

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION**  
**COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS**  
**October 11, 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  
Jodie Gerson, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Annie Wilson, alternate, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Paula Zier, Clark County School District  
Rey Bouknight, MGM Resorts International

**Absent:**

Gina Gavan, Nevada Homeless Alliance  
Dr. Carolyn Hughes, 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.**

Meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Barbara Geach, Chair, City of Henderson, at 2:02 pm, on Thursday October 11, 2012, at Clark County Commission Chambers, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155. The agenda for October 11, 2012, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

**Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.**

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities (CC) made a public comment. Mr. Hollon thanked the committee for their consideration to fund Catholic Charities for the inclement weather shelter for the amount of \$619,001. The recommendation will provide 16% increase in inclement weather beds, as well as 33% increase in summer day shelter. CC has seen a 50% increase in the number of clients served through the inclement weather shelter. Mr. Hollon stated that CC has been able to provide extended services through community contributions. The clients that are served are generally vulnerable and fragile. CC staff is trained in responding to the needs of their clients in an efficient manner to put them on the path to self sufficiency. The funding recommendations offset expenses by providing the clients with towels, laundered items, toiletry items and a free daily community meal. Mr. Hollon stated that the funding recommendation allows CC to provide help and hope to individuals regardless of their race and creed. He specifically thanked Jodie Goldberg and Jimmy Rolson for their dedication to the inclement weather shelter program.

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for October 11, 2012; 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 September 13, 2012 meeting; for possible action.**

Barbara Geach requested the following corrections be made to the September 13, 2012 meeting minutes. On page 6, the last sentence in paragraph two, the word community should be changed to *communicate*. On page 9, Mr. Hardin should be changed to *Mr.Harsin*. Also, the third sentence should read, “. . . when the formula was first put into place.” A motion to approve the minutes with the edits was made. 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 Regional Initiatives Office (RIO) has been exercising flexibility by working very closely with the community partners for overall community good. The new inclement weather shelter contracts will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on November 7, 2012 at the board meeting at 9:15 am at Clark County Commission Chambers. Once approved, services will begin on November 19, 2012.

Mr. Thompson stated that he is looking for new partners to open up Compassion Stations. He is reaching out to faith houses to open their doors to the public during inclement weather conditions, whether it is hot or cold. He stated that Victory Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by Dr. Robert E. Fowler Senior, has come on board as a Compassion Station. The church is located on 500 West Monroe. It is centrally located within an area that is densely populated by homeless individuals. They will provide a safe place for the community to retreat from inclement weather conditions as well as water and coffee. If anyone is interested in opening a Compassion Station within their organization, contact Tyrone Thompson at 702-455- 5626 or email [tyt@clarkcountynv.gov](mailto:tyt@clarkcountynv.gov).

Because of the flash flood warnings, the Outreach Teams have been diligently working to inform those homeless individuals residing in the tunnels to seek shelter.

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 1:00 pm-5:00 pm. These trainings are offered to the community, mainly to the professionals and case managers, faith-based organizations and the general public where they can learn about the community resources. The next training is offered on October 24, 2012, and the topic is HIV/AIDS 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 2013 Southern Nevada 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 7 or 8 a.m. The rural areas will be covered on January 25, 2013. All the areas will be covered throughout the states so as to get a point in time count of all areas in Nevada. Community volunteers are always in need. Contact Tyrone Thompson at 702-455-5626 or [tyt@clarkcountynv.gov](mailto:tyt@clarkcountynv.gov). United Way of Southern Nevada will be posting a volunteer opportunity on their Volunteer Center website. Volunteers can sign up on the website if they choose to do so.

Mr. Thompson stated that Clark County Department of Social Service, along with Applied Analysis will be providing evaluation results of the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program. It was a partnership and consortium of State of Nevada, City of North Las Vegas and Clark County. Clients were assisted to prevent them from falling into homelessness or if they were already homeless, they were immediately re-housed. The results of the evaluation will be presented to Clark County Commission on November 7, 2012. The executive summary and the entire report will be posed on [www.helphopehome.org](http://www.helphopehome.org).

The November 8, 2012 Committee on Homelessness meeting will be held at City of Henderson, 240 South Water Street, Henderson, Nevada, 89015 from 2pm-4pm.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Continuum of Care is registered with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The deadline for registration was October 1, 2012. The CoC regulation comment period has been extended to November 16, 2012. It is open for the public to provide input and comments on the HEARTH Act regulations. A template letter was sent out to Secretary Donovan asking him to consider changing the funding formula for the community in hopes of increasing the amount of dollars being allotted. Las Vegas has the third largest homeless population in the nation per capita. Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) has not yet been released by HUD. Once the NOFA is released, the community will be able to move forward with the consolidated application.

Ms. Gerson asked if the deployment locations have been secured for the 2013 Homeless Census. She also asked if both the Northern Nevada and Southern Nevada will be doing the count. Mr. Thompson stated that the exact locations have not been finalized. Historically, Catholic Charities and recreation centers in the community volunteer to be deployment stations. The RIO is working with Bitfocus to do the analysis for the census. Approximately \$22,000 has been allocated to move forward with the analysis. Mr. Thompson stated that both Northern and Southern Nevada will be doing the census on the same date.

**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 plan goals and activities. Mr. Thompson stated that the bylaws are currently being aligned with the governance and HEARTH Act regulations. The committee will attempt to ratify the bylaws in the first quarter of 2013. Mr. Thompson stated that University of Las Vegas, Nevada School of Urban Affairs will be actively involved with the alignment of federal and local plans. Also, students will be working with the RIO to evaluate the Southern Nevada 10-year plan, specifically to identify all of the accomplished and pending goals. A report of the progress will be delivered to the CoH in the first quarter of 2013.

Mr. Thompson stated that strategic plan goal 4 is to conduct homeless services gaps analysis. He stated that a report will be given to the CoH during the first quarter of 2013. The Moonridge Group will be giving a presentation on moving forward with the gaps analysis.

The fifth strategic goal is to create a greater public awareness. The Public Awareness Working Group met on September 25, 2012. At that time, the group had conversation about updating the Help Hope Home website, as well as increasing publicity for Project Homeless Connect (PHC). PHC is scheduled for December 6, 2012 at Cashman Center.

Mr. Thompson stated the goal number 8 is to fully implement the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Phase two of the HMIS expansion from HUD has been awarded to the community for \$495,000. The technical submission letter has been submitted to HUD. The community is waiting a response from HUD to move forward. In the meantime, Bitfocus will be assisting with the 2013 Homeless Census. A data analyst will be hired.

The strategic planning session is scheduled for February 14, 2013 at the City of Las Vegas, City Hall, in training rooms 3 and 4. Mr. Thompson suggested meeting from 9am to 4pm. He asked feedback from the board about the length of the session.

The board was satisfied with the 9am- 4pm schedule.

**Agenda Item 7. Receive an update on the current status of operations from the Salvation Army Clark County; for possible action.**

Major Rhonda Lloyd gave the update. Major Lloyd stated that The Salvation Army (TSA) had to make some unfortunate budget decisions and will be closing their mental health programs. The agency has been working with other providers in the State and county to relocate all the clients that were being

served in their Pathways Program, the residential mental health group home. As of October 11, 2012, all of the residents have been placed into appropriate housing. TSA is also working to relocate the clients from their STEPS program, the independent supportive housing program. All but 8 clients have been placed. Major Lloyd thanked the community partners for their assistance. TSA is assisting their former employees with acquiring jobs at other agencies. Shelter, vocational and culinary program, and feeding programs will continue at TSA.

Major Lloyd stated that TSA will continue with the Safe Haven program until March 2013. The agency is working with Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator to assign the projects to another agency. At this point, the new agency will have to assume it so the Safe Haven funds can stay in the community.

Mr. Burch thanked TSA staff for working diligently to re-house the individuals who are currently in programs in appropriate placements. He stated that TSA's unexpected announcement to cut their programs took the community by surprise, thereby forcing them to go into a reactionary mode. The CoH fund services offered by the TSA. Mr. Burch asked if there are any more cuts to other programs of TSA that are pending. Major Lloyd stated that they do not anticipate closing any more programs. Only mental health programs are up for closure. Safe Haven will be closing on March 31, 2013.

Mr. Burch reminded the providers in the community to reach out to the committee or other community members in the event they face any internal challenges within their agency as early as possible so as to address those issues in a proactive manner. Communication is the key to the success of the community.

Ms. Gerson stated that Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) would like to have had an advanced notice to help and assist that fragile population. She asked why the programs are being closed. Major Lloyd stated that there has been a gap in funding for number of years prior to Major Lloyd and her husband's arrival in Las Vegas. TSA has been working to fill that gap through private funding. TSA received a notice from their divisional headquarters that they will no longer be the agency's safety net. Major Lloyd apologized that they were not able to deal with the issue sooner. The agency has had about 40% funding from government sources but they are no longer able to secure additional funding. The mental health programs had the largest funding gap. That is the reason for their closure. Salvation Army's across the country do not provide mental health beds; therefore, there has been little support from the divisional headquarters for those programs while they were running deficits. Current funds will be focused on the core programs the agency is known. Major Lloyd stated that TSA is looking to collaborate with the Veterans Administration (VA) to provide nonresidential mental health services. Those programs will not be running for at least 9 months to a year. The mental health programs did not receive any funding as of October 1, 2012. 67 of the 72 clients have been relocated. No other program except for housing is being run at the moment.

Ms. Gerson stated that it was rumored that TSA has cut down staffing from 16 personnel to one per shift so no notice was given for continuation of services for any of their clients. She asked if the agency looking to fill the empty beds for the mental health programs with veterans. Major Lloyd stated that that is a possibility. TSA is looking to work out the logistics with the VA. They are looking to renovate the buildings. The units that were used for TSA STEPS program will be rented out to low-income individuals and families, most likely to those who are exiting from other programs in the community.

Ms. Gerson stated that it was reported on the news that TSA is receiving one million dollars from an art exhibit. She asked if that was in fact true. Major Lloyd stated that it is a long-term gift. That money is not designated for adult rehabilitation so those funds are not available for the mental health programs.

Ms. Gerson asked if there was any collaboration with other providers in the community to place their clients prior to announcing the program closures. Major Lloyd stated that TSA reached out to other agencies to assess the situation and to ensure that the clients can be placed in housing before closing any of the programs. The agency reached out to SNAMHS and Mental Health Court. Ms. Gerson stated that she is a representative for both SNAMHS and Mental Health Court. They had no prior knowledge

of the closure of TSA programs. She continued, moving forward, agencies can reach out to community partners who may be able to provide assistance in any way possible. After being informed of TSA programs, SNAMHS worked very closely with TSA to ensure every client has been relocated into an appropriate placement. If the issues were notified in advance, other agencies could have collaborated to resolve them. Major Lloyd thanked the community partners for their assistance. She apologized for not approaching the committee with the issues earlier. However, TSA also had very short notice from their national office.

Ms. Gerson asked if TSA plans to keep the Safe Haven beds and what will happen to the facilities. Major Lloyd stated that they are not receiving the grant that was proposed for April 1, 2013. They are working with Ms. Fuller-Hallauer to have assumption of that grant by another agency. No agency has come forward with requests to use the facilities. The structures are in need of rehabilitation at this time. Should an agency contact TSA, they will give consideration to allow them to utilize the facilities.

Mr. Harsin stated that he was disheartened to hear of the closures of the programs. He suggested that agencies give as much prior notice as possible. He emphasized that TSA plays a very important role in the community and it is imperative that community partners collaborate with each other. He asked Major Lloyd to elaborate on the funding gaps. Major Lloyd stated that their national headquarters had provided financial support to the programs but that is no longer available. Also, due to the economy, donations have been low for the agency. Due to these reasons, the funding gap widened and support from the national office declined. Mr. Harsin encouraged the agency to come forward with any future obstacles as soon as possible.

Ms. Gerson stated that SNAMHS will continue to provide assistance with placing the remaining 8 individuals.

Mr. Harsin asked how many staff members were let go and how many still remain. Major Lloyd stated that 27 staff members were let go and 57 still remain.

Ms. Gerson stated that the staff members working with the mental health population prior to their departure from TSA are welcomed to apply for a position at SNAMHS. She requested Major Lloyd to send her a list of the staff members that were let go. Major Lloyd stated she submitted a list of former employees to Mr. Chase at SNAMHS.

Ms. Geach asked if the collaboration with the VA will serve the homeless population or the population with mental health issue, and is there future funding for the program. Major Lloyd stated that it is a combination of both. TSA is looking to possibly provide only housing needs without meeting the medical needs. The VA stated that it would take up to 9 months to a year to notify TSA about moving forward with the program. Much of the funding comes from the VA.

Ms. Geach requested Major Lloyd to keep the committee updated on the progress of consolidating their expenditures. Major Lloyd asked for guidance from the committee on how to go about providing that information to them. She stated that one of the reasons the agency did not divulge the information about the closure of their programs is because they did not want to set the community and their program residents into panic.

Mr. Harsin stated that she can call Las Vegas City Hall, Department of Parks and Recreation Services at 702-229-2330. Any of the other jurisdictions can also be contacted.

**Agenda Item 8. Receive a report and approve recommendations from the Continuum of Care Evaluation Working Group regarding program closures at the Salvation Army; for possible action.**

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator and Tara Ulmer, Evaluation Working Group member for the City of Las Vegas, gave the report. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that two of the Salvation Army programs, Pathways and Save Haven, are funded through the Continuum of Care. The continuum is currently in the midst of the local CoC application process. The NOFA has not yet been released by

HUD. In order to maintain funding for TSA programs in the community, the programs have to be assigned to an agency and that agency has to assume them before the NOFA is released. No modifications to grants can be made after the NOFA is released. The continuum has very limited time to move forward from transitioning the programs to the new owners.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that Pathways program is funded in 2001 through Supportive Housing Program. It is currently a group home setting where the participants require intensive mental health, support services and medication assistance. The program went into program contract on October 1, 2012. The contract was signed on June 24, 2012. There is a current contract for Pathways program. The continuum risks losing money to the community if the program is not assumed by another agency prior to the NOFA being released. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that she is working the local and national HUD offices to resolve the situation. The HUD offices are willing to work with the new agency to modify the budget and changing the designation from transitional housing to permanent supportive housing program.

Safe Haven is a special designation program that was funded in 1997. It is a low demand, 24 hour residential, high intensity case management for clients who are mentally ill and have co occurring disorders. HUD no longer funds Safe Havens. The only way to get funding for such a program is by renewing the existing Safe Haven program in the CoC renewal applications. Though the existing contract doesn't expire until March 2013, a renewal application must be submitted into this year' local CoC applications under a new agency. TSA has officially withdrawn their renewal application. Safe Haven is a congregate living situation so the agency has to have licensing and zoning to run the program. One of the major challenges for assumption of the Safe Haven program is the timely process of acquiring a building, as well as the licensure and zoning issues.

The Evaluation Working Group (EWG) has convened during a special session to examine all of the options. Tara Ulmer stood before the CoH representing the EWG. She gave an update about the EWG process. An email was sent out to providers in the community on October 1, 2012 informing them of the closure of the mental health programs at TSA and inviting them to EWG special session on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at Clark County Government Center. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a community plan of action and ensure that it was an unbiased and fair process. Jodie Gerson from SNAMHS sits as the chair of the EWG but she abstained from voting and leading the special session meeting. Mike Husted, City of Henderson chaired the committee and lead the discussion. Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services came to the table to take on the Pathways and Safe Haven programs. Before they could fully commit, the agency has to go through an internal approval process. LaTrece Coleman Stone from the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, EWG member, made a motion that the TSA would assign the CoC programs, Pathways and Save Haven, to SNAMHS and SNAMHS would assume ownership. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that following the EWG special session, representatives from SNAMHS agreed to go through an internal approval process. As of October 11, 2012, SNAMHS has agreed to take ownership of the Pathways program. However, they were not able to assume Safe Haven. WestCare stepped forward to take over the operations of Safe Haven. The assignment and assumption documents need to be signed by the TSA regional offices and the new owners. Those documents will then be submitted to HUD for approval.

Ms. Geach asked if WestCare in position to be in guidelines with the operating Safe Haven program, as far as licensures and zoning goes. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that WestCare already has licensures and zoning in place. Safe Haven will be held in two locations. The women's Safe Haven will be at the Rancho location and a separate men's Safe Haven will be held at the Community Triage Center (CTC). WestCare does have experience working with the mental health population as well as substance abuse clients. Ms. Geach commended Ms. Fuller-Hallauer and EWG for their swift response to deal with the closure of the TSA programs. She thanked SNAMHS and WestCare for agreeing to take ownership of

the programs. Mr. Harsin commended Ms. Fuller-Hallauer and EWG as well. He reiterated that the CTC will not be affected by moving the Safe Haven program into the center.

Mr. Burch stated that in the past years, CoH has voted on the CoC EWG recommendation to fund the packets that were brought forward. He asked if those packets have been voted on yet. He requested clarification on the action the committee needs to take. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated that the CoH has not voted yet. She stated that the EWG is unaware of the most recent developments about WestCare taking ownership of the Safe Haven program. She requested the CoH take into consideration the EWG recommendation to assign ownership of Pathways program to SNAMHS and the CoC's recommendation to move forward with WestCare taking ownership of Safe Haven. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer requested the CoH give direction to the CoC to move forward with both of the recommendations. Ms. Geach made a motion that the CoC move forward with the EWG's recommendation to have SNAMHS take over for Pathways and that WestCare take over Safe Haven. The motion was seconded and passed. Jodie Gerson abstained from voting.

**Agenda Item 9. Receive a presentation from the Clark County School District on Title I HOPE (Homeless Outreach Program for Education); for possible action.**

Dee Fite, facilitator of Title I Hope, Clark County School District gave the presentation. Ms. Fite defined the federal law in regards to The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Act defines and protects the rights of homeless students to enroll, attend, and succeed in the public schools. Ms. Fite explains the McKinney-Vento Homeless Reauthorization of 2001. It remains the only federal legislative response to homelessness. The legislation requires schools to immediately enroll students in homeless situations, even if they do not have proper documentations. Other forms of documentation would include shot records, birth certificates, etc. The school will work with the parents of the students to obtain some type of documentation. It also requires schools to keep the student at their "school of origin" to the extent feasible for the parent. Ms. Fite stated that if something were to happen to the student and they become homeless and have to move out of the school zone, Title I HOPE tries to get transportation to the student to keep them at that school of origin. CAT bus and RTC passes can be provided to the student. If the student is an elementary school student, a bus pass will be provided to both the student and the parent. A CCSD bus can also be provided if it can be rerouted to their location.

The McKinney Vento Act funding for Title I defines children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as homeless. Ms. Fite continued to specifically define homelessness under Title I as people living in hotel, motel, weeklies, or multifamily situations because of economic hardship. Unaccompanied youth, people living in shelters, children awaiting foster care, and people living in cars, parks, campgrounds or on the street all are considered to homeless and are covered by Title I.

Ms. Fite presents the breakdown of identified homeless students in 2011-2012: High School-1,534 (181 unaccompanied youth), Middle School-1,183, Elementary School- 3,315, Total as of June 2012- 6,032. Seven weeks into the school year, 3,426 students have been identified as homeless. Ms. Fite proceeds to explain identification/support of homeless youth. Title I HOPE trains the schools staff how to talk to parents when the student is enrolled, as well as how to identify the families that may be in need of their services. Community providers are also utilized to maximize efforts. Title I HOPE supports student success with backpacks that contains school supplies and hygiene kits. There are different levels of the backpacks and supplies. The levels are K-2nd grade, 3rd-5th, as well as a middle and high school backpack. Free breakfast and lunch, clothing, shoes are also provided to the homeless students. Operation School Bell helps provide these items through the Assistance League to elementary school and middle school. The HOPE office will cover high school students through donations. Student success is also supported by providing transportation to "school of origin", one-on-one tutoring,

educational fee waiving, summer school scholarships, and community resource information to the parents and students. HOPE has three high school rooms that are located at Cimarron Memorial High School, Sunrise Mountain, and at Rancho High School. They are open after school and provide homeless students with learning service projects. Students can get assistance with college loan applications, scholarship applications. Presenters are also brought in for career counseling. Clothes, food, toiletries, bus passes, and resume building workshops are provided at these rooms. There is also a library with online computer access.

There are six project facilitators, and each works with about 65 different schools. A student success advocate works with Operation School Bell. An office specialist and utility worker completes the staff of Title I HOPE. Ms. Fite opens the floor for questions before concluding her presentation.

**Agenda Item 10. Receive an update from the Nevada Homeless Alliance and a presentation from Southern Nevada Children First; for possible action.**

Monique Harris, Executive Director of Southern Nevada Children First (SNCF) gave the update. Ms. Harris introduces Southern Nevada Children First as a local non-profit organization that started in 2007. Its mission is to strengthen the lives of children and families. With this mission, their purpose is to provide homeless, pregnant and parenting youth and young adults with safe, structured, and positive living environments to develop the tools and skills necessary to successfully transition self-sufficiency. Ms. Harris explains that in 2007, SNCF was created and established out of an identified need, where there were very few organizations to address the needs of that specific population. She stated that there are over 800 homeless youth and young adults in the community.

Ms. Harris points out that the teen pregnancy birth rate has actually decreased by 25% since 2007. In the class of 2010, over 5,000 students dropped out of high school. Research indicates that approximately 30% of the dropout rates were teen girls due to teen pregnancy. With this information, SNCF has vowed to make a difference. SNCF has created three concrete programs to cater to the need of this particular population. Before the programs are explained, Ms. Harris begins to outline the process to access services from SNCF. SNCF receives referrals from their many community partners. They partner through the school district, Title I HOPE as well as collaborate with the welfare office. Ms. Harris explains that the agency receives majority of their referrals by word of mouth. Once a youth is contacted, she is brought in for an intake assessment to determine what particular needs of that young adult. A case manager and the client develop an action plan.

One of the programs that are offered to the youth is the Educational and Training Program. In this program, the youth are supported with their educational goals. This would include supportive services to aid them in proficiency exams, obtaining a GED, diploma, vocational training, or transition of secondary education. Life skills classes are also provided to youth that are in the community that are or have experience homelessness.

Ms. Harris stated that SNCF also has a Transitional Housing Program. Through this program, youth is offered supportive services, intensive case management, treatment planning, as well as teaching them to create goals and objectives. Support groups for parents and teen support groups are also provided. Every teen enrolled in the transitional housing program is mandated to attend the life skills class in order to obtain pertinent skills to successfully parent as well as take care of themselves.

The third program provided by SNCF is the Clinical Services program, which is considered to be their community based program. This program addresses the mental and behavioral issues of teen youth and young adults. In order for SNCF to increase their success rate in permanently housing young people, behavioral tendencies or trauma acquired by their situations need to be addressed properly.



Ms. Harris explains that their ultimate goal is self-sufficiency among youth and young adults. This is done by promoting education and awareness for the desire of a higher quality of life. SNCF has an approximate success rate of 50% in education and employment for the youth that they have served. SNCF has worked with over 75 mothers and over 175 individuals to (including the children). She continues to state that out of these numbers, SNCF boasts an 80% success rate into the transitional housing program into permanent housing.

Ms. Harris introduces Felicia, who is one of their many success stories. Felicia was been in their program for about three years on and off. She entered the program with no diploma or GED, pregnant, homeless, with a felony on her record. Felicia explains to the audience her first time in their program. Felicia had problems in her first four months with anger problems. Ms. Harris gave her another chance to change her ways. Felicia now has a high school diploma and has completed her second semester at CSN with a 4.1 GPA She will be transferring to UNLV during the spring semester to continue her physical therapy program.

Catherine Huang Hara, Regional Initiatives Office spoke on behalf of the Nevada Homeless Alliance. She stated that Project Homeless Connect is scheduled for December 6, 2012 at Cashman Center. The entire day is dedicated to serve the homeless population. Booth applications are currently available on the Help Hope Home website at [www.helphopehome.org](http://www.helphopehome.org) for any providers that are interested in participating in the event. Please contact Stacy Sutton, Director of Nevada Homeless Alliance, with any questions or concerns at (702) 743-1487.

**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.**

Ms. Gerson stated that with the concerns that TSA is facing, she encourages agencies to come to the committee to address any issues in a proactive manner as well as to collaborate with other providers in the community. She also urged agencies that have programs or idea to come forward to be involved in the process in assisting other providers. Ms. Gerson suggested that the committee somehow bring together all the providers in the community where some concerns and solutions to those concerns are being addressed. She would also like the committee to consider including services that churches in the community provide. This would reduce or eliminate the gaps in services in the community when the providers communicate with each other.

Ms. Wilson stated that downtown area command recently had a community clean up with community partners. Unfortunately, one of the volunteers that was participating in the clean up was hit by drunk driver and was killed. Four of the volunteers were hit and two of those four are still in critical condition.

Ms. Geach stated that Dr. Carolyn Hughes from the Veterans Administration (VA) will be replacing Mark Smasal.

Next meeting will be at the City of Henderson Council Chambers located at 240 Water Street.

Ms. Somers commended the Regional Initiatives Staff for their contribution to the regional efforts.

**Agenda Item 12. Public Comment.**

Phillip Hollon, Catholic Charities, thanked the audience for their concern of the victims of the drunken driving accident. He continues to state that this morning at 10:00am, a client attending food services collapsed from a seizure and passed away. A moment of silence for the client is requested and fulfilled.

On 4 October, The Frank and Victoria Fertitta Foundation sponsored their first annual Feast of Saint Francis. 92 Bishop Gorman students volunteered to serve food to 1,098 homeless people. Social Service at Catholic Charities is now signing up for free turkeys. People can sign up at 1511 Las Vegas BLVD. A picture id, social security card and proof of residence are needed. Those interested in participating will be given a "turkey buck" and they will then bring that back on 17 November from 9: 00 am-12:00 noon to receive a free 10-12lb turkey. With the partnership of Three Square, 2800 turkeys were purchased with a price of \$1.15 lb. with an average price of \$13.00 a turkey. Catholic Charities is hoping the community can donate another 700 turkeys to reach their goal of 3,500 turkeys. Smith Groceries have already donated 3,000 pumpkin pies for the Thanksgiving Holliday. Catholic Charities is also hoping the community can be able to donate side dish items to help in the feast. Mr. Hollon introduced Haley Bane, a Girl Scout from Troop 212 to present her community service project. They are trying to earn a Silver Award, which is one of the highest awards in the Girl Scouts. The scouts would like to donate a ton of pasta and sauce to Catholic Charities. If you would like to donate a box of pasta and a can of sauce to the Girl Scouts, please contact them at (702) 686-9805 or bring it by Catholic Charities. Ms. Gerson requested additional information about candle light vigil for the homeless individuals that have passed away.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.