prescribed by HUD.

Subgroups have been established by the Evaluation Working Group to closely examine the interim regulations.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that under the funding planning, the CoC Program provides for up to 3% of Final Pro Rated Need (FPRN) to be used for CoC Planning costs. These funds can be used to develop a community-wide process for serving homeless individuals and families, develop the CoC systems of housing and services, participate in the Consolidated Plan, prepare and submit an application to HUD, evaluate the outcomes of projects receiving ESG and CoC funds, and monitor recipients and subrecipients.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the centralized or coordinated process is designed to coordinate program participant intake assessment and provision of referrals. This is now mandatory under the HEART Act. It covers the geographic area, easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool. A subgroup has been formed to examine the centralized or coordinated intake process for the continuum.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that reallocation is defined as, if, after conducting a review, it is determined that the housing and services available in the CoC do not effectively address the needs of its homeless population, or are not available to meet the need, then reallocate to projects that will more effectively meet the needs of these homeless persons and address housing and service gaps. She stated that the Evaluation Working Group has been directed by HUD to look at spending for all the Continuum of Care funded projects, as well as outcomes. Low performing projects or projects that return money to HUD can have reduced funding or have their funding be reallocated to Permanent Supportive Housing projects.

The Committee on Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2013, the House Report states “The Continuum of Care is supposed to be a competitive grants program. It is not the committee’s intention to maintain an entitlement program for ailing and inflexible service providers. The Committee reminds providers in the Continuum of Care that these funds are intended to assist and house the homeless as effectively and efficiently as possible.”

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the local CoC applications were due to Ms. Fuller-Hallauer’s office by August 6, 2012. 33 applications were submitted. Of the 33, 5 were new project applications. Presentations are scheduled for August 20 and 21, 2012. Currently in the process compiling the necessary data for the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW), which is an alignment of HUD’s records that indicate the allowed funding for renewal projects with the local records. GIW is due on August 14, 2012. CoC registration is expected to be released in the near future. According to the HUD guidance that is provided to the CoC’s, it states the program components for projects and an opportunity to increase administration funds up to 2% on top of the existing administrative funds. For the projects that did not previously receive any administrative funds, like the Shelter Plus Care projects, are now also eligible for requesting funds up to 7%; 5% of the previous administrative funds and 2% bump on top as stated in the interim regulations. The guidance also provides information on transitioning Transitional Housing projects to Permanent Supportive Housing programs. Transitional Housing projects that provide scattered site housing can be classified as rapid re-housing if the client enters into a contract with the landlord, which will then be classified as permanent supportive housing under the CoC. Agencies that are willing to transition their TH programs to rapid re-housing may now provide short-term (up to 3 months), medium-term (up to 9 months) or long-term (up to 24 months).

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the EWG developed Planning and Membership, Centralized or Coordinated Intake, and Compliance/Monitoring subgroups to address CoC Regulation changes. If representatives for the homeless provider agencies are interested in taking part in the subgroups, contact Michele Fuller-Hallauer at mhf@clarkcountynv.gov.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the HUD-Technical Assistance meeting with David Uhler is on August 16. She is currently scheduling appointments for those from the EWG or the subgroups who would like to meet with Mr. Uhler for technical assistance. The Prevention/Discharge Planning Working Group

meeting will be held on August 22, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 am at the Clark County Social Services at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, NV, third floor training room. The Homeless Youth Services Working Group meeting will be held on August 23, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Clark County Social Services at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, NV, third floor training room. HomeBase will be coming in on September 12 and 13, 2012 to meet with the emergency shelters to discuss retooling the emergency shelters to meet the needs of the clients most efficiently and swiftly as possible. The 2013 Homeless Census is scheduled for January 24 and 25, 2012.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the Homeless Youth Services Working Group will examine the program outcomes, policies and procedures to ensure that consistent policies and procedures are being implemented across the board for youth services as well as to ensure that the appropriate entities are being notified when a youth comes into a system.

Mr. Burch asked if under the reallocation provision that HUD provided the CoC, will there be a supplemental process for providers to get access to reallocated funds or does it depend on applications that the providers submit? What will the reallocation look like? Ms. Fuller-Hallauer replied that when a project's money is deobligated, those funds will then go towards the approval process for renewals. New projects and renewal projects will be award funds simultaneously. If the new projects do not propose to meet any need in the community, the EWG will reopen the CoC applications in hopes of receiving more projects. HUD is strongly enforcing that the renewal burden for each CoC matches with their records, meaning, the amount of money a renewal project is allowed to request from HUD.

Stacy Sutton asked if we are going to expand on an existing successful program with the reallocation of funds, will they have to come in as a new project as an expansion? Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that they do have to come in as a new project as an expansion.

Agenda Item 9. Receive a quarterly update from WestCare on the Community Triage Center; for possible action.

Amy Roukie, Regional Vice President of WestCare gave the update. Erin Kinard, Director of Community Triage Center and State-wide Clinical Director for WestCare and Kevin Morss, the Area Director for WestCare Nevada accompanied Ms. Roukie.

Ms. Roukie stated that WestCare Triage Center is a crisis stabilization program that provides a safety net for those who are intoxicated and/or mentally ill that don't have access to resources or benefits in the community. WestCare is currently accepting admissions 24-hours/day. They have been historically funded by the local jurisdictions and the hospitals. Some issues that arose from the presentation in May 2012 were that WestCare defined lack of pertinent data on the Triage Center monthly reports, responsiveness to the requests for the CoH, accountability for budget and expenditures, responsiveness to referral sources, and coordination on an improved level with Mental Health. WestCare has taken those issues into consideration and have implanted changes within the organization. An executive summary was released with all the data elements that the Committee has requested. Ms. Roukie stated that they have implemented new data system reporting structure which began on July 1, 2012 to address areas such as the zip code when first encountered, discharge placement zip code, discharge diagnosis, re-defined referral sources to provide clarity. In addition, WestCare is working closely with the mental health to transfer clients directly from the Community Triage Center (CTC) to the Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) on Legal 2000 to bypass the need to utilize the Emergency Rooms.

Ms. Roukie stated that she met with Dr. Tracy Green and Richard Whitley, Administrator of the Health Division and Mental Health to do medical clearances in outpatient and clinic settings at places such as SNAMHS, clinics that are locally operated by the federally qualified health center as well as at the WestCare Triage Center. In addition, Ms. Roukie stated she has an agreement from Bill Welsh, President of the Hospital Association and the Southern Nevada Hospital Association's CEO's have

agreed to fund their portion of the Triage Center. The funders have stipulations to include an Oversight Committee to actively participate and facilitate.

Ms. Roukie stated that the new Director, Erin Kinard is a Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor with a Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. She brings with her clinical expertise to implement a focused model of care in the CTC as well as to manage the clients from a clinical perspective. Ms. Kinard has been taking further actions to make improvements within the organization. To include, educating and training staff on clinical assessments and clinical intervention techniques, improve data entry, and modify staffing to best serve the population. Ms. Roukie also mentioned that Kevin Morss is the new Area Director for WestCare. He has been working with the community in a collaborative manner to improve systems. He is also working with Ms. Kinard to evaluate and improve services at the CTC.

Ms. Roukie stated that they are working in collaboration with the local hospitals and re-defining expectations of the Triage Center to work on improved reporting and oversight with that group, with funding secured for the next fiscal year. Beginning October 1, 2012, WestCare is planning on opening evening hours from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week with WestCare staff on the grounds of the SNAMHS in hopes of preventing Legal 2000 to go to the Emergency Rooms. Ms. Roukie stated they are working collaboratively with Clark County and the State including: Dr. Tracey Green, Richard Whitley, Jodie Gerson, Tim Burch, and representatives from the hospitals to move towards performing community Medical Clearances in outpatient and clinic settings. The Oversight Committee is comprised of local jurisdictions, Clark County, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency and local hospitals. The Committee provides Fiscal and Programmatic Oversight. Ms. Roukie stated that the data outcomes from Fiscal Year 2012 included the admissions of 3,239 patients for 9,578 days for an average length of stay at 2.96 days. The annual report is available if requested, however it is 22 pages in length.

In summary, Ms. Roukie stated that the collaborations are working, hospitals have agreed to funding, and provides enhanced data to meet the requests of the CoH members. If it pleases the committee, a request to take action on the M.O.U. is indicated as the funding for the prior fiscal year has exhausted. Ms. Geach commended WestCare on the improvements that were made in the Executive Summary Report, per the Committee's request. She also mentioned that the M.O.U. must first be codified within the respective jurisdictions before moving forward to signing the agreements. Ms. Geach directed the question Mr. Burch. Mr. Burch stated that he would like to see the WestCare application for the Outside Agency Grant, as they have done so in the previous years. However, there is no guarantee on funding for WestCare through the Outside Agency Grants from Clark County at this point due to the competitive grant process. Mr. Burch also stated that it is a lengthy process that takes up to months to ratify and finalize of contracts.

Ms. Geach stated she has read the letter Ms. Roukie has received from Mr. Welsh and she likes the idea of the Oversight Committee. She requested consideration for a seat to be saved for a member of the Committee on the Oversight Committee.

Mr. Harsin commended WestCare providing the information the Committee has requested, as well as addressing the concerns that were brought up. He also mentioned to Ms. Roukie not to be overly concerned about the M.O.U. because the various jurisdictions have government processes to go through before finalizing any contracts. Ms. Somers also commended WestCare on the improvements they have made to the report. The money for WestCare has been set aside in the City of North Las Vegas's budget. They are simply waiting on the County.

Ms. Geach stated that money has been set aside at the City of Henderson as well. She congratulated Mr. Morss and Ms. Kinard on their new positions.

Agenda Item 10. Receive an update from the Nevada Homeless Alliance and a presentation from Living Grace Homes; for possible action.

Stacy Sutton from the Nevada Homeless Alliance gave the update. Ms. Sutton stated Project Homeless Connect has been scheduled for December 6, 2012 at the Cashman Center. For anyone interested in volunteering can go to United Way of Southern Nevada's Volunteer Center website at www.volunteercentersn.org. Registration will be open by the end of the month. For sponsorship and event information, contact Nevada Homeless Alliance at 702-743-1487 or at NHAvoice@aol.com . Ms. Sutton stated that PHC planning meetings will be held in conjunction with the Provider Meetings, which are held at third Wednesday of each month. Next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2012 at the LGBT Center, 953 East Sahara, B-31, AT 8:30 a.m.

Ms. Sutton stated Divya Narala from the Regional Initiatives Office will be giving a brief presentation about the Welcome Home Baskets. Ms. Narala gave historical information on the inception of the Welcome Home Baskets Project. She stated that, as part of the national 100,000 Homes Campaign to house 100,000 most chronic, vulnerable homeless individuals and families by July 2013. As part of this initiative, the Continuum of Care in Southern Nevada is working diligently to house 50 most chronic, vulnerable homeless Veterans. Upon entering into housing, these men and women still lack the basic necessities. With the help of faith and community based organizations, the Welcome Home Baskets will be used to provide these Veterans with the basic household items. List of items are listed on the flyer. Interested parties can contribute to this effort by donating items, assembling the baskets, and/or donating gift cards valued at \$25 or more. Baskets must be turned in by August 23, 2012. Ms. Narala provided a special thanks to the Pearson Community Center for allowing their space to be used for storage, U.S. VETS for providing transportation when delivering the baskets to the Veterans, and Catholic Charities for providing vouchers valued at \$25 for Catholic Charity's Thrift Stores. Contact Stacy Sutton for additional information.

Ms. Geach asked about the drop off location and times. Ms. Narala stated the drop off location is at the William Pearson Community Center. The drop off time must be coordinated with Stacy Sutton. Ms. Sutton stated that non-profit receipt can be provided to any donor. The exact location of the William Pearson Community Center is on Martin Luther King and Carey.

Ms. Sutton introduced Kathleen Miller from Living Grace Homes. Kathleen Miller from Living Grace Homes gave the presentation. Ms. Miller stated that Living Grace Home is a maternity home for homeless or those who are at danger of becoming homeless pregnant women between the ages of 14 and 22. The organization was opened in February 2007. There are four providers in the community that also address the needs of pregnant or parenting teens and young mothers, each focusing on varying aspects of the issues relating to pregnant mothers. Those entering Living Grace Home must be between the ages of 14-22 and be homeless or are at-risk of becoming homeless. 95 pregnant young ladies and their babies have been served since the agency opened, either for part or full term of their pregnancy. 88 babies have been born to mothers who have spent their time at Living Grace Home. Ms. Miller stated they have received the Outside Agency Grant from Clark County, as well as a grant for a van that allows the staff members to provide transportation of their clients. The preliminary focus of the organization is to resolve any legal matters their clients may be facing and to ensure they are receiving prenatal care as part of a partnership with a local doctor. Living Grace Homes provides housing, education, finding employment and social services to pregnant women, filling a gap in the current government and private non-profit services in the Las Vegas Valley. Living Grace Home recognizes that teen mothers who remain single and choose to parent their child are less likely to finish high school, and more likely to spend an extended period of time in poverty than those who marry, or those who place their child for adoption. They work closely with local and national programs to encourage marriage, paternal involvements, or adoption as preferable to single parenting.

Ms. Miller stated Living Grace Homes is looking for funding to open phase two of the program that meets the needs of the young mothers who are not able to lead a self-sustaining life.

Annie Wilson from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department asked if there is a cost associated with the youth mothers. Ms. Miller replied that there is a sliding scale fee cost associated with each client, however, if a pregnant mother is unable to pay the fee, they will not refuse services for her. The maximum pay is \$400 per client. No client is turned away because of lack of funds. Once the teen attains a job, she will be responsible for paying a portion of the rent. Ms. Geach asked how many beds Living Grace Home has. Ms. Miller replied that they have 8 beds. They currently have 2 empty beds available. Ms. Geach stated that she had toured the Living Grace Home facility and she claimed it is a very nice facility. She also applauded the agency on filling the gap in the community by providing the services to young teenage mothers.

Agenda Item 11. 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.

Paula Zier from the Clark County School District stated that the School District is able to support families experiencing homelessness, unaccompanied youth and those living in weekly motels with the necessary services documents to enroll in a school. Anyone interested can call 702-855-6682 for more information and assistance.

Agenda Item 12. Public Comment.

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities, commended the efforts to place individuals in the summer day shelters and providing them with a cooling station. He also thanked the community for providing the toiletry items and the donations that were made to Catholic Charities. Wal-Mart donated \$50,000 to Catholic Charities. Mr. Hollon recognized MGM Resorts and their employees for the grant that was provided to Catholic Charities for the amount of \$75,000 to help provide services for the community. Sandra Villatoro, Clark County Community Resources Management Division, gave additional information on the Outside Agency Grant (OAG). The OAG application is only available via Zoom Grants this year. Contact Ms. Villatoro at 702-455-5025 or via email at sandrav@clarkcountynv.gov for any questions or concerns regarding the OAG.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.