

Mayor's Faith Initiative
Homeless Workgroup Session -02/25/13, Revised 2/28/13

On February 25, 2013, three workgroup members outlined the following items as ways in which the faith community may serve the homeless population and/or become more knowledgeable about current service provision.

Mission:

The mission is to inform and educate faith leaders about existing services to homeless populations and identify ways in which the faith community may assist in the provision services not currently being provided.

How can the faith community assist?

Service

- Serving Saturdays (monthly—food distribution/services)
- “Move in” baskets (furniture, deposits, food)
- Hygiene/ toiletry items
- Socks/t-shirts/Underwear
- Snacks (Greyhound trips)
- Clothing
- Ministering
- Mentors for Family Promise CPOD program
- Financial Support for valid identification (birth certificates, driver's license, etc) (new at meeting)

Outreach

- **How:** partnership with service providers, outreach teams and during special events.
- **What:** providing water, hygiene items, socks, counseling/prayer and information to homeless.

Sheltering

- Compassion Stations-Temporary Shelter during inclement weather/heat/cold
- Motel/hotel vouchers
- Marketing/promotion to faith groups needed

Events

- Project Homeless Connect (Nov. 19, 2013, Regional Effort/Nevada Homeless Alliance)
- Family Connect (Homeless Providers—May 2013)
- January Census (January 2014, Southern Nevada)

- Mini-Connects (City of Las Vegas)
- Veterans Stand downs (US Vets organization)

Homeless Summit (May 2013?) Location? City Hall/Training Rooms? Or ELV CC PRESENTATION (National Speaker to talk about other successful communities??)

- HEARTH Act
- Cities/Counties –
 - How Funding for homelessness administered?
 - Who participates on Regional Board?
 - Funding cycle, distribution to nonprofit organizations, types of services funded
 - **How the faith community can help?**

PANEL DISCUSSION: SHELTER ORGANIZATIONS

- Funding, programs, FEEDING times,
 - Las Vegas Rescue Mission
 - Salvation Army
 - Catholic Charities
 - **HOW the faith community can help:**

STREET FEEDING OF THE HOMELESS POPULATION

- Describe Process followed by SOME OF THE faith community
 - Bacteria-borne illnesses, Types of foods not recommended
 - Impact on neighborhoods, businesses
 - Alternative methods needed
 - St. Timothy's in Henderson—Good model
 - Video/CLV story/ to show during event
 - Volunteers needed develop procedure (cities/faith community approved)

PANEL DISCUSSION: NEVADA HOMELESS ALLIANCE

- Stacy Sutton Pollard to coordinate
 - Service Providers Present about services
 - **How the Faith Community can help**

LINK TO RESOURCES

- HMIS
- Service Providers (available to contact during event)
- Faith partners

CELEBRATE SUCCESSES