

**SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION
SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2015**

In attendance: Julie Calloway, Co-Chair, City of Boulder City
Nick Spriggs, Co-Chair, NEO3DO
Tim Burch, Vice Co-Chair, Clark County
Arash Ghafoori, Vice Co-Chair, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth
Mary Ellen Donner, Chair, City of North Las Vegas
Barbara Geach, City of Henderson
Kathi Thomas-Gibson, alternate, City of Las Vegas
Paula Zier, Clark County School District
Mike Mullin, Nevada HAND
David Schofield, Las Vegas Metro Police Department
Donna Jordan, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Heather DeSart, Workforce Connections
Shalimar Cabrera, U.S. Vets – Las Vegas
David Slattery, Las Vegas Fire & Rescue
Geoff Spataro, United Way of Southern Nevada
Dr. Cynthia Dodge, alternate, Veterans Administration
John Hill, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority
Melissa Clary, Huntridge Neighborhood Association
Angela Marshall, Second Chance Christian Ministries
Nancy Menzel, UNLV
Dawn Davis, alternate, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
Terry Murphy, Fremont Street Experience
Kena Adams, Moapa Band of Paiutes
Corrine Valencia, U.S. Navy Veteran

Absent: Stephen Harsin, City of Las Vegas
Jesse Robinson, HELP of Southern Nevada
Amber Batchelor, S.A.F.E. Nest
Pastor Henry Sneed, The Church LV
Vicki Chan-Padgett, Touro University Nevada
Joshua Brown, Veterans Administration
Erin Kinard, WestCare, Inc.
Jocelyn Bluitt-Fisher, Wynn Resorts

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

A meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition's Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board was called to order at 2:05 p.m., on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at United Way of Southern Nevada, 5830 W. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89103. The agenda 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 March 12, 2015.

A motion was made to move item 9 to be moved before item 5. A motion was made to approve the agenda for with this modification. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the February 12, 2015 meeting.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes with item change. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 9. Receive overview presentations from the Evaluation, Planning, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), Monitoring, and Community Engagement working groups from each group champion; for possible action.

Tim Burch, Vice Co-Chair, Clark County introduced the Evaluation Working Group and outlined the duties, responsibilities and commitment needs of the group. Mr. Burch outlined that the CoC Evaluation Working Group is the steering committee that takes responsibility for the following; determining project priorities, the review and ranking of all funding applications, making recommendations for the funding of chosen programs and the oversight and submission of the HUD CoC consolidated application. Mr. Burch outlined the grant process and described this portion as the most labor intensive component of the Evaluation Working Groups responsibilities. Those committing to participate in this working group must have the ability to understand and support the Zoom Grant process, be sensitive to pre-application and application deadlines. The group listens to project presentations, scores submitted applications and ranks them in order of inclusions into the HUD consolidated funding application. Members must be able to set qualifying guidelines and operate within the preset guidelines. Mr. Burch explained that grant guidelines and requirements change every year and each participant has to understand that to remain competitive in the process, attention to detail is critical so that the most comprehensive application is submitted. There are prefunding workshops available to all participants and working group members are required to attend. This group also hears appeals from applicants not chosen to go forward in the funding process. The Evaluation Working Group currently has three positions open to include interested members who are part of formally homeless, faith-based, or workforce development communities. The overarching goal of the Evaluation Working group is to direct community service provision so that Southern Nevada effectively targets the performance measures set forth in the HEARTH act. These measures include: reduction of the number of people experiencing homelessness, first time homelessness, length of time homeless, cost per client, returns to homelessness, improve program coverage and improve employment and increased income for homeless households.

Terry Murphy, Fremont Street Experience, asked what a Zoom Grant is and what is the grant funding timeline. Mr. Burch explained that Zoom Grants is a web-based grant application process that has been implemented by local government agencies in the granting process. The review process is all online. The use of Zoom Grants has standardized the grant application process and all applicants are required to use the Zoom Grant process. The use of this application process does away with paper application reviews. Members have to be able to sign in and navigate the Zoom Grant system and have at least a general knowledge of how it works. The grant funding timeline is fluid and has changed every year for the last few years. Members attend the national conference with the intention of staying informed about the anticipated release time and any anticipated funding changes. Angela Marshall, Second Chance Christian Ministries asked for clarification on the time commitment necessary for this working group. Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, reiterated that the granting process is a labor intensive process. She stated that the general time commitment is approximately 2 hours per month. However, the review, scoring and ranking process involved in the consolidated application process is approximately 40-80 hours of process time. Ms. Marshall volunteered to become a member of the Evaluation Working Group.

Barbara Geach, City of Henderson, introduced and deferred to Ms. Fuller-Hallauer to give background information as well as previous accomplishments of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) working group. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer began with the previous accomplishments of the working group. Previously, the working group has identified the need for the HMIS system and has reviewed and chosen the software product need to be able to operate the current system. The group has previously and continues to provide oversight and guidance for the function of the system and training, guidance and development for end users of the system. This group has also continually monitored system needs and recommended expansion of the system to meet the service needs of system providers. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer also explained that the usage of an HMIS data collection system is required to meet and maintain HUD compliance standards and measurement of community compliance standards. In 2013 Ms. Fuller-Hallauer was identified as the HMIS State Lead. This appointment was voted on and approved by the Continuum on Homelessness committee. After the HMIS Lead appointment the process of development for a governance structure was implemented and is currently in draft. The HMIS working group interfaces with the Evaluation and Monitoring Working Groups to report compliance/outcomes and measurements. Ms. Geach outlined the duties and responsibilities of the HMIS Working Group. The HMIS Working Group is in need of 5-6 new members. Her plan is to select the committee, provide orientation and plan to meet 1-2 hours per month. Some meetings may be able to be done by phone. Ms. Geach referred interested individuals to page 9 of the governance structure for more detailed outlines and goals of the working group much of which has already been accomplished. The group is hoping to recruit members with

an IT background or others with HMIS experience as an end user. The group would like to have new members identified by April 9th. Ms. Geach also stated that she felt no additional ad hoc groups would be needed.

Kathi Thomas-Gibson, City of Las Vegas, presented the role and responsibilities of the Planning Working Group. Ms. Thomas-Gibson directed members to page 10 of the governance notebook and directed audience members to a single handout available when they arrived. The Planning Working Group is identified in the HEARTH act as a required working group to provide systems coordination to include examining locally defined sub-populations. This group has specifically identified youth as the population needing to be a sub-group of this planning group. An important role of this group is to be informed of community and CoC projects and provide direction to other groups to eliminate the duplication of efforts to better leverage resources as well as the yearly Point in Time (PIT) count. The PIT count is a HUD mandated activity that occurs the last week in January of every year. This count is to determine on a single night the number of individuals living on the streets. This count also includes a shelter count of how many shelter beds are occupied the night of the count. There are planning and coordination responsibilities associated with the planning and implementation of the PIT count. The most labor intensive part being the coordination of a volunteer work force to assist in conducting the street count. The 2016 count is going to be dependent on a major volunteer ramp-up. Next is the review and evaluation of a monthly/quarterly gaps analysis. The gaps analysis is used to identify local service need priorities, effective spending and evaluating how the local priorities are lining up with federal priorities. The Planning group is currently involved in the oversight and adjustment of the current governance charter, evaluating the ongoing service system to ensure that prevention needs are being addressed and that housing service types are meeting the needs. Lastly, the Planning Working Group is responsible for the completion and submission to HUD of a yearly action plan based on the findings listed above. Ms. Thomas-Gibson reiterated that the time commitment to this group is based on the need to complete certain projects and the timeline in which they happen. Some activities will be quarterly; others require a ramp-up period and other specialty areas will need additional time to address the specific needs of this planning area. Generally, the minimum time commitment will include a 90 minute one time a month working group meeting. This group is also responsible for taking on the role and responsibilities of the Regional Coordinators position and this, too, will increase the time requirements of this group to meet the needs of the CoC operation in this area. Other needs will be determined at the monthly meeting.

Terry Murphy, Fremont Street Experience, asked if it is required that the group looks at the gaps analysis on a quarterly basis and stated that as a new member it would be helpful for her to take a look at gaps analysis information to better understand the gaps that exist. Ms. Thomas-Gibson said there is not that requirement and that she believes review is as needed. She feels it is important for the group to know what the gaps are and information from the 2013 Gaps Analysis can be emailed out to members for review and comparison. Catherine Huang Hara will email out to all members the 2013 gap analysis information and the most recent update to the regional plan done around the same time. Those tools can be used to compare gaps with the overarching plan.

Arash Ghafoori, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, asked for a clarification of the commitment of time. Ms. Thomas-Gibson was unable to provide an exact time commitment and only said that there would be additional meetings needed beyond the large CoC and the monthly Planning Working Group meeting to accomplish responsibilities. She stated that the group would also need additional champions for special populations or projects.

Ms. Geach stated that she does not foresee any additional ad hoc committees or extra time for meetings beyond what has already been identified for the HMIS Working Group.

Mr. Burch stated that special meeting times of the Evaluation Working group will be as needed. Mr. Burch believes the current meeting structure of this group is working.

Dr. Cynthia Dodge, Veterans Administration, asked if the information from the 2013 gaps analysis and the regional plan in regards to ending veteran homelessness is going to be used to guide the SNHCoC or will this group look at all of this information and evaluation changes that may need to be made. Ms. Thomas-Gibson stated that this is work that belongs in the Planning Working group. Keeping in mind that the HEARTH act has put new requirements on communities it's important to take a look at accomplishments. She recommends looking at these documents as source documents and that the SNHCoC needs to recognize that they are in a different place now and have accomplished quite a bit and may want to identify areas where there hasn't been enough or as much progress as this group would like to have. Ms. Thomas-Gibson also recognized that while there is work being done by a variety of other collaborations (e.g. 25 Cities, Majors Challenge, National League of Cities), and that the Planning Working group is tasked with making sure that they are talking to all of these groups so actions of the SNHCoC are inclusive for all actions.

Nick Spriggs, Briggs & Spriggs, presented the roles and responsibilities of the Monitoring Working Group. Mr. Spriggs referred interested individuals to page 11 of the governance structure for project details. However, basically the Monitoring Working group has the task of development of performance measures, reviewing compliance and using that review to enhance performance measures and improve process. Lastly, reporting structure and development changes to the Evaluation

and Planning groups. Mr. Spriggs anticipates the time commitment to be one hour per month by phone or skype and special projects will be scheduled as needed. Michele Fuller-Hallauer has already volunteered.

Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance, and Paula Zier, Clark County School District, presented the accomplishments of the Community Engagement Working Group. Ms. Sutton Pollard provided a recap and summary of the tasks that the Community Engagement group has been working on and accomplishments they have had. The group's strategic plan and goals toward achievement are centered on "raising awareness of and support for homeless efforts". The group decided that the way to accomplish this task was to begin developing key relationships with donors, business partners, media, faith based groups, government agencies, community leaders and the general public. In this process of engagement it was important for the group to identify and develop the key messaging tools that help the group identify the needs of this community's homeless population. The components of messaging are developing logos with specific colors and fonts that can be used consistently, and the development of speaking points and images that all partners can use to identify the challenges of homelessness. Ms. Zier stated that the group also has worked on the development speaking points to specifically identify the local experience. The first talking point is that "36,000 people will experience homelessness this year to include individuals and families." Another talking point is how homelessness has a "devastating effect on the economic impact for each tax payer, medical, police and social services and why we need the help of the whole community to combat this problem." The speaking points are specific with the intention of having each person who might use them incorporate them into the work that they are doing within their specific service area in the hopes of engaging individuals to get involved. The group also felt that individuals need to have access to a tool kit that could be used to share specific information whenever the opportunity comes up. This would come in the form of a single sheet with talking points related to specific populations (e.g. chronic, veteran, youth, and family) to assist in raising the awareness of the general public. One population that is currently missing is the mental health component. The group has also worked to put together family stories on video. The incorporation of such stories is to build community empathy toward the homeless population. The last goal to be developed is a folder that can be distributed. The creation of the folders is dependent on funding and to this point has not been accomplished.

Ms. Sutton Pollard introduced the need to update an economic case. The thought is that an economic case provides a mechanism to show the community that assistance to the homeless is more cost effective than allowing them to remain homeless. The UNLV School of Public Administration is in the process of working on this area. This project will be presented to the Community Engagement Group in May and to this group by June. The costs associated with homelessness can be challenging to quantify and varies by the needs of each sub-population and impacts each community in a number of different ways and includes everything from cost to the homeless individual or family, medical, dental, housing, mental health, job training, childcare, wrap around case management and other systems of care. The project intends to break down the cost of homelessness by each special population and outline the specific needs that each group may have. The group is also tasked with "building an integrated, collaborative development organization". It has been decided that this is not necessary at this time and will only move forward if instructed to do so by the board of the SNHCoC. Next is to "align local initiatives to the plan." Members of the Community Engagement group are working with members from other group (25 Cities, Mayors Faith Initiative, and gap's analysis, local and federal plan to end homelessness).

Ms. Zier stated the Community Engagement group has continuing to work on other projects. The group participated in the Homeless Census (youth & adult), interviewing non-profit agencies, individuals and families for stories to be posted on a video blog. The group has produced and distributed two newsletters. Each section of the newsletter has a specific focus and includes information related to help, hope, or home. The help section introduces how the community can support and specifically highlights activities, such as Project Homeless Connect, as opportunities to help the community. The hope section discusses the regional efforts to address and end homelessness. The most recent letter introduced and explained the work of Coordinated Intake. The last section is home and is being used to highlight success stories, describing how individuals have successfully gotten out of homelessness. Ms. Zier described a recent event called "The Low Down" which is help to bring together community members to have discussions about homelessness and to highlight the community efforts to end homelessness. The group also participated last June in the "June Speed Dating" activity. This activity is not speed-dating. Instead, it's a way for agencies and volunteers to get together and get to know one another so build relationships while doing the work to end homelessness.

Ms. Sutton Pollard wrapped up the presentation of the Community Engagement group by recapping the accomplishments of this group. She stated that the next plan of action is to know and take the tools that have been created and implement them in a way that will help to engage the community in the efforts of ending homelessness. Once the economic case is complete and presented the next plan of action is to work to develop actual business cases which can provide a specific business plan that outlines areas that can be invested into in order to engage funders. Next the group wants to start a campaign around responsible donating. The goal is to channel the current efforts of groups currently passing out food, blankets and other

various items in locations such as the Corridor of Hope. Next is to build a speakers bureau that creates opportunities for agencies to go out and present to different groups upon request to educate specific civic group on the issue of homelessness. Also, is to provide assistance to the Regional Initiatives Office in the updating of the Help Hope Home website to make materials developed by this group easily accessible to all.

This group is looking for new members. Ms. Sutton Pollard shared that this is a working group that needs new members to bring their resources to the table. Aside from monthly meetings, there are working groups and homework that needs to be completed. The group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at Clark County Social Service from 1:00-2:30 p.m. The next meeting is March 24th. If anyone is interested in being added to the email list they can contact Ms. Pollard directly at Director@NevadaHomelessAlliance.org.

Mr. Ghafoori provided information about previous contact he has had with National Board of Safe Place. Mr. Ghafoori serves on their board. This group has commissioned several universities, a specific one for youth nationwide to look at economics and build a business case behind it, too. Mr. Ghafoori offered to provide contact information for the National Board of Safe Place to look at how they are developing the business plan model. The National Board is working in partnership with Tumbleweed, a best practice model program and premier homeless youth organization. He also asked the question, how the messaging that this group has created for the public and donors tie in with the messaging of existing stakeholders in each of their respective fields and how is that made to be a synergy as opposed to a conflict. Ms. Sutton Pollard responded that the tool kit has been designed to provide information that can be provided consistently when used to inform and engage the public. They are able to pick and choose the speaking points that they include in their presentation that corresponds with their area of service. The speaking points are not intended to be their whole presentation. Instead they are intended to provide them with specific speaking points that can assure that all agencies are providing information consistently to public audiences. Providers have already been provided with the "one sheets" and speaking points. Currently, agency directors and Mayor's Faith Initiative have been provided with the tool kit. The Community Engagement Working Group is currently in the process of making sure that the tool kit is accessible by way of link to a variety of websites including the Help Hope Home website.

The question of meeting flexibility was asked of the Community Engagement Working group. Ms. Pollard responded that the group had set the meeting time based on room availability and member availability. However, the meeting logistics are flexible based on the needs of the group. She also reported that if attending meetings was difficult that she was able to send out agenda's and minutes and encouraged those interested in participating by conference call.

Ms. Murphy complimented the Community Engagement Working group on the quality of the tool kit they have developed. For clarification Ms. Murphy asked if the groups plan was to take the tool kit from the agencies and Mayor's Faith Initiative and the website links and begin to engage the public with the materials. Ms. Pollard reiterated that the plan was to build the tools and then begin pushing them out to the community. The goal is not to mass email out the tool kit to the general public but instead to begin using the tools to engage the public through public presentations. Ms. Murphy reiterated that the next step is for partners with the opportunity to plan public presentations to utilize the information or request presentations to inform the public. Ms. Murphy also offered to help in whatever way she can to continue the community engagement piece.

Mr. Ghafoori asked for clarification on member commitment to the working groups, and by when would each group like to know about membership. Ms. Geach, City of Henderson, reiterated that the HMIS Working Group would like to receive requests for membership by April 9, 2015. Mr. Burch would like to receive membership requests by mid-April so the group can be ready to go for the next funding cycle which is coming up soon. Ms. Thomas-Gibson of the Planning Working group has some very specific tasks that will require a specific call for help. Additional time beyond the monthly commitment will be requested as needed. Mr. Spriggs of the requested that anyone interested in volunteering for the Monitoring group to be in contact with him by the next SNHCoC meeting. He also extended an open invitation for anyone interested in participating by phone conference. Attend a meeting and see what the group is doing and then join at any time.

Agenda Item 5. Receive a presentation on veteran homelessness; for possible action.

Shalimar Cabrera, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas, provided an overview of the scope of veteran homelessness in Southern Nevada. According to the 2014 Homeless Census & Survey, there were 1,230 homeless veterans at the time of the count. Ms. Cabrera also shared that statistically according to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, male veterans are 1.5 times more likely to become homeless than their non-veteran counterparts and female veterans are 3.6 times more likely to become homeless. Ms. Cabrera outlined the reasons for homelessness among veterans; a shortage of affordable housing, a livable income and healthcare access challenges. Many veterans are experiencing the lasting effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse. They have lost contact with family and lack the support needed to get back on their feet. They also often lack training and specific skills needed to re-enter the work force after duty.

U.S. Vets serves veterans from all branches and eras, male or female with eligible discharge status. However, U.S. Vets has some services available for those with less than honorable discharge status. It provides outreach services and service in a variety of ways. Many vets are self-referred by way of walk-in. Others are referred by other agencies and many are located by street teams visiting neighborhoods, encampments, shelters, tunnels, hospitals and any other locations where homeless vets may frequent. U.S. Vets provides a variety of housing opportunities for veterans. They have transitional housing, permanent housing, transitional to permanent housing units, long term supportive housing, and access to rent and utility assistance for prevention and/or rapid re-housing. The veteran entering services defines their household dynamics and U.S. Vets works to accommodate the needs of all veteran individuals and their families. Other supportive services provided include education, employment assistance, medical assistance, sobriety support, life skills classes, gambling prevention, education, access to 12 step programming, VA referral assistance, recreational therapy, financial management and case management services. Ms. Cabrera shared that U.S. Vets works collaboratively with the VA Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) and all other veteran service providers. U.S. Vets is an active member of the 25 Cities working group working toward ending veteran homelessness in 2015. Ms. Cabrera also reminded the group that the next Veterans Stand Down is scheduled for March 18th & 19th from 8:30-4:30 at the Cashman Center. She invited anyone interested in volunteering to contact U.S. Vets to volunteer.

Donna Jordan, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services, asked if her agency could donate bus passes. Ms. Cabrera very enthusiastically agreed and asked Ms. Jordan to contact Jennifer Murphy at U.S. Vets to make the donation.

Dr. Cynthia Dodge, Program Manager, VA Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) and 25 Cities Lead, provided an overview of the intent of the 25 Cities project. Prior to beginning the presentation for 25 Cities Dr. Dodge reminded the group that the CRRC works collaboratively with U.S. Vets and all other agencies providing services to vets. She wanted to remind all that Coordinated Intake is functioning as is the identified process for access to the full service spectrum for all veterans. Through the coordinated intake process each veteran gets equal opportunity to access the necessary services. Each veteran is assessed using the same assessment tools and then either housed with VA resources or referred to the county for a continuation of services. Dr. Dodge also asked that during the days of the stand down that case managers please bring veterans to the stand down instead of the CRRC office as all her staff will be working at the stand down.

Agenda Item 6. Receive an update on the progress of the 25 Cities Initiative; for possible action.

Dr. Cynthia Dodge, Program Manager, VA Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) and 25 Cities Lead, provided an overview of the intent of the 25 Cities project. She stated that the 2015 goal set forth by the VA and HUD is to end Veteran homelessness by the end of this year. 25 Cities provides the road map for this community to follow in order to accomplish this goal. There are four identified working groups involved in the “community takedown” process. Each group (Coordinated Intake, Mayors Challenge Group, Outreach Group, and Shelters Group) will provide an overview of accomplishments and sub-goals to date.

Dr. Dodge explained that the 2014 Veteran PIT count identified 1,230 homeless. 25 Cities has established a formulary referred to as the “takedown” calculation that helps states to determine how many homeless individuals they can anticipate needing housing for the remainder of 2015. Federal statistics indicate that 25% of homeless Vets are able to resolve their own housing issues and 30% are unable to be served by the VA due to lack of active duty service or less than honorable discharge. Dr. Dodge projects that based on these calculations Southern Nevada has 204 Veterans a month and 2,040 in the next ten months to house in order to meet the “Community Takedown” goal by the end of 2015.

Corrine Valencia, Veteran, presented a concern that follow-up of newly housed Veterans is lacking and that appropriate resources needed to sustain housing is difficult to access. Ms. Valencia also expressed concern for the safety of female Veterans when being placed in Transitional Housing placements. Dr. Dodge thanked Ms. Valencia for her comments and concerns and shared that recent changes to the system have opened up new opportunities to evaluation of such challenges in the system and asked to continue the dialog of these concerns offline.

Bobby Gordon, Clark County Social Service and Coordinated Intake Lead, presented a progress report of the Coordinated Intake process which has been operational since July of 2014. Ms. Gordon reports that it has been discovered that communication in the process has been challenged and the group is currently working toward improvement of the communication flow. The working group is working to develop specific communication tools that will help to improve the communication with providers and the public. One way that the working group is working to improve communication is through the implementation of onsite provider training. Through the development of coordinated intake training the group has also been working to identify common messages that can help to improve the overall communication process. The Coordinated Intake Leadership Team has also been working to develop policies and procedures to help guide the coordinated intake process. The group is also in the process of developing a list of frequently asked questions (FAQ’s) to help to answer questions related to coordinated intake. The working group is also evaluation evaluating the various ways that information is shared out to the community and plans to use the same communication mechanisms to communicate coordinated intake

process information. Two specific mechanisms mentioned are Help Hope Home and HMIS as systems to notify providers to system changes. They are also in the process of identifying a point of contact person to answer coordinated intake questions as they come up. The Coordinated Intake Working group has developed an email question and response system to accomplish this goal. The group has also identified the following items as areas that need to be addressed. First is to improve the effectiveness of the current matching system. The group is working to effectively match the client to the appropriate provider so the housing is appropriate for the person. A google tracking sheet has been developed to track vacancy slots along with a Coordinated Intake email response system to communicate placement openings effectively and the intake process is relying more heavily on the HMIS to assist in the placement tracking process. The coordinated intake process is currently utilizing the VI-SPDAT to assess needs and the appropriate levels of housing needed. The group is also working on developing other standards that can be used to assess the vulnerability of individuals that are chronically homeless. They are also in the process of working with HMIS to develop summary tools to be able to figure out where people have been for services (e.g. meals at Catholic Charities).

Angela Marshall, Second Chance Christian Ministries, requested process clarification of bed stay tracking. Ms. Marshall was interested in knowing if the system is tracking locations and how often homeless individuals are eating. Ms. Gordon explained that bed occupancy is tracked by data entry into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and explained that this same tracking is possible at locations where individuals access food including food pantries and dining locations. An approach to improve public communication is to include updating the current Help Hope Home website and to identify a point of contact for questions and feedback related to Coordinated Intake. Melissa Clary, Huntridge Neighborhood Association, asked about staffing ratios at Coordinated Intake locations and whether or not staff shortages are an issue. Ms. Gordon stated that Coordinated Intake is being conducted at all 5 Clark County Social Service locations, and all intake staff is participating in the Coordinated Intake process. She explained that as individuals come into CCSS they are given a return appointment the following day. If a client has an immediate need they are triaged on the spot for immediate services.

An audience member asked Ms. Gordon to describe how Coordinated Intake addresses the issue of repeat clients that have failed in other placements. Ms. Gordon stated that Coordinated Intake works from a harm reduction model which means that the goal is to do their best to assist all clients no matter what the previous history of the client is. Ms. Marshall asked for clarification of the Rapid Rehousing placement criteria. Ms. Gordon referred to each case having specific needs and that it was difficult to generalize without knowing all the details of the case.

Kena Adams, Moapa Band of Paiutes, asked what the first step to accessing services is for someone she may refer who needs services. Ms. Gordon responded that currently coordinated intake is coordinating services for single individuals only. So if they are single definitely refer them to coordinated intake.

Kathi Thomas-Gibson, City of Las Vegas, presented on the Mayors Challenge group. The Mayors Challenge is a national challenge presented by President Obama to all city Mayors across the country. The challenge is for all mayors to make ending Veteran Homelessness their number one priority for 2015. Southern Nevada Mayors have signed onto the challenge and are actively participating in the challenge through their work with the Mayors Challenge Group. The Mayors Group is actively evaluating and preparing to act on any jurisdictional codes, funding and operational policies that limit housing access. Specifically, looking at challenges that keeping builders from building and investing in affordable housing projects. The following sub-goals include land use and zoning, alignment of need with local government funders, plan development of expansion of state veterans' homes, supportive employment opportunities, coordination and alignment of community volunteerism. The overarching goal is to lineup the need with the resources available so that what is being built matches the needs of the community.

Merideth Spriggs, Caridad, presented for the 25 Cities Outreach Working Group. Ms. Spriggs explained outreach activities to include the completion of a field assessment that is being entered directly into the HMIS data reporting system. The Outreach team is working collaboratively with the VA to locate and interview any Veterans not willing to come to a Coordinated Intake site for assistance. Ms. Spriggs explained that there are currently three Outreach sub-goals. First is to develop a coordinated outreach process so that teams know who is assigned to go where. This process will then include providing specific assigned areas to outreach staff to eliminate overlap in the outreach contact process. The group is also working to establish an afterhours/weekends hold over process to address intake issues during periods of time that agencies are closed. The group plans to develop a master list of in-need Veterans to share at monthly outreach meetings to assist in locating Veterans in need of housing.

Tim Burch, Clark County Social Service, asked if the Outreach Group was familiar with the Los Angeles practice model that has utilized an outreach plan model. The success of this model has been dependent on the collaboration of outreach teams and the VA sharing individual's information to verify Veteran status. Mr. Burch stated he isn't clear how this group is handling the health information exchange. This is a critical component to sharing information with first responders, health care providers and outreach services. Ms. Spriggs reported she is familiar with the LA model and has received training in this outreach approach. The outreach team is also working on agency releases so an immediate call can be made to the VA to determine veteran eligibility status. Mr. Burch reported that currently work is being done to work into the coordinated intake

a current release form for the health information exchange process. He challenged all to be collectively looking at the release process and include the health information as part of the release process. This will help emergency responders when they come across homeless clients in the field. Ms. Spriggs shared that she will have Catherine Huang Hara share her email contact information with the group so that release form examples can be shared. She also asked anyone who feels they have a great release form to please share it with her to help them in their process of development as they are in the beginning phases of development. Dr. Dodge added that from now on, the VA will be sharing with other agencies information of referral ownership. If a client comes from the VA that will now be known by all other agencies that come in contact with the same client. Nick Spriggs, Briggs & Spriggs, inquired to the availability of legal counsel within the City or County to clear up the horrible misuse of the law in regards to privacy and HIPPA. Mr. Spriggs believes that there is staff making policy decisions that seriously disadvantage the client. He believes an official announcement in regards to official use of information could end the ongoing exchange challenges. Dr. Dodge shared that she has explored with other communities how to come to an understanding, perhaps with legal counsel that the system might be able to interpret release standards based on an emergency circumstance or situation. Life for an individual on the street is dangerous enough to overall health and wellness. That might be a scenario where releases are not necessary to provide care. In the same way as calling 911, the caller gives specific information to expedite an immediate response. At this time, a release is not required. Dr. Dodge believes that this is worth reviewing.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, introduced Steve Silverman, HELP USA, as the lead for the Emergency Shelter group. Mr. Silverman presented that the ultimate goal of the 25 Cities project is to house homeless individuals and shared that moving a client from street to housing is challenging and takes much effort. The Shelter group has identified the need to work toward increasing the length of time individuals can stay in emergency shelters. During this process the plan is to develop a master list of emergency shelter facilities and identify a point of contact for each location. Next the group has identified the need to develop a placement navigation system, set community navigation standards and work to establish better communication with frontline staff. The group also plans to address the need to reconfigure the current shelter system. Specifically, the group intends to address the issue of special homeless populations, i.e. families with fathers, and address changes to jurisdiction requirements. The Shelter working group plans to identify and establish emergency shelter points of contact with the authority to change shelter policies. Last the Shelter working group plans to find funding to support the development of Bridge Housing. Bridge Housing is seen as an alternative to emergency shelter. Ms. Thomas-Gibson, Alternate, City of Las Vegas, announced that in the recent community development RFP had a request for wet shelter and they did receive a response. They anticipate being able to announce in April whether or not they have a taker to fund wet Shelter. This project would be one of our first wet shelters. In an effort to align our funding sources with the objective of addressing homelessness the city put that as a bonus point in the most recent CDBG RFP so they would get an applicant to say yes to step up. They are currently going through the review process and will make the announcement as soon as the decision is made.

Agenda Item 7. Receive an overview presentation from the Nevada Housing Division; for possible action.

Sharath Chandra, Deputy Administrator, Nevada Housing Division (NHD) provided the group with an overview of the mission and function of the NHD. Their purpose is to strengthen and build community partnerships that will ultimately improve access for Nevada residents to affordable housing opportunities. Nevada Housing Division is funded by HUD and other state housing funding programs. NHD has made available a website NVHousingSearch.org for landlords to list affordable rental property opportunities to assist individuals and families in the process of locating and securing affordable housing opportunities. The website currently lists approximately 23,000 listings and is growing. This listing resource is free to access and also provides additional information about state and local housing program opportunities.

Tim Burch, Clark County Social Service, asked about point of contact for landlords. Mr. Chandra directed landlords to the website for details and mentioned that the website is a work in progress and that collaboration is key to increasing the robustness of the website resource list. Mr. Chandra reiterated that the improvement in the availability of affordable housing happens through this division and that NHD wants to partner with interested parties to work towards improvements in availability. Program details and standards are available at www.housingnv.gov.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a presentation from the Nevada Homeless Alliance on the 2014 Fall Project Homeless Connect and recognize community partners; for possible action.

Stacy Sutton Pollard, Nevada Homeless Alliance, presented details of the Fall 2014 Project Homeless Connect which was held on November 19, 2014 at Cashman Center. Ms. Pollard reported that this year 2,935 clients were served and of those served 283 represented families. The number of agencies participating this year was the most ever at 150 agency participants. The volunteer list for this year's event was equally as impressive with 320 community volunteers and over 400 agency volunteers helping to make this year's event a success.

Pre-registration this year included 1,000 clients using their Clarity Passport to register for services. The passport registration process allowed for an approximate 39 second check-in time. A special mention went out to Catholic Charities for assistance and implementation of the Clarity Passport system and process.

Outreach teams provided 41 chronic clients with services which included transportation to and from the event.

This year 559 clients were assisted with housing needs by 14 different organizations. Coordinated Intake was able to be assessed and administer the VI-SPDAT to 57 clients the day of the event. Transitional and permanent housing arrangements were made to meet the needs of 23 clients and an additional 45 clients were able to be prescreened for housing placements. Section 8 housing applications were completed for 88 clients, 6 clients were provided information about the HUD Homebuyer programs. An additional 112 clients were assisted with referrals for housing programs and assistance and 11 were able to be placed into emergency shelter.

In the community resources and social services area 28 agencies provided services to 543 clients. The services accessed in this area included: Social Security, provided 100 clients card information; 117 clients received homeless/transitional I.D.'s; 66 clients received free phone plans; 106 SNAP applications were completed; and 57 clients interviewed for benefits on site. The Department of Welfare Services provided clients with general information, recertification services, information on SNAP and TANF benefits, medical program information, access to pending case information for 12 clients, and assistance to clients needing to change or update their current assistance information.

Clark County Social Service provided financial assistance to 28 clients and information and follow-up appointments for 389 clients. Additionally, 170 clients were assisted with birth certificates and I.D. cards and 14 clients were able to access rental and utility assistance. Relocation services were provided to 18 clients. This relocation service assists individuals to return to family in another state. Also many others were able to access information on the Affordable Care Act, transportation, domestic violence hotlines and more.

In the families with children area 18 families received information on Head Start Services, 7 families signed up for WIC and 39 applications were completed for low-income childcare assistance.

In the Teen and Young Adult area 7 agencies served 48 clients. One client was referred to detox, 15 clients received housing information and 14 received Safe Place information.

The Veterans service area assisted 143 clients with 20 agencies available for assistance. Services in this area included housing, emergency shelter, assistance with benefits claims, benefits status checks, medical records access, workforce programming, VA suicide prevention information and supportive services for Veteran Families were provided.

The Behavioral Health area assisted 450 clients and had 27 agencies available for consultation. Service providers assisted with clinic referrals, NA and AA meeting information and referral, smoking cessation, program referrals to the Nevada Council on Gambling, Case Management, and access to other general mental health information. The Behavioral Health area is provided in a curtained area which has helped to encourage more clients to access services at Project Homeless Connect.

Job Readiness served 317 clients. Of these served 108 were placed into jobs or provided work experience placements. Another 14 clients were enrolled in job training programs and 243 received employment referrals.

Medical, Dental and Vision service providers served approximately 2,000 clients and provided the following services: medical referrals; vision services and follow-up with glasses; dental screenings; blood pressure checks; and medication counseling.

Court services were provided by both justice and municipal courts. The Las Vegas Municipal Court served 312 clients with 65 criminal and 649 traffic incidences. The Las Vegas Justice Courts served 445 clients with 138 criminal incidents and 626 traffic incidents. North Las Vegas was unable to participate in Project Homeless Connect this year but is already planning to participate in November 2015.

Legal Services was available to answer questions related to family, criminal and civil law and assisted with other court services in the areas of letters of incarceration, family law issues, immigration and family support.

This year 85 pets and their owners received services. Services in this area included general medical services, pet food and other pet supplies as well as several adoption placements. The giveaways provided for this year's event were too many to mention here.

Ms. Pollard provided a personal thank you to each sponsor, agency and volunteer who assisted with this year's event. She reminded the audience that this event is a community event and without the help of every agency and volunteer the event would not be possible. Ms. Pollard also gave special Leader Recognition to the following individuals. Each person provided special leadership and support and were directly responsible for the success of this year's event.

Activities, Children	Jessika Jessen, The Church LV
Behavioral Services, MCIT Team	Donna Jordan , SNAMHS; Joe Scott, Transparent MH
Check in/ Client Packets	Jimmy Rolson, Catholic Charities; Bradford Glover, WestCare
Check out	Annie Wilson, LVMPD; Lawanna Calhoun LVMPD
Community Resources	Mark Curtis, Crown Financial Ministries; Kathi Zamecki, Dept of Welfare; Patricia Ellis, CCSS
Facilities	Larry Lovelett, HELP of Southern Nevada WIA; Maurice Page, New Genesis
Families with Children	Christine Cajucom, US Vets; Darlene Hein, HELP USA
Food	Dawn Davis, Catholic Charities; Paul Munson, Catholic Charities, Chef Juan Penate, Perfecto Matos, Jr.
Giveaways	Will and Michele Smith, For the Least of These;
Hair	Mel Gueverra; Milissa Echols Regis Family of Brands
Housing	Jennifer Varsallona, HELP of Southern Nevada; Terry Lindemann, Family Promise, Bridget Claridy- WDC, Barbara Coggins
IT	Mark Matthews, Clark County, Steven McCombie
Job Readiness	Dan Ward, ManPower Inc
Legal, Courts	Suzi Truby, DA Family Support; Darlene Arndt
LVMPD/Court Records	TJ Gonzalez, LVMPD; Denise Smith
Media and Promotion	Dan Kulin, Clark County Public Communication
Medical, Dental, and Vision	Samantha Ford, Nevada Health Centers; Albert Aba
Metro	Sergeant Schofield, Officer Maria Fulwiler, and Officer Cindy Williams
Outreach	Mindy Torres, HELP of Southern Nevada, Ed Vega
Pets Chair	Colleen Duffy, CC Park and Rec; Meggan Holzer, Sandy Siebrecht
PHC Chair	Catherine Huang Hara & Michele Fuller Hallauer, CCSS, Divya Narala
Security	Eric Myers, Catholic Charities, Brandon Hallauer
Senior Services	Kathi Zamecki, Tricia Scharadin
Support and Information Booth	Rosa Cordova, Craig Kulas, & Vilma Mora, CCSS
Teens and Young Adults	Vincent Pollard, NPHY, Jenai Gaccione , HELP of Southern Nevada
Veterans	Deon Derby, US Vets; Cherie White Flower
Volunteers	Jacob Murdock, UWSN

Agenda Item 10. Receive an update from each board member regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness.

Melissa Clary, Huntridge Neighborhood Association, announced that they are partnering with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department in hosting the Neighborhood Resource Fair March 28th, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Huntridge Circle Park at Maryland Parkway and Charleston. The fair is an effort to coordinate all downtown historic neighborhoods. If agencies are interested in setting up tables at the event please contact the Huntridge Neighborhood Association. Ms. Clary shared that this is an excellent opportunity to network with individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Angela Marshall, Second Chance Christian Ministries, announced that their ministry will be volunteering for the Veterans Stand Down.

Tim Burch, Clark County Social Service, announced that Winter Night Shelter services will be ending on March 30th. This shelter opportunity provides sleeping accommodations during times of extreme cold. Summer Day Shelter will begin on May 1st and will run through September 30th. These services are provided at Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, and Shade Tree. Mr. Burch directs those with questions to Clark County Social Service staff for more information.

Agenda Item 11. Public Comment.

Merideth Spriggs, Caridad, announced their upcoming event “Undie Sunday” April 12th from 3-5 p.m. This event is a sock and underwear drive developed to safely collect and redistribute socks and underwear to those experiencing homelessness. Nacho Daddy locations are sponsoring the event and will be providing locations for donations to be collected. Items donated will be distributed by Salvation Army and The Shade Tree. Other agencies are encouraged to participate and can do so by contacting Ms. Spriggs at Caridad. Other agencies assisting with promotion and donations are Zappos and the Downtown Business Project. Church groups interested in participating are asked to bring items to any Nacho Daddy location, or Caridad will arrange for coordinated pick-up. Those interested can pick up a donation kit and flyers for distribution.

Phillip Hollon, Salvation Army, announced that they have applied for EFSP funding with the intention of continuing to operate Inclement Weather Shelter services through mid-May. Inclement Weather Shelter is a free overnight shelter service

for men and women. Mr. Hollon also announced that middle weight boxing champion Ishi Smith on February 23rd partnered with Baby Stacks Café to serve a brunch meal of eggs, pancakes, sausage and bacon meal to those receiving meal services at Catholic Charities. Mr. Smith is a Durango High School graduate and wanted to give back to his community with this event. Mr. Hollon also announced that after a recent toy convention, Toy Fest and the Toy Industry Foundation partnered to pick-up left over toy items and donated them to the Salvation Army Family Services Division. Hundreds of toy were donated and will assist in serving local families during the holidays. Mr. Hollon also provided an update of the renovations being done at the Lied Bridge Unit apartments. A \$120,000 donation was received to assist in purchasing new appliances, window coverings, and floor coverings for each unit. The Crossing Church volunteered their time and talents to paint and convert the units into apartments. These units will provide additional housing to Southern Nevada and the plan is for them to become available in the second quarter of this year. Mr. Hollon also made a shout out to the City of Las Vegas. They have been providing individuals and families information cards to direct them toward services during street outreach. Mr. Hollon shared that recently a mother and her son received a card and showed up for a community meal with the card in hand. Mr. Hollon shared that this is an excellent way to direct clients with immediate needs to services. Mr. Hollon also reported a similar event that included a Veteran and his wife who received the card, showed up to Salvation Army and was immediately referred to the VA CRRC. This couple was able to be placed into housing within one week. Lastly, Mr. Hollon asked to give a shout out to Caridad for the opportunity to participate in “Undie Sunday”.

The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.