

Southern Nevada CoC

Encampments and Unsheltered Technical Assistance Engagement

Revised January 2019

Southern Nevada CoC was selected in 2018 to receive HUD technical assistance focused on decreasing the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Over the next year and a half, The Cloudburst Group and Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), in partnership with national partners including HUD, National Alliance to End Homelessness, and USICH, will be working with Southern Nevada CoC to identify ways to understand who is experiencing unsheltered homelessness and why, what resources are in use to help, and where new or modified approaches could be implemented with a goal of decreasing the number of people living through the crisis of unsheltered homelessness.

Phase 1: The Environmental Scan

The first phase of the technical assistance was to conduct an environmental scan where several stakeholders in Southern Nevada CoC shared perspectives on those experiencing unsheltered homelessness and potential solutions. After the feedback from stakeholders was received by HUD, specific suggestions for technical assistance were formulated by HUD, NAEH, and USICH, and negotiated with leadership in Southern Nevada CoC. Two initial priorities were identified during that process:

- Conduct a formative evaluation of current strategies being implemented with a specific focus on impacts associated with transitioning people into stable, permanent housing.
- Select at least one of the strategies for testing, scaling up and testing, or create a new initiative – answer the question does it work the way we think it is going to work.
- Develop a resource and housing model to project the need for interventions that will reduce the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Phase 2: The Southern Nevada CoC Initial Technical Assistance Approach

The TA Team has been compiling information from multiple local and regional sources. The Team has joined in on community calls, gathered community specific data & reports, and had numerous conversations with stakeholders. A more robust TA Plan is in development for the initial priorities outlined above. These plans are a starting point for the TA and more will be added over time.

- The TA team will work with local stakeholders to identify and test strategies to try to increase exits of individuals from unsheltered homelessness achieved through both County and City outreach teams and related efforts. This work will be implemented in the following phases:
 - a. Using available data, assess current outreach efforts independently, recognizing different models being implemented, differences in outcomes currently being sought and measured, and other differences.

- b. Identify strategies and activities to increase exits to permanent housing to be implemented within each current model, such as by implementing flexible funding, problem-solving strategies, rapid rehousing, and/or stronger connections to existing permanent housing options, and other possible interventions.
- c. Pilot identified strategies and activities, and assess impact and revise strategies on an on-going basis using continuous quality improvement approaches and based upon improved information about needs and characteristics of population documented through implementation process.

An additional TA Priority for all communities receiving the Unsheltered and Encampment TA is related to understanding the population experiencing homelessness through data collection and analysis. The group of TA Providers, HUD, USICH, NAEH, and the communities will work together to identify opportunities for growth related to data collection and analysis through the creation of a data dashboard. The TA Team will work with Southern Nevada CoC on enhancing the data dashboard to collect and analyze data that is specific to the work happening in Southern Nevada CoC. The TA team will also find targeted ways to support the ongoing collection of data through the Census/Point-in-Time Count and other identified areas.

Phase 3: Next Steps and Coordination

The initial efforts will evolve over the course of the technical assistance engagement. In addition to the areas outlined in Phase 2, the TA team will be in constant dialogue with both HUD and leadership in the Southern Nevada CoC to identify additional places that TA expertise can be utilized to support the crisis response system and decrease the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

It is the intention of the TA Team to coordinate all our efforts with other activities happening in the Southern Nevada CoC (such as the National Alliance to End Homelessness Learning Collaborative) focused on emergency shelter operation) that have a direct impact on unsheltered homelessness.

The TA Team would welcome any feedback, questions, or community members that would like to say hello. Each team member's contact information is below:

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