

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
March 8, 2012

In attendance:

Barbara Geach, Chair, City of Henderson
Tim Burch, Clark County
Kathy Somers, City of North Las Vegas
Stephen Harsin, City of Las Vegas
Annie Wilson, alternate, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Jodie Gerson, State of Nevada
Gordon Absher, MGM Resorts International
Stacy Sutton, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Marcia Evans, alternate, Veterans Administration
Paula Zier, Clark County School District

Absent:

Stuart Ghertner, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
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.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Barbara Geach, Chair, City of Henderson, at 2:01 p.m., on Thursday, March 8, 2012, in the Clark County Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155. The agenda for the March 8, 2012, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

New Committee member from the Clark County School District, Paula Zier, was welcomed. She replaced Myra Berkovits, who retired.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

No public comment at this time.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for March 8, 2012; for possible action.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the March 8, 2012, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the February 9, 2011, meeting; for possible action.

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

Agenda Item 5: Recognition of Linda Lera-Randle El as the recipient of the "Social Equity Action Award" from the American Society for Public Administration's Section on Democracy and Social Justice; for possible action.

Brooke Shinbein, Clark County Social Service, presented the award to Linda Lera-Randle El. The nomination was read. A group photo was taken with Mrs. Lera-Randle El and the board members.

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

Tyrone Thompson, Regional Initiatives Coordinator, gave the update. The Winter Night Shelter services of the Inclement Weather Shelter will be closing on March 25, 2012. Summer Day Shelter Services will resume on May 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

The Regional Initiatives Office is continually looking for Compassion Station partners, including houses of faith, as temperatures fluctuate from cold to hot weekly. Contact Tyrone Thompson at 702-455-5626 or tyt@clarkcountynv.gov for more information or to express interest.

Mr. Thompson updated the board on the Corridor of Hope/North Las Vegas intervention. He reviewed the intervention day, held on January 18, 2012, and the Corridor of Hope Housing Connect (January 18 & 19, 2012), whose aim was to provide appropriate housing and services for those individuals and families. The media covered was also present. Special thanks to all the providers who participated. Mr. Thompson updated the board on Occupy Las Vegas Movement and encampment. Occupy Las Vegas's permit was not renewed. Occupants were to clear the area by February 20, 2012. On Intervention Day, February 21, 2012, the area was clear and the County secured the area by locking the gates.

The March 28, 2012, Mainstream Programs Basic Training will be held at the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (5390 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89122), from 1 pm – 5 pm. The topic will be Employment Services and Income Supports.

The migration from MetSYS to Clarity will begin on Wednesday, March 28, 2012, at 5:00 pm and will go live on April 2, 2012. Training for this conversion is in the process of being scheduled.

Barbara Geach commented on the coordination efforts with the Corridor of Hope and Occupy Las Vegas.

Agenda Item 7: Receive an update on the Prevention Working Group; for possible action.

Catherine Huang Hara, Senior Management Analyst, provided an update on the Clark County, North Las Vegas, and State of Nevada HPRP grants. There is still financial assistance available from the County Grant. Households in rental housing facing eviction or needing to relocate into rental housing after recently becoming homeless may contact HELP of Southern Nevada at 702-217-2445 or Lutheran Social Services 702-639-1730; or 211 from a local telephone to get information on housing and additional resources.

Tara Ulmer, City of Las Vegas Parks, Recreation, Neighborhood Services, provided an update on its HPRP. Anyone in need who meets HPRP eligibility requirements and reside within the city of Las Vegas can apply for assistance. The city will continue to accept applications through May 15, 2012, providing funds are still available. After May 16, 2012, the City will begin close-out following HUD's HPRP close-out policy. The city is still offering Emergency Relocation Assistance program, moving assistance to people renting homes that are in foreclosure. Anyone seeking more information for HPRP or rental and moving assistance may call 702-229-4280 or visit 1581 Main Street (inside the Salvation Army Family Services building) between 7 am and 4 pm. The building is closed from noon until 1 pm.

Agenda Item 8: Receive an update on the Committee on Homelessness strategic plan with a presentation from HomeBase on their progress of the community action plan and technical assistance for the HEARTH Act Implementation; for possible action.

Danielle Wildkress and Jason Satterfield, HomeBase (based in San Francisco), provided a PowerPoint presentation. A Technical Assistance Kick-Off meeting was held on March 7, 2012. HomeBase will be providing assistance for the next year.

Stephen Harsin and Barbara Geach asked several clarifying questions. Ms. Wildkress and Mr. Satterfield gave clarification.

Ms. Wildkress continued with the presentation. There are four key areas of the Action Plan: 1) Establishing performance outcomes that compliment the strategic plan and funding priorities; 2) Increase the stock emphasis on and access to permanent supportive housing; 3) Improve and formalize system of care to better target resources; and 4) Increase the overall effectiveness, capacity, and transparency of the Continuum of Care. HomeBase will provide a quarterly report based on how grantees are performing in the community.

HomeBase will be in Las Vegas every other month in conjunction with the Committee on Homelessness meetings. During the other months, HomeBase will hold video conferencing with the CoC.

Agenda Item 9: Receive an update from the Nevada Homeless Alliance and a presentation from iMPACT; for possible action.

Stacy Sutton, PHC and Programming Director for the Nevada Homeless Alliance, provided the update. Veterans Stand Down will be held March 21 and 22, 2012 at the East Las Vegas Community Center (250 N Eastern Ave.). Check in is between noon and 1 pm. U.S. VETS-Las Vegas will attend the April COH meeting to update on the Stand Down. There will be two family resource fairs. Both will be held the week of May 14, 2012. The next Provider Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2012, at the LGBT Center, 953 E Sahara Ave #B-31.

Tina Willis, Grants and Fundraising Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation for iMPACT. iMPACT is the social services, non-profit arm of the Church of South Las Vegas. The presentation highlighted iMPACT programs and projects.

Jodie Gerson asked what location iMPACT is looking for to have its 3rd week food bank. iMPACT would like to hold it in old Henderson, as it's an area in need. iMPACT is looking for a building to house its programs.

In answer to Ms. Gerson second question, anyone could make a referral. Contact number is 702-818-1118.

Agenda Item 10: Receive a presentation from WestCare on the Community Triage Center; for possible action.

Kevin Morss, WestCare, provided a PowerPoint presentation on WestCare's Community Triage Center. The board members had an array of questions concerning WestCare's Community Triage Center. Mr. Morss noted that the Triage center's detoxification clients stay an average of 3-5 days, with no limit on how long they stay, as the center likes to find housing, usually a recovery house, before releasing clients. Bed counts have been reduced due to funding cuts, but the center works with the hospital (primarily UMC) to make sure clients' needs are met. When there is overflow, clients will stay on grounds until a bed is open. The center tracks the hospitals where clients come from. Mr. Morss will provide Tyrone Thompson with statistics and other information the board requested.

Barbara Geach invited WestCare to return quarterly to provide updates on the Community Triage Center.

Agenda Item 11: Identify emerging issues to be addressed by staff or members of the Committee at future meetings; receive updates from Committee members regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness; and direct staff accordingly; for possible action.

No issues at this time.

Agenda Item 12: Public Comment

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities, acknowledged the Regional Initiatives Office for helping coordinate overflow for Inclement Weather Stations. He acknowledged the HomeBase presentation as excellent.

Catholic Charities has an English language program. It's available Monday through Friday. Contact number is 702-215-4732.

Allan Shutt, Chief Compliance Officer and Council/Community Reinvestment Officer for Credit One Bank, discussed what his bank does to help families moving into affordable rentals and permanent home ownership. Credit One Bank works with various providers.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.