

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 8, 2020**

**In attendance:** Arash Ghafoori, Co-Chair, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth  
Albert Chavez, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada  
Annie Wilson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Christiana Houck, Business, Gaming, Aristocrat Gaming  
David Perez, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada  
Emily Paulsen, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance  
Hassan Chandry, Business, Foresight Housing Partners  
Jaini Christison, Alternate, Government, City of North Las Vegas  
JoAnn Rupiper, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District  
Jocelyn Bluitt-Fisher, Government, City of Las Vegas  
Jon Stevenson, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue  
Julie Calloway, Government, City of Boulder City  
Kelly Swan, Business, Renew Therapeutic Enhancement Services  
Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County  
Meg Pike, School District, Clark County School District  
Peter McCoy, Veteran Service Provider, Veterans Administration  
Ralph Murphy, Alternate, Affordable Housing, Nevada HAND  
Rebecca Edgeworth, Alternate, Healthcare Provider, Touro University Nevada  
Shalimar Cabrera, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas  
Stacy DiNicola, Government, City of Henderson  
Taisacan Hall, Homeless or Formerly Homeless, Young Adults in Charge  
Tracy Torrence, Alternate, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority  
Troy Oglesbee, Faith-Based, Save a Life

**Absent:** Alletha Muzorewa, Workforce Investment, Workforce Connections  
Carlton Craig, University, University of Nevada Las Vegas  
Genese Jones-Torrence, S.A.F.E. Nest  
Jennifer Harris, Homeless or Formerly Homeless  
Kena Adams, Advocate, Indian Voices  
Lavonne Atkins, Mental Health Provider, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Phil Washington, Faith-Based, Promise Land Community Church  
Vera Moore, Advocate, True Beginnings

**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 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2020 via WebEx.

**Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.**

No comments were posed to the Board.

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020; for possible action.**

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

**Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 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.**

Arash Ghafoori, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, provided an update on the activities of the Steering Committee. At the last Steering Committee meeting, the Committee discussed and reviewed PIT count data and addressed concerns regarding the new methodology used during the 2020 Census. The Committee also reviewed presentations for the upcoming SNHCoc Board meeting.

**Agenda Item 6. Update by the Data and Systems Improvement Working Group on the 2020 Southern Nevada Homeless Census; for possible action.**

Stacy DiNicola, Government, City of Henderson, shared with the Board an updated draft of the one-sheeter, which contains a breakdown of the Point-in-Time (PIT) count numbers from the 2020 Homeless Census. The Data and Systems Improvement working group has been meeting with veteran and youth homeless providers to discuss concerns regarding the youth and veteran PIT count data. In August, a lower number was presented to the board for the youth count than the current youth count, which is 489. All other

data presented in August has not changed upon further review. The Data and Systems Improvement Working Group has decided it would be best to share some messaging regarding the PIT count data. The message can be found on the Help Hope Home website. Michele Fuller Hallauer, Government, Clark County Social Service, stated that when direction was given to go forward with the new methodology, it was done with the acknowledgment that there would be some challenges in comparing historical data with new data that was collected using new methodology. However, improvements continue to be made to ensure that we can provide the most accurate data to the community.

**Agenda Item 7. Presentation by Clark County School District Title I Homeless Outreach Program for Education (HOPE) regarding the current school year; for possible action.**

Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District, shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding Title I HOPE and the current school year. The Title I Homeless Outreach Program for Education of the Clark County School District works to remove barriers for homeless students to enroll in school and educates school personnel, parents, and unaccompanied youth of the educational options under the McKinney-Vento federal law. The McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness refers to children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes any child or youth who is unsheltered, residing in a shelter or Transitional Housing program, doubled-up, or living in a hotel or motel. Parents also have the opportunity to self-identify as homeless at the time of registration. Procedures are also in place to help determine eligibility throughout the school year. Parents can complete registration online, or they can make an appointment at school for assistance. Title I HOPE allows students to attend their school of origin, which refers to the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including preschool. Transportation is issued for students on the school of origin in alignment with CCSD transportation regulations. This includes CCSD busses and RTC passes. However, all transportation is on hold during distance learning. To remove barriers with communication, Title I HOPE is currently offering Summer Training through CCSD clerks and registrars, Title I HOPE CIT Advocates, and CCSD administrators. Forms are now available on-line. The Family Support Center was formed during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that all CCSD students have access to the internet. The Family Support Center helps to provide connection devices, hotspots, and Cox internet set up. Parents or students can pick up devices/hotspots at their designated school. Title I HOPE and the Family Support Center collaboration began on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Title I HOPE provides reports per school to determine who is coded and who has or needs devices/internet. The Support Center calls every household on the list to take inventory of all children in the household to ensure that all students in the household have access to the internet. As of October 2, 2020, there are a total of 8,497 students enrolled in the Title I HOPE program.

Arash Ghafoori asked how many students were enrolled in the Title I HOPE program last year. Ms. Pike responded that enrollment is down by 10,000 students this year. Mr. Ghafoori asked when a youth is identified through McKinney-Vento, how long does that designation last. Ms. Pike responded that once a youth is identified, the designation lasts for the entire school year and then restarts as unidentified for the next school year.

**Agenda Item 8. Update by the Southern Nevada Health District on the new non-congregate shelter for Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) isolation; for possible action.**

Dr. Courtland Lohff, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), shared a PowerPoint presentation on SNHD's new non-congregate shelter for COVID-19 isolation and recovery. The build out began in April 2020 and it received the first client on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The facility has 29 beds and is located on the main campus of the Southern Nevada Health District at 280 S. Decatur Blvd. The facility is for COVID-19 positive clients who need a safe place to isolate but don't require hospitalization. This includes clients experiencing homelessness, clients who live in crowded households, clients who live in households with a high-risk individual, clients who live or stay in congregate shelters, and visitors. The Isolation and Recovery facility is part of an overall response plan to help reduce the demand on hospitals and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community. Clients must be 18 years or older, have a positive COVID-19 test and are still within their infectious period and be able to perform their activities of daily living (ADL's). The facility provides 24/7 nursing care, case managers, private space with bed and linens, bathrooms and showers, and three meals a day as well as snacks. New clients are accepted daily from 10am-8pm. If the client is accepted, either the client or the facility referring the client will need to arrange for transportation.

Jon Stevenson, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire, and Rescue asked does the facility accept asymptomatic and symptomatic clients. Dr. Lohff responded that the facility accepts asymptomatic and symptomatic clients. Deputy Chief Stevenson asked if the facility accept clients that are in a wheelchair. Dr. Lohff responded that the facility does accept people in wheelchairs as long as they can perform activities of daily living (ADLs).

**Agenda Item 9. Update on local response to and recovery from Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19); for possible action.**

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service provided an update on the County's response to COVID-19. The CARES rental assistance program is still active. The program has utilized 16 providers to provide assistance to 4000 households. The CHAP portal will be going live soon. The County is looking to hire temporary workers to help facilitate applications for the CHAP program. The Basic Need Assistance program funds are going out to the community. Through the Basic Needs program, United Way is providing child care, Three Square is providing meals on wheels for seniors, and the Boys and Girls Club is providing programs for youth. The County is still providing non-congregate shelter through WellCare and Help of Southern Nevada (HOSN). The deadline for the CARES funding is December 31<sup>st</sup>. If the deadline is not extended, other funding sources will have to be used. CBDG and ESG funds are currently being applied towards Rapid Rehousing programs. Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District, asked if Clark County is going to advertise the temporary positions for the CHAP program. Ms. Cooper responded that the job announcements will be available soon on the Clark County website.

JoAnn Rupiper, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District, provided an update on SNHD's response to COVID-19. SNHD is continuing with community testing and outreach. With the help of HELP of Southern Nevada, SNHD has been providing testing within the encampments as well as providing the flu vaccine for the community.

Stacy DiNicola, Government City of Henderson, provided an update on Henderson's response to COVID-19. The City of Henderson (COH) has kicked off a housing assistance program. COH has partnered with HopeLink to provide housing assistance to those that are in need. For more information or to apply, individuals can visit the COH website or HopeLink.org. The program is being funded by the CARES program.

Jocelyn Bluiitt-Fisher, Government, City of Las Vegas, provided an update on Las Vegas' response to COVID-19. The City of Las Vegas's medical respite center is now open and accepting clients. The medical center has 38 beds available and accepts referrals from hospitals and community partners as well as outreach agencies. The facility is not for COVID positive individuals. Ms. Cooper asked if the facility accepts clients that have psychiatric or behavioral issues. Ms. Bluiitt-Fisher responded that the facility does accept clients with psychiatric and behavioral issues as long as they are stabilized.

Jaini Christison, Government, City of North Las Vegas, provided an update on North Las Vegas' response to COVID-19. The City of North Las Vegas has trained the Library Assistants to help Clark County get through the backlog of North Las Vegas residents applying for rental assistance through the CHAP program. Once the County is caught up, CNLV will start a rental assistance program for North Las Vegas.

**Agenda Item 10. Questions and answers regarding reports from the Board Working Groups (Community Engagement, Coordinated Entry, Data and Systems Improvement, Evaluation, Monitoring, Planning, Youth); for possible action.**

Jocelyn Bluiitt-Fisher, Government, City of Las Vegas, reminded that if there are any recommended changes or updates to the governance structure, please forward it to the Governance Working Group by the end of November. The Membership Working Group is currently accepting applications for Board membership. Board members who are at term can re-apply for their seats by updating their application. Meg Pike, Clark County School District, asked is there a way the group can get a copy of the Board memberships that are expiring. Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, responded that she will send a copy to board members via email.

**Agenda Item 11. Receive an update from Board members regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness; for possible action.**

Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District, shared with the Board that there are currently 13,287 homeless students enrolled in CCSD.

Taisican Hall, Advocate, Young Adults in Charge (YAC), shared that YAC has shifted efforts towards the election and focusing on eliminating obstacles that make it difficult for youth to vote. The 2020 Youth Homeless Summit will take place on November 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Arash Ghafoori, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, shared that NPHY will be hosting a "Get Out and Vote" campaign. The "Get Out and Vote" campaign will be providing information on the candidates, voting rules, and how to get to voting sites.

Emily Paulsen, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance shared information regarding the Pop-up Youth Homeless Connect. This event will take place on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm at the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth Drop center. On Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. NHA will hold another Pop-up event from 9am-12 pm at Harvest Church. NHA is also be hosting a Policy and Roundtable on Homelessness and Healthcare on Tuesday October 13, from 10-11:30am. NHA has launched the Fall Learning Series for anyone in the community that is interested in free training. Interested parties can sign up on the NHA website. The Rape Crisis Center will be hosting a Human Trafficking 101 training for Service Providers, and registration for this is also available on the NHA website.

Shalimar Cabrera, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas shared that the Benefit will be held on Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow.

**Agenda Item 12. Public Comments**

Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, shared that Nevada Legal Aid is offering workshops regarding the CDC Moratorium. There is a workshop today at 4 pm and one on Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. For more information, please email Christine Miller at [cmiller@lcsn.org](mailto:cmiller@lcsn.org). An update from HUD explained that there are extensions and updates to the mega waivers. Information will be sent out to CoC Providers regarding the notification process for these mega waivers. In regards to the definition of homelessness for people coming out of institutions, typically the length of stay should be no longer than 90 days. It is now being extended to 120 days. More information will be sent out regarding CoC specific mega waivers.

**The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.**