

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 11, 2021**

**In attendance:** Albert Chavez, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada  
Chad Williams, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority  
David Perez, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada  
Emily Paulsen, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance  
Genese Jones-Torrence, Social Service Provider, S.A.F.E Nest  
Jennifer Huse, Mental Health Provider, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Jocelyn Acevedo, Alternate, Affordable Housing, Nevada HAND  
Julie Calloway, Co-Chair, Government, City of Boulder City  
Kena Adams, Co-Vice Chair, Advocate, Indian Voices  
Kristin Cooper, Co-Vice Chair, Government, Clark County  
Liz Jarman, Veteran Service Provider, Veterans Administration  
Maurice Cloutier, Government, City of Las Vegas  
Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District  
Michelle Johnston, Alternate, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas  
Rick Damian, Government, City of North Las Vegas  
Stacy DiNicola, Government, City of Henderson  
Taisacan Hall, Advocate, Young Adults in Charge  
Vera Moore, Advocate, True Beginnings

**Absent:** Annie Wilson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Arash Ghafoori, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth  
Hassan Chandry, Co-Chair, Business, Foresight Housing Partners  
Jennifer Harris, Homeless or Formerly Homeless  
JoAnn Rupiper, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District  
Jon Stevenson, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue  
Katherine Marcal, University, University of Nevada Las Vegas  
Kyle O'Connell-Mock, Business, Gaming, Aristocrat Gaming  
Phil Washington, Faith-Based, Promise Land Community Church  
Rebecca Edgeworth, Healthcare Provider, Touro University Nevada  
Robbie DeBuff, Workforce Investment, Workforce Connections  
Troy Oglesbee, Faith-Based, Destiny Church

**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, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via WebEx.

**Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.**

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Clark County Social Service, on behalf of the Nevada Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness and its Technical Sub-Committee, announced that the committee is looking for new members with experience as a homeless service provider or persons with lived experience. The committee is also accepting members that are stakeholders in addressing homelessness and housing issues across the state of Nevada. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the Nevada Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness Technical Sub-Committee, please contact the Homeless and Housing Unit with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services directly or you can email Michele Fuller-Hallauer at [MHF@clarkcountynv.gov](mailto:MHF@clarkcountynv.gov).

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021; 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 14<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.**

Julie Calloway, Government, City of Boulder City, provided an update on the recent activities of the Steering Committee. At the last meeting, the Steering Committee discussed potential February agenda items, new Board member orientation, Operation HOME, and Covid-19 response. The Committee also discussed a request from Young Adults in Charge (YAC) to receive a stipend for work performed.

**Agenda Item 6. Update by the Collaborative Applicant on relevant business of the Continuum of Care; for possible action.**

Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, provided an update on the relevant business of the Continuum of Care. The team did receive a notification of award a couple of Fridays ago for the 2020 competition, as previously mentioned, HUD received congressional approval to move forward with renewing projects without requiring a competition for last year due to COVID-19. The team did receive the list of projects, therefore any project that was awarded during the 2019 competition continued to be awarded this year. Grant agreements are anticipated to start coming out from the San Francisco field office. The field office team will have to set up the funding inside of the ELOCCS (Electronic Line of Credit Control System) before they can process agreements and send them out to providers. This year, housing providers may have a slight change to their amount than was originally requested because there is an adjustment made from fair market rent. The SNHCoC was awarded just under \$15 million, and the team anticipates that there will be a 2021 competition. HUD mentioned that they are trying to resume the schedule that they had in previous years of roughly a spring to summer NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) released with application due by the fall. The team will be providing technical assistance training for the application to assist any new agencies that are interested in applying so they can be ready to respond to the local application and any extenuating questions that might be in the consolidated application. The team is also anticipating that there will still be a youth homeless demonstration program NOFA. No update has been provided regarding when that will be released. Aside from funding being awarded, there were mega waivers that were provided the last couple of quarters for CoC-funded agencies as well as the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), HOME and HOPWA to allow for some flexibility in how services are being provided. Some mega waivers will expire at the end of March. HUD is keenly aware of that, so they are looking at the option of potentially extending those mega waivers.

**Agenda Item 7. Presentation by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Las Vegas Field Office on the Section 3 Economic Opportunities requirement; for possible action.**

Mimi Woodruff, Senior Program Analyst for Las Vegas HUD Field Office, shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Section 3 Economic Opportunities requirement. The purpose of Section 3 is to ensure that the employment and other economic opportunities generated by federal financial assistance for housing and community development programs, shall to the greatest extent feasible be directed toward low and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for the housing Urban Development act of 1968. Section 3 is not just a grantee requirement; it is a path to self-sufficiency. Section 3 is not a program it is a provision of HUD's law. The law is supported by regulation. In September 2020, the final rule was published and in July 2021 compliance by new regulation will begin. The final rule seeks to improve effectiveness in several ways: reporting metrics; aligning reporting standard business practices; Promoting employment and career development; and changing thresholds for Section 3-covered assistance. A Section 3 worker is A low or very low-income individual, or a youth build participant, or employed by Section 3 business concern. A Section 3 business is 51% or more owned by low or very-low-income persons; 75% or more labor hours are performed by low or very low-income person, or 51% or more owned by current residents of public housing or Section 8 assisted housing. Key changes include promoting sustained employment and career development; Align Section 3 reporting with standard business; Applicability and Thresholds; Reporting and targeted Section 3 worker. Set by notice and amended periodically as necessary HUD can alter expectations and consider tailoring the benchmarks for different geographies and/or different activities as new information becomes available. For handling Section 3 for recipients that receive funds through more than one HUD program, and contractors that receive payment from funds under those programs. Public housing financial assistance fund requirements in subpart B while the community development financial assistance may follow the requirements in subpart B or subparts C. Ultimately, the same data will be collected across programs for consistency, the only difference will be how it looks when reported. The new framework anticipates that program staff would incorporate Section 3 compliance into regular program oversight and make section 3 A more integral part of their daily work. Targeted Section 3 worker is a resident of public housing or Section 8 assisted housing, or a resident of another project managed by the Public Housing Authority. Benchmarks for session three projects cover housing rehabilitation, housing construction, and other public construction projects assisted under HUD programs that provide housing and community development financial assistance where the amount of assistance for the project still exceeds a threshold of \$200,000. The opportunity portal helps match residence to jobs and training opportunities at businesses pitch contracting opportunities. Users can search job and business opportunities by keyword or location such as city, state County, or MSA. Businesses self-certified to meet the definition of a Section 3 business. Grantees find Section 3 businesses to hire, and residents find Section 3 businesses to inquire about jobs. The public can report A firm they believe has misrepresented itself by emailing Section3biz@hud.gov.

**Agenda Item 8. Presentation by the Nevada Homeless Alliance and the Nevada Housing Coalition on legislation related to homelessness and affordable housing, for possible action.**

Emily Paulsen, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA), shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Policy Council on Homelessness and the 2021 legislative preview. In 2018 ahead of the last legislative session, Nevada Homeless Alliance launched the Policy Council on Homelessness, which brings advocacy, non-profit, business, and academic sectors together to advance policy solutions to end

homelessness. The activities of the Policy Council on Homelessness are centered around policy analysis and evaluation, public awareness and education, and policy advocacy. During the last Nevada Legislature in 2019, we organized the first homelessness and housing awareness day to be held in over 10 years, along with Action now known as Faith in Action Nevada and received several legislative successes and some challenges and unfinished work. In preparation for the 2021 legislative session, we organized a series of policy roundtables on issue areas that intersect with homelessness including workforce development, healthcare, criminal justice reform, education, and tenant protection. These roundtables included national and state advocates and policy experts, nonprofit service providers, elected officials, and most importantly people that have been directly impacted by the issue of homelessness and housing instability. From these roundtables, the team has identified the 2021 legislative priorities for this legislative session. Supporting legislation that will expand and preserve affordable housing supply.

Ms. Paulsen continued that housing is a solution to homelessness and rehousing programs for people experiencing homelessness cannot be achieved without increased inventory of affordable housing. Additionally, when Nevadans are severely rent-burdened, they are at a greater risk of experiencing homelessness because of even minor financial crises. The team is supporting legislation that will expand funding opportunities for homeless services in Southern Nevada alone. Where there are the highest rates of homelessness in the state, there is a funding shortfall of over 300,000,000 with projections based on pre-pandemic community need. More funding is needed to take proven solutions like permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing to scale. However homeless services funding is not the single Golden key to getting people rehoused. While the team works to expand homeless services funding and supply of affordable housing. There also needs to be changes to policy that removes inequitable barriers to housing that cause housing instability and prolong episodes of homelessness by improving and expanding addiction sealing processes. Addiction can cause long-term housing instability for households and the process of an addiction is complex, time-consuming, and difficult for people to do while struggling to keep a roof over their heads. Policy must be implemented to protect renters from sources of income discrimination. Renters who are relying on housing choice vouchers, unemployment benefits, disability income, or other legal sources of income may currently be denied housing based on their source of income. Enacting fair chance housing policy by placing reasonable limitations on how conviction history is considered on rental application. A prior conviction should not be a life sentence to experiencing housing instability. There are currently no limitations on what criminal background criteria landlords may use to deny rental housing in the data and there is limited transparency on specific criteria landlords used to deny rental housing based on criminal background. Additionally, the team supports legislation focused on expanding and improving services that will prevent and end homelessness, and education policies which have a disparate impact on students experiencing homelessness and opening the door to workforce and education opportunities by expanding free Internet access for low-income family. Bills related to removing inequitable barriers to housing, that cause housing instability and prolong episodes of homeless include BDR3569 which addresses eviction sealing. This bill will automatically seal any eviction for non-payment of rent during the COVID-19 emergency declaration and it extends no-cause extension periods out to 60 days. BDR778 prevents source of income discrimination and revises Nevada fair housing law to include source of income as a protected class. BBR 38 will create limitations on how conviction history may be considered in the rental application process. There have been a couple of bills related to addressing youth homelessness filed. BDR 1162 will expand medical access rights for unaccompanied youth. BDR34-185 prohibits school districts in the State from giving homeless students out-of-school suspensions and ensures an assessment of the students living situation is performed during each incident of school discipline. Homelessness and Housing awareness day will be held on Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. This year's event will be virtual. The link will be in the chat.

Christine Hess, Nevada Housing Coalition, shared a PowerPoint presentation on proposed legislation related to homelessness. Housing is central to an equitable recovery and Nevada's vision for economic prosperity. There are four bills for this 2021 Nevada Legislative Session. (Senate Bill) SB 12 would require an early notification process to local governments, the Nevada housing division, affordable housing developers in Nevada, and the tenants when subsidized housing programs are 12 months out from either early termination or an expiration of affordability restrictions. (Bill Draft Resolution) BDR 850 allows local jurisdictions to utilize in lieu of residential, commercial, and/or industrial linkage fees to enable shared responsibility and opportunity for public and private sectors and develop/preserve affordable housing. This bill will increase the possibilities for affordable housing development by enlarging the toolset local governments have to work with, only in conjunction with a local affordable housing policy. BDR807 is focused on Nevada jurisdictions over 100,000 and it enables them to potentially incorporate new tools into their affordable housing plans. This bill will expand the toolset local governments have to choose from to show meaning in their affordable housing plans. Due to COVID-19, BDR651 will extend the timeline for the state tax credit program and make technical adjustments to improve the mechanics of implementation to fully leverage the federal low-income housing tax credit program. This bill will allow the pilot program its full test to see how effectively it leverages other equity and debt to spur creation/preservation of additional affordable units. The final bill BDR 778 will provide statewide policy for Source of Income protection to mitigate barriers to affordable housing and promote equity in housing. This bill will also prevent discrimination based on the prospective tenant's source of income. April 5<sup>th</sup> will be Homeless and Housing Day, and the Nevada Homeless Alliance and the Nevada Housing Coalition will update the Board on the status of these and

any other bills that have been identified as a priority and impacting affordable housing as development preservation of the ability to access to housing.

**Agenda Item 9. Update on local response to and recovery from Coronavirus Disease 19, for possible action.**

Julie Calloway, Government, City of Boulder City, provided an update on the City's response to and recovery from Coronavirus Disease 19. Boulder City is offering testing four days a week, from 8 am to 12 pm and that is no appointment necessary. Boulder City is also, actively participating in the vaccine rollout and currently focusing on individuals 70 years old and above, first responders, educators, and employees of CCSD.

Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, shared that the last couple of days of appointments at the Las Vegas Convention Center have been taking about three to four hours for people to complete their appointment. The line is stretching the whole half-mile between the North Hall and the South Hall. The parking is by the North Hall, but the line is extending to the South Hall, so there is quite a bit of walking and standing. If anyone has appointments coming up, please plan appropriately.

Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District, shared that as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, Pre-K through three will be going back to school on a hybrid schedule. Students will be assigned to either cohort A that goes to school Monday, Tuesday. Cohort B goes to school Thursday, Friday, or cohort C which is full-time virtual learning. Title I HOPE has been working with transportation to make sure that students that are experiencing homelessness either have access to transportation via a CCSD bus or will receive bus passes from RTC. CCSD support staff level has been able to get their vaccines, but the licensed and Administrator levels have not received the vaccine yet.

Chad Williams, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, shared that notices will be going out that on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, the Section 8 waiting list will be open for registration online at [www.snvrhah.org](http://www.snvrhah.org). The SNRHA will only be accepting the first 5000 individuals that registered and the issuance of vouchers will be done through a lottery system.

**Agenda Item 10. Update by the Leadership Team on the activities of Operation HOME; for possible action.**

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service, provided an update that Operation HOME! is now underway, and agencies will be able to apply for funding starting this month. Very specific agencies have been asked to apply for these funds and it was based on their interest in the program, their ability to manage the large amount of funding that is coming into the community, and previous experience doing this work. The Leadership Team is also in the process of hiring housing navigators. The team is looking for applicants that have a background in working with apartment complexes and real estate. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

**Agenda Item 11. 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.**

No questions were posed to the Board.

**Agenda Item 12. Receive an update from Board members regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness.**

Emily Paulsen, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA), shared that a small working group has been formed to plan for the vaccine rollout to people experiencing homelessness in the community. The working group includes Clark County Social Service, City of Las Vegas, the Southern Nevada health district, and the Nevada housing division and in NHA.

Tasican Hall, Advocate, Young Adults in Charge (YAC) shared with the Board that YAC has been reviewing bill drafts for the 2021 legislative session that the group is interested in supporting and advocating for, that relate to fighting homelessness. YAC is also reviewing and finalizing the YAC Handbook and continuing to work with other members of this CoC on an incentive program to ensure that members of YAC are compensated for the work that they do.

Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District shared the True Colors Fellowship Program has put together a webinar series that was sent out to everybody, but two more webinars are coming up. The link to access the webinars will be put in that chat box. Really good information is given from youth about working alongside youth.

Albert Chavez, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada shared that the designated bed program has officially launched. This is a program that is utilized for those that are right on the verge of housing. The designated bed program is a 30-day program that involves intensive case management. Clients will have the ability to store items in the luggage room. The purpose of the designated bed program is to work with clients that are right on the cusp of housing and helping them launch into that particular housing. The program gives the client 24/7 access to the shelter.

**Agenda Item 13. Public comment**

No comments were posed to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.