

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 8, 2018**

**In attendance:** Emily Paulsen, Co-Vice Chair, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance  
Arash Ghafouri, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth  
Christy Shannon, Social Service Provider, S.A.F.E. Nest  
Carlton Craig, University, UNLV  
Donna Jordan, Mental Health Provider, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Erin Kinard, Health Care Provider  
Jamie Cruz, Workforce Investment, Workforce Connections  
Joycelyn Jackson, Alternate, Homeless or Formerly Homeless, Silver State Health Services  
Jon Stevenson, Alternate, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue  
Julie Calloway, Government, City of Boulder City  
Kena Adams, Advocate, Indian Voices  
Kevin Sharps, Affordable Housing, Nevada HAND  
Laure Raposa, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority  
Lorena Candelario, Government, City of North Las Vegas  
Mandy Martin, Business, Las Vegas Sands  
Meg Pike, Clark County School District  
Mel Frailey, Alternate, Law Enforcement, Las Vegas Metro Police Department  
Melissa Clary, Advocate, Huntridge Neighborhood Association  
Michael Pawlak, Government, Clark County Social Service  
Peter McCoy, Veteran Service Provider, VA Community Resource and Referral Center  
Stacy DiNicola, Alternate, City of Henderson  
Taylor Hough, Touro University Nevada  
Troy Oglesbee, Faith-Based, Save A Life

**Absent:** Arnold Stalk, Business, Arnold Stalk Consulting  
Henry Sneed, Faith-Based, City of Las Vegas Mayor's Faith Initiative  
Monica Gresser, Business, Brazen Architecture  
Robert Dawson, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada  
Shalimar Cabrera, Co-Chair, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas  
Siloh Moses, Homeless or Formerly Homeless, Serving Hope LV  
Stephen Harsin, Government, City of Las Vegas  
Vacant, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada

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

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board was called to order at 2:08 p.m., on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at United Way of Southern Nevada, 5830 W. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89103.

**Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.**

No public comment

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for March 8, 2018; for possible action.**

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was approved.

**Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the January 11, 2018 meeting; for possible action.**

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

**Agenda Item 5. Update by co-chairs on recent activities of the Steering Committee; for possible action.**

Meg Pike, Clark County School District, provided updates from the steering committee meeting that was held on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at City Hall. One business seat on the board is currently vacant and should be filled. Chairs will reach out to all members who were absence from meetings and remind them of the 70% participation requirement. The planning working group will work with the collaborative applicant to create a new census subgroup. Agenda items that will be tabled for the next steering committee meeting are the homeless trust fund, COC governance decision-making, delegation status update, workgroup accountability reports and the youth homelessness demonstration project grant.

**Agenda Item 6. Update on the awards from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2017 Continuum of Care competition; for possible action.**

Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, provided results from the FY 2017 COC Competition Awards. We were funded at 95% of the total request; we originally requested \$14,273,814 and received \$13,597,125. We lost one tier 2 project in the competition, which is Keeping Families Together 2 – Reallocation. We have a number of new projects, one of which includes having dedicated beds to domestic violence for our current COC; it will be a rapid re-housing project with Safe Nest. We had a total of \$4 million in reallocated projects in this competition. We brought back St. Judes Ranch – New Crossings project which had previously been lost in the last competition. We have a new coordinated entry supportive service only project with help of southern Nevada, which will help us staff our matching components of coordinated entry and an Expansion 2 project for HMIS. We lost 50 beds in this year's competition, leaving us with 856 total beds in our COC funded programs. We lost 50 units, which equates to hundred beds from last year's competition.

**Agenda Item 7. Update on the 2018 Board Orientation Training; for possible action.**

Meg Pike, Clark County School District, shared that the most recent board orientation was held on February 8<sup>th</sup> from 2 pm – 5 pm at Clark County Social Service, 7 board members RSVP'd, 5 attended. There was good discussion in the board orientation training.

**Agenda Item 8. Update from the Monitoring Working Group on the Training Report, forms, and materials; for possible action.**

Karen Schneider, Clark County Social Service, reported on the recent chronic homelessness documentation training. The Monitoring Working Group adopted HUD's recommended documentation protocols for recording and documenting homelessness for usage by all COC funded programs. It is specific to HUD's definition of chronic homelessness. HUD defines a person as chronically homeless if they have a verifiable disability and have lived in a shelter, safe haven or place not meant for human habitation for 12 continuous months or for 4 separate occasions in the last three years, totaling 12 months. Beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> documentation forms needed to be completed and on file for any new clients. By July 1<sup>st</sup> all clients served within the current funding year need to have the new forms included in their client file and the monitoring working group will be monitoring for this when they complete their desk audits of all COC funded programs this spring. In order to better prepare homeless service providers in the community on the homelessness documentation requirements, the monitoring working group provided required training to ensure complete understanding of all COC funded programs. Two sessions were held at Clark County Social Service on February 8<sup>th</sup> and February 12<sup>th</sup>. During the sessions the definition of chronic homelessness was reviewed, the documentation checklist was shared, step-by-step guidance on completing the checklist was provided and required documentation templates were distributed.

**Agenda Item 9. Presentation on Built for Zero and the next action plan; for possible action.**

Emily Paulsen, Nevada Homeless Alliance, presented on Built for Zero, which was described as a national movement where Southern Nevada is one of 70 communities that's receiving technical assistance and coaching from Community Solutions. They aide in developing our strategies and helping us learn about what other communities are doing in adopting their best practices. The goal in Southern Nevada is to become the first large city in the nation to end chronic homelessness. The progress that we've made over the last action cycle is with our housing campaign. We have an issue with not having enough housing resources in our community to house people on permit supportive housing which is the most appropriate intervention in most cases for those people who are experiencing chronic homelessness. We developed a fundraising pitch, raised a pledge for 10 units, Nevada Community Foundation came on as our fiscal agent for the fund and we have a new website being developed that will have a live dashboard showing our progress. The expected launch date is March 15<sup>th</sup>. Over the next action cycle our aim is to reduce our by name list to 450 people by June 30, 2018 by increasing housing placements and reducing inflow. We plan to add a new Bridge Housing Development. We have created a diversion sub-working group for the Built for Zero initiative. It's a group of community members who will be meeting bi-weekly to begin the pilot project. Arash Ghafoori, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, asked who are the donors giving the money to? Ms. Paulsen, we selected three supportive housing providers to take on the additional units and receive the funding. Those partners are Hope of Southern Nevada, U.S. Vets Las Vegas and Lutheran Social Services of Southern Nevada. The Nevada Community Foundation as the fiduciary agent will be responsible for the donations and dispersing it to the three agencies.

Peter McCoy, VA Community Resource and Referral Center, reported that they are aiming to reduce the by name list from 474 to 374 for veterans by June 26, 2018. The drivers are to reduce inflow and accelerate housing placements. The HUD/VASH case managers will work closely with the outreach teams to ensure that Veterans are permanently housed within 90 days of assessment. The next meeting will be held on April 17<sup>th</sup> at Clark County Social Service, at 1pm.

**Agenda Item 10. Ratify submission of the technical assistance application submitted to HUD for Moving On; for possible action.**

Brooke Page, Clark County Social Service, reported that the Moving On Initiative is a sub working group of the Built for Zero efforts. In order for us to end chronic homelessness we have to ensure that our system is healthy and that we are moving our current supportive housing units in a flow. In order for that flow to happen, we have to be able to have places for our most vulnerable clients to go. Moving On is about us working with our case managers in the field to identify who on their caseloads are essentially ready to move up to an affordable housing situation and not require the intensive supportive housing that they currently are receiving. We are

receiving some tools from CSH, which is the Corporation for Supportive Housing international non-profit that we look to for best practices on how to do this work and we have been working to figure out how to use those tools in our community. One of the steps we've taken is to determine who is ready to move on, how the case manager can assess their caseload to make that determination. We also are bringing our housing providers to the table, the landlords and the section 8 multi-family housing divisions with HUD having conversations about our clients that are in supportive housing being moved up into a Section 8 opportunity. We have received approval from HUD that allows our clients that are in supportive housing to still be considered homeless and be able to move in using a homeless preference. On February 12<sup>th</sup> HUD submitted a request for proposals for us and anybody in the community that wants technical assistance on how to start a Moving On initiative. It was due March 5<sup>th</sup>. We submitted on February 26<sup>th</sup> and will find out on the 23<sup>rd</sup> if we are one of those communities selected for that technical assistance.

A motion was made to ratify the approval of the submission of the technical assistance application to HUD for Moving On. The motion was approved.

**Agenda Item 11. Approval of HMIS (Homelessness Management Information System) data sharing agreements related to FUSE (Frequent Users of Systems Engagement); for possible action.**

Brooke Page, Clark County Social Service, reported that back in May 2017 Clark County was selected as one of four communities across the country to receive technical assistance to develop an integrated assessment tool. Part of this work is for us to share our homeless management information database, with our CSH provider and technical assistance arm, which is the University of Chicago who is helping us to develop a tool that is similar to the one that Bitfocus has already developed for community. In order for us to see how that tool works, we have to be able to share data and transfer the data to them. I'm asking for this body to consider the collaborative applicant to have authority to work with our attorneys and the attorneys from University of Chicago to come up with a data sharing agreement that allows for us to share our homeless management information system data with the University of Chicago and to transfer the data to their tool. The University of Chicago is developing the tool and there working through all the kinks with their engineer's.

A motion was made to approve data sharing with the University of Chicago. The motion was approved.

**Agenda Item 12. Presentation on the Chapin Hall Longitudinal Study on Youth Homelessness; for possible action.**

Arash Ghafoori, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, shared the results of the longitudinal study called Missed Opportunities, produced by Chapin Hall at The University of Chicago that was conducted on homelessness in America. Missed Opportunities is the first study of its kind to evaluate the scope of youth homelessness on a national scale. 26,161 people participated in the survey, including households with youth from ages 13 to 25, individual youth ages 18 to 25 who have experienced homelessness and 150 people who reported any youth homelessness. Five of the major discoveries are 1. Youth homelessness is a broad and hidden challenge. 2. Youth homelessness involves diverse experiences and circumstances. 3. Prevention and early intervention are essential. 4. Youth homelessness affects urban and rural youth at the same levels. 5. Some youth are at greater risk of experiencing homelessness. On November 15, 2017, National Public Radio, All Things Considered program featured a discussion about major findings in the Missed Opportunities report and how youth homelessness affects the Southern Nevada community. Some recommendations that came out of this study are, conduct national estimates of youth homelessness biennially, fund housing, services, outreach targeted to homeless youth to the scale of need and accounting for youth with specialized needs; Build up prevention efforts for systems- involved youth, those in rolled in schools, child welfare and juvenile justice systems; Tailor programs and services to fit the diverse needs of homeless youth; Develop strategies to address the disproportionate risks amongst specific subpopulations of homeless youth. For more information please visit <http://www.chapinhall.org/voyc> or <http://voicesofyouthcount.org/brief/national-estimates-of-youth-homelessness/>

**Agenda Item 13. Discussion and approval to apply for the HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project by the Youth Working Group in collaboration with the Continuum of Care Collaborative Applicant to complete necessary tasks and submit by April 17, 2018; for possible action.**

Brenda Herbstman, representing the youth working group and the collaborative applicant, shared that HUD has offered an opportunity to receive money and funding to prevent and end youth homelessness. The goal of FY17 YHDP is to support 11 communities, at least 5 of which will be rural in the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness. Each selected community will be awarded \$1,000,000 plus a percentage of \$32,000,000 based on the percentage of all youth among selected communities that reside in each selected community and the poverty rate of each community. Based on approximate population compared to FY16 communities, Las Vegas/Clark County may be awarded \$4 – \$5 million. Important dates are, March 28<sup>th</sup> submit the application to our internal process of Clark County Social Service; Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – All commitment forms submitted to Brenda ([herbstmb@clarkcountynv.gov](mailto:herbstmb@clarkcountynv.gov)); Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – All letters of commitment submitted to Brenda by 5 pm. Friday; March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Final draft will be available for review on HelpHopeHome.org; Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> – All feedback and suggestions submitted to Brenda by 5 pm; Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – SNH CoC Board Approval for Collaborative Applicant (Clark County Social Service) to submit application on behalf of the SNH CoC; Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Clark County Board of County Commissioners approves application and Collaborative Applicant submits the complete application.

There are three levels of support that you can give to the YHDP: Stakeholder, Capacity Resource, or YHDP Team Member. Please review each description and select one or more roles for your agency, program, or community partner over the next week and decide what your agency can make a commitment to. If you know someone or another agency that is not represented here but is a stakeholder please share this information with them. You can find the forms on the Help Hope Home website and you can share that information.

A motion was made to consider applying for this application and for the youth working group and collaborative applicant to bring back the application for approval to the next board meeting before the due date. This motion was approved.

**Agenda Item 14. Questions and answers regarding reports from the Board working groups (Community Engagement, Coordinated Entry, Evaluation, HMIS, Monitoring, and Planning)**

Emily Paulsen, shared, if you would like to receive the COC Help Hope Home newsletter, send a text to 22828. It will automatically respond for you to type in your email address and going forward you will receive the newsletter. You can also sign up on the Facebook page for Help Hope Home. The development of the speaker's bureau is paused for a few months, but we are having an orientation for the speakers within the month.

Arash Ghafoori, reported that the youth working group is working on some major endeavors such as convening a community wide youth homelessness planning project and working on a youth advisory board so that youth will be able to represent themselves, their interests and make their identities of who they are known.

Troy Oglesbee, Save A Life, reported that Captain Chavez, at the downtown area command, has asked members of the Faith Based community to ride along in the homeless area to help assist the officers as they talk to the homeless, asking if they want any assistance through the faith based community. In the event that they do want assistance, I will be riding along for 2 to 3 times per week and we will be able to provide an array of services through the church organizations that I am a part of. On March 31<sup>st</sup> along with Metro, UNLV and Southern Nevada Health District, we are going to provide a community affair.

**Agenda Item 15. Receive an update from each board member regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness**

Meg Pike, Clark County School District, shared that on June 5<sup>th</sup> the homeless outreach program for education with CCSD, will be holding the second annual mini conference at UNLV. The main target audience is CCSD employees and they will be asked to spread awareness about homelessness in our community and our school district. There will be service providers there and staff from our department presenting as well.

Arash Ghafoori, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, announced that their Homeless Youth Bowling Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Suncoast.

Emily Paulsen, Nevada Homeless Alliance, announced that the Family Connect event will be held at Cambridge Recreation Center from 2 pm - 7 pm. Pop Up Project Homeless Connect is continuing on a monthly basis on the third Tuesday of every month, from 10 am - 2 pm.

Jon Stevenson, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue announced that the sex trafficking awareness training for fire units and personnel, was on Monday and the training will wrap up on Saturday. Over 1200 people will be trained in the Fire, EMS, and other related fields. There will be a documentary viewing of the story of an internationally renowned sex trafficking survivor who is going to talk about her story, a panelist discussion with Q&A and a keynote speech.

**Agenda Item 16. Public Comment**

Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, announced that there will be an all COC provider meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at Clark County Social Service, 1600 Pinto Lane. The Partner Agency Data Lead meeting will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 at Clark County Social Service.

Brooke Page, Clark County Social Service, shared that there is an upcoming re-entry summit that is taking place on April 25, 2018 from 9 am – 4 pm.

Juan Salinas, The Salvation Army, shared that on March 14<sup>th</sup>, Walmart Neighborhood Market is sponsoring a meal and they plan on serving about 850 people of the homeless population in the corridor of the HOPE area from 2:30 to 4:30.

**The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.**