

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION**  
**COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS**  
**May 10, 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, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Gordon Absher, MGM Resorts International  
Stacy Sutton, alternate, Nevada Homeless Alliance  
Paula Zier, Clark County School District

**Absent:**

Mark Smasal, Veterans Administration  
Unknown Representative, City of Boulder City

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**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 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, May 10, 2012, in the Clark County Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155. The agenda for the May 10, 2012, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

**Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.**

No public comment was given.

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for May 10, 2012; for possible action.**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the May 10, 2012, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the April 12, 2011, meeting; for possible action.**

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

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

Tyrone Thompson, Regional Initiatives Coordinator, provided the update. Inclement Weather Summer Day Shelter opened on May 1, 2012. The shelter has been at capacity. The Regional Initiatives Office is developing a brochure to give to the faith-based community and community-based organizations to urge them to open their doors to the homeless during the summer. Anyone interested in providing compassion stations for the summer may contact Mr. Thompson at 702-455-5626 or email at [tyt@clarkcountynv.gov](mailto:tyt@clarkcountynv.gov).

Regional updates to the jurisdictions have been completed. Mr. Thompson presented updates to the Board of County Commissioners on March 20, 2012, the City of Las Vegas on April 4, 2012, the City of Henderson on May 1, 2012, and the City of North Las Vegas on May 2, 2012. The update was well-received. Per the direction of the Committee on Homelessness, the Regional Initiatives Office will

present the presentation given to the jurisdictions at the June or July Committee on Homelessness meeting. One of the key elements of the presentation is the budget. The draft will possibly be presented next month. The Technical Working Group will have that information for the board members. On May 7 and 8, 2012, the Regional Initiatives Office, as a team with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, HUD Local Office, the Veteran's Administration, and US Vets attended the Rapid Results HUD VASH Boot Camp in San Diego, CA. Tucson, San Francisco, and San Diego City and County had teams as well. The discussion was on how to house the most vulnerable and chronically homeless veterans. A plan was worked out (called the 100 Day Plan) to house 50 of the most vulnerable, chronic homeless veterans by August 17, 2012. The Vulnerability index from the Regional Initiatives Office and the VA will be used. Training will take place with outreach teams, and community partners will be engaged. There will be a registration week. Using HMIS, the top 50 people will be chosen and engaged to get housed through the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority. There will possibly be a reconvening with the Rapid Results Team in September here in Las Vegas. On May 4, 2012, the Regional Initiatives Office and Tim Burch met with Nevada Homeless Alliance, as they have new members. The discussion centered on what government can do and what NHA can do to build more resources and partnerships.

The Mainstream Programs Basic Training will be on May 23, 2012, 1-5 pm, at the Government Center, 500 S Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89155. The topic is homeless youth, young adults, and families with children.

Jodie Gerson asked how many veterans are expected to be housed and the criteria. Mr. Thompson answered her questions.

**Agenda Item 6: Receive an update on the Prevention Working Group; for possible action.**

Catherine Huang Hara, Senior Management Analyst for the Regional Initiatives Office, provided the update. The Prevention/Discharge Planning Working Group will now meet on May 23, 2012, 9:00-11:30 a.m. at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89106. Subsequent meetings will be quarterly. Future meetings will be August 22, 2012 and November 28, 2012. HPRP grants are continuing to be closed out. Closeout will be complete after the HUD HRE site posts the closeout documents. Final billing is being done in the meantime.

Tara Ulmer, City of Las Vegas Parks, Recreation, Neighborhood Services, provided an update on its HPRP. As of May 7<sup>th</sup>, the City of Las Vegas has spent 94% of its allocation. The City of Las Vegas has calculated that it will spend the remainder of its funds by 06/13/2012. The City is still accepting applications until May 25<sup>th</sup>. Anyone seeking more information for HPRP may call 702-229-4280 or visit 1581 Main Street (inside the Salvation Army Family Services building) to pick up applications between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The building is closed from noon until 1:00 p.m. The City is only providing one month of short term HPRP assistance. Additional assistance will be referred to other community resources. Grant close out activities will commence effective 06/01/2012. A report will be provided fall.

The City is still offering emergency relocation assistance due to foreclosures on rental houses. Anyone seeking more information can call 702-229-4280.

**Agenda Item 7: Receive an update on the Committee on Homelessness strategic plan; for possible action.**

Tyrone Thompson provided the update. The Strategic Plan and Activities are in the agenda packet. Governance: The bylaws will be ready for review for the June meeting.

Follow and integrate CoC Community Action Plan: HomeBase will be providing that update. Service provider transitional housing to become permanent housing: Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, has been working with several providers to transfer their transitional housing to permanent supportive housing. Success with a couple of those providers is forthcoming.

Create a greater public awareness: The next meeting will be May 22, 2012, at Clark County Social Service at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89106. Members of the board and community are welcome to attend.

Fully implement HMIS Clarity software system: Rob Herdzick will be providing an update.

Jurisdictional coordination for ESG and CDBG: The Regional Initiatives Office meets every other month with the consortium to discuss progress.

This report has been posted on the Help Hope Home website.

Stephen Harsin asked if the responsible persons for jurisdictional coordination are the consortium. Mr. Thompson confirmed that the responsible persons are the consortium and the Regional Initiatives Office. Mr. Harsin also asked if there was a way to get a list of the committee members for the working groups and if that could be posted on the HHH website. Mr. Thompson said yes to both.

Barbara Geach asked if there were going to be completion dates posted. Mr. Thompson said yes.

**Agenda Item 8: Receive an update on the community action plan and technical assistance for HEARTH Act implementation from HomeBase; for possible action.**

Danielle Wildkress and Jason Satterfield, HomeBase, provided the technical assistance update using a PowerPoint presentation. They discussed performance measures. Stephen Harsin asked if the Technical Assistance findings will be available online. Ms. Wildkress stated HomeBase is working with BitFocus to generate reports out of Clarity but is leaving it up to Mr. Thompson and Michele Fuller-Hallauer as to how the information is disseminated. Tim Burch commented on the potential transparency of the work being done. Ms. Wildkress stated HomeBase is intending to generate reports on a quarterly basis as stated in the Technical Assistance work plan. Barbara Geach asked about the color coding of the proposed performance measurement report. Mr. Satterfield and Ms. Wildkress answered her. Mr. Burch asked about the data elements for HEARTH. Mr. Satterfield answered that any additional data elements needed will be collected by encouraging agencies to participate in HMIS.

**Agenda Item 9: Receive an update on the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) from BitFocus; for possible action.**

Michele Fuller-Hallauer updated the board on HMIS. The CoC received an award for HMIS expansion. The funds are ear-marked for a data analyst, staffing with BitFocus to expand Clarity, capturing data for homeless census, and monies to respond to HEARTH Act demands. Barbara Geach asked for the award amount. Mrs. Fuller-Hallauer said \$595,000.

Rob Herdzick, BitFocus, updated on the upgrade from MetSYS to Clarity, using a PowerPoint presentation. Tim Burch asked if Clarity could support more users. Mr. Herdzick replied that Clarity was written to handle more users at one time. Barbara Geach asked if the custom report runs off of any data fields. Mr. Herdzick said yes. She also asked the difference between statewide interagency data sharing and the swipe card. Mr. Herdzick: With the statewide interagency data sharing, all agencies in Nevada who have access to HMIS are sharing information. Using the swipe card makes it quicker to pull up a client or update information on a client in Clarity. Jodie Gerson asked about the swipe card. Mr. Herdzick said the BitFocus is providing technical assistance to agencies who want to use these cards. She also asked if the swipe card could be used as ID. Mr. Herdzick said the card will have the client's name and a bar code on it. Stephen Harsin asked if the biometric option can be used. Mr. Herdzick said yes.

**Agenda Item 10: Receive an update from the Nevada Homeless Alliance and a presentation from Operation HOPE; for possible action.**

Stacy Sutton provided announcements. The Family Connect is scheduled for May 16, 2012, at the East Las Vegas Community Senior Center from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information about the event or

sponsorship, contact the Nevada Homeless Alliance at 702-743-1487 or [nhavoic@aol.com](mailto:nhavoic@aol.com). To register as a volunteer, go to [www.volunteercentersn.org](http://www.volunteercentersn.org). Jodie Gerson asked if any supplies are needed. Ms. Sutton stated Nevada Homeless Alliance is accepting donations.

Dr. Elliot Shin, Operation HOPE, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the organization.

Jodie Gerson asked how agencies interested in partnering can contact Operation HOPE. Interested persons may contact [elliott@operationhopeinc.com](mailto:elliott@operationhopeinc.com).

Tim Burch validated John Ponder with Operation HOPE for Prisoners as a great partner.

**Agenda Item 11: Receive a presentation from WestCare on the Community Triage Center; for possible action.**

Amy Roukie, WestCare, provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the services WestCare provides. Tim Burch asked about those admitted into medical detoxification, what split is medical versus social model. Ms. Roukie will provide that information at a later date. Barbara Geach asked what community referral is. It is community providers sending clients to WestCare. Stephen Harsin asked if there was a certain percentage WestCare could not take, based on the presentation. Ms. Roukie stated the information provided does not include that information. Jodie Gerson asked if that information could be provided. Ms. Roukie said yes. Mr. Harsin clarified that the zip code information is self-reported. Ms. Geach asked if out of state zip codes are recorded since clients can self-report. Ms. Roukie said yes. She also asked about the CPC or CPI diversions. Ms. Roukie clarified. Ms. Gerson asked about referrals from Montevista and Southern Hills. Ms. Roukie stated they are noted as behavioral health in WestCare's system. Mr. Harsin asked if WestCare tracked clients with insurance providers. Ms. Roukie stated that if clients do have insurance, they are sent to a local provider to access that resource. Medicaid is not billed at this time. Ms. Gerson asked if WestCare had an average for the clients returning for services after a time-out. Ms. Roukie said that the information can be gathered in the future. Ms. Geach asked for clarification about the average costs per day. Ms. Roukie clarified. Dan Musgrove provided some comments about the origin of WestCare. He wanted to be sure that the level of commitment and funding from the board would still be in effect. Mr. Harsin asked if there could be a "sub-group" to work with WestCare to help make decisions concerning its funding, as there is a process and each board member has to report to others. Ms. Roukie, who lives in Reno, will make herself available to meeting with the board offline. Ms. Geach concurred it is a good idea to meet offline. Mr. Burch asked if WestCare had access to Clark County Social Service systems to know if clients have CCSS coverage. Ms. Roukie stated WestCare doesn't have access to the CCSS database but if the client states they have CCSS coverage, WestCare will use that coverage. Mr. Musgrove feels a law should be changed so that WestCare can receive outside monies to better serve clients. Kathy Somers stated that the offline committee would be beneficial. Mr. Musgrove encouraged the board to inform WestCare when their respective governments have questions concerning the WestCare's clients and care. Mr. Harsin commented that WestCare's issues are a regional issue.

**Agenda Item 12: Conduct a public hearing pertaining to the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Substantial Amendment from Clark County and the City of Las Vegas; for possible action.**

Kristin Cooper, Clark County Community Resources Management, and Tammy Christensen, City of Las Vegas, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Stephen Harsin asked when the money needs to be spent. Ms. Cooper said approximately August 2014. Tim Burch asked the City of Las Vegas how the City and HELP of Southern Nevada were going to spend the 60% of the funds on the rapid re-housing side of the grant. Tara Ulmer replied, stating the program needed to be better marketed.

The board opened the floor for the public hearing. There was none.

A motion was made and seconded to accept substantial amendment to the ESG for Clark County and the City of Las Vegas. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 13: 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.**

There were no updates provided.

**Agenda Item 14: Public Comment**

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities, provided an update on the Thanksgiving in April meal. It was a huge success. There will be a Stamp on Hunger campaign from May 2-12, 2012. All Albertsons stores are participating. Letter carriers will be picking up food on May 2, 2012.

Debbie Harpster, United Way, announced that May 16 and 17, 2012, will be conducting Bidders' Training for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). The May 16<sup>th</sup> training will be held at NV Energy on Sahara Ave from 9-11 a.m. The May 17 training will be held at the Government Center in the Pueblo Room from 9-11 a.m. For further information, visit [www.uwsn.org](http://www.uwsn.org) or email for reservation at [efsp@uwsn.org](mailto:efsp@uwsn.org).

Todd Farlow, citizen, thanked the Committee on Homelessness for the work done. He commented on the need for national healthcare. He also re-mentioned the under count of homeless.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.