

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2021**

In attendance: Albert Chavez, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
Arash Ghafoori, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth
David Slattery, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue
Genevieve De Lynch, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Jennifer Huse, Mental Health Provider, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
JoAnn Rupiper, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District
Jocelyn Acevedo, Alternate, Affordable Housing, Nevada HAND
Julia Gardiner, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada
Julie Calloway, Co-Chair Government, City of Boulder City
Katherine Marcal, University, University of Nevada Las Vegas
Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County
Maurice Cloutier, Government, City of Las Vegas
Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District
Rick Damian, Government, City of North Las Vegas
Robbie DeBuff, Workforce Investment, Workforce Connections
Shalimar Cabrera, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas
Tracy Torrence, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority
Troy Oglesbee, Faith-Based, Destiny Church

Absent: Annie Wilson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Chad Williams, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority
Genese Jones-Torrence, Social Service Provider, S.A.F.E Nest
Hassan Chandry, Co-Chair, Business, Foresight Housing Partners
Jennifer Harris, Homeless or Formerly Homeless
Kena Adams, Advocate, Indian Voices
Kyle O'Connell-Mock, Business, Gaming, Aristocrat Gaming
Liz Jarman, Veteran Service Provider, Veterans Administration
Phil Washington, Faith-Based, Promise Land Community Church
Rebecca Edgeworth, Healthcare Provider, Touro University Nevada
Stacy DiNicola, Government, City of Henderson
Taisacan Hall, Advocate, Young Adults in Charge
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, May 13th, 2021 via WebEx.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

No comments were posed to the Board.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for May 13th, 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 April 8th, 2021 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 agenda items for the May CoC meeting. The Committee also discussed the homeless census count, rent moratorium, the increased options for services, and how this might be affecting the HMIS system.

Agenda Item 6. Approval of the Evaluation Working Group's Scoring and Ranking Policies and Procedures for the local Continuum of Care competition; for possible action.

Catherine Huang Hara, Clark County Social Service, and Max Discher from Homebase shared a presentation on the Evaluation Work Group (EWG)'s Scoring and Ranking Policies and Procedures for the local Continuum of Care. The EWG has been working with a third-party facilitator which is Homebase. For the last couple of years, Homebase has been working with the team to put together the annual Continuum of Care competition. Once a year, HUD will release a Continuum of Care (CoC) NOFA (Notice of Funding Available), which is a funding pot of approximately \$2 billion each year of a competitive funding path to support permanent housing

solutions. Each year, the team coordinates on a local competition to review and rank the projects locally and prioritize them for the incoming funding before the launch of the consolidated application for the COC NOFA. For this year's review process, there are some significant changes to the scoring tools with the EWG. A review of the Scoring and Ranking Policies and Procedures must be performed primarily to keep them in line with the changes that have been made to the scoring tools. The guiding principles this year were to prioritize the system performance measures and outcomes and enhance the objectivity of the local competition process while streamlining the process and making things more objective. Amendments were made to the policies and procedures document to reflect that the team is now sourcing data on renewal projects in the CoC based on a combination of results coming out of the monitoring process, which is governed by the Monitoring Working Group. This also included the APR (Annual Progress Report) data uploaded in SAGE. This is the most direct link to the System Performance Measures community report and is probably the largest change that was made this year. There have also been changes to the language around the scoring teams. Each year, the EWG convenes a group of volunteers from the community to review the project applications. Both new and renewal projects are reviewed to determine which projects will be prioritized for funding. Finally, transparency and readability changes to the policy and procedures went through a rigorous review process. This document has been reviewed by EWG members for several months, and was posted for public comment. The team came up with a new system to clarify the distinction between low-risk and high-risk projects. Scoring and Ranking Team members are no longer expected to review every single project. Each project will be divided into matches according to their low risk and high-risk status, which is based on some preliminary scoring. The team is still waiting for the actual NOFA to be released by HUD, but in the meantime, the local application process has opened for new and renewal projects. The opening of the local application will have a tentative start date of around June 14th. Technical assistance sessions will be held on June 24th for those providers to be able to ask questions during that session. The team will be offering training for Board members that are interested in joining the scoring and ranking process. An introduction to the CoC training will be held on Monday, May 17th.

Agenda Item 7. Update by the Nevada Homeless Alliance and Nevada Housing Coalition on the 2021 Session of the Nevada Legislature, for possible action.

Christine Hess, Nevada Housing Coalition (NHC), provided an update on the 2021 Session of the Nevada Legislature. NHC is leading the efforts on five significant affordable housing bills that all tie together as part of a comprehensive approach to affordable housing. NHC followed housing bills AB331 and AB334 that did not make it to the work session in the assembly of Government Affairs. These two bills, if passed, would have addressed planning and accountability, and would enable new tools for our local governments to build and preserve affordable housing. There was a lot of opposition particularly, from the private sector builders and developers. The third bill, AB317, provided protections for source of income and prohibited income discrimination. Unfortunately, AB317 never received a hearing. Finally, two critical bills in terms of affordable housing, production, and preservation. SB12 helps to preserve existing affordable housing through an early notification process. SB 284 removes the deadline to utilize state tax credits and other technical fixes. SB11, which revises provisions relating to rural housing, passed the work session in the Assembly of Government Affairs. SB254 revises provisions relating to discrimination in housing. Bills to watch regarding youth homelessness include AB197 and SB354. AB 197, medical access for unaccompanied youth, will eliminate the time requirement, expand the types of health services that homeless minors can access to also include dental and mental health care. AB197 also creates a clear process for medical providers to verify unaccompanied minor's homeless status. SB354, revising school discipline measures, 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. This week is the big week for bills and NHC will continue to monitor these Housing bills.

Agenda Item 8. Update by Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada on the state and federal eviction moratoriums, for possible action.

Taylor Altman, Nevada Legal Aid of Southern Nevada, provided an update on the state and federal eviction moratoriums. State eviction protections currently in place include the Declaration of Emergency Directive 043. This directive protects against eviction for nonpayment of rent, and eviction for "no cause" and end of lease until May 31, 2021. To qualify, the tenant must provide the landlord with a signed declaration attesting that they are unable to pay rent due to pandemic, earn no more than \$99,000, and will be homeless if evicted. Federal eviction protections in place include the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) order temporarily halting residential evictions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. This moratorium is in place until June 30th. The language is broad, but some courts may limit protections provided in this moratorium. Similar to State Directive 43, the CDC order requires the tenant to provide a declaration to the landlord attesting that they meet at least 5 criteria. Tenants should also keep a copy of the signed declaration. If the tenant receives an eviction notice, the tenant should file an answer with the court even if the declaration was submitted to the landlord, select mediation if available and apply for assistance through the CHAP program if behind on rent. Types of evictions not allowed under the state and federal moratoriums include nuisance, lease violations (not rent or fee-related), Tenant at will evictions, and mobile home or recreational vehicle space. Landlords can challenge tenant's declaration to show tenant not eligible, or request exemption from directive due to realistic threat of foreclosure before May 31st unless landlord evicts tenant. The landlord must serve a notice of intent to challenge the eviction notice. If a landlord violates Directive 43, the violation should be reported to the Attorney General for deceptive trade practices. Important to note that neither Directive 43 nor the CDC order waives rent. Therefore, tenants who are struggling to pay rent should apply to CHAP for rental assistance. The Legal Aid Center is available to help; declaration forms are available on the Legal Aid Center's website. Tenants can also file answers to eviction notices online.

Kena Adams, Advocate, Indian Voices asked if there are any mortgage assistance programs for homeowners that have been affected by COVID-19. Ms. Altman responded foreclosure resources are available on the Legal Aid Center's website.

Agenda Item 9. Update by the Leadership Team on the activities of Operation HOME!, for possible action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Clark County Social Service, provided an update on Operation HOME! Operation HOME! is a community-wide initiative to permanently house 2022 high-risk homeless individuals by the end of 2022. Interventions such as diversion, rapid exit, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing and moving on helps to move those in our high-risk homeless population into permanent housing. Local jurisdictions are using ESG and CBDG funding to support a collaborative rapid rehousing program. The team is currently in the contracting phase with 13 agencies, some of which are new to the Continuum of Care and are bringing in 40 new case managers to provide services to over 800 households. Regarding landlord engagement and unit acquisition, Padmission has built out and is ready to be populated so that case managers can work with clients to find affordable units. The Coordinated Entry System Working Group is currently working on the prioritization for the Operation HOME efforts and using the Pandemic Priority Exception (PPE) score for clients to be referred into Operation HOME programs. Through Operation HOME, the team hopes to make meaningful systemic change.

Agenda Item 10. Discussion and approval of a memorandum of understanding between the United Way of Southern Nevada and the SNHCoC to accept donations on behalf of Operation HOME!, for possible action.

Aaron Krolkowski from the United Way of Southern Nevada provided an overview of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the United Way of Southern Nevada (UWSN) and the SNHCoC to accept donations on behalf of Operation HOME! United Way of Southern Nevada is working to support operation home with some fundraising and support. UWSN has set up a donation page which can be accessed at www.uwsn.org/operation-home. The donation page will be linked to the operation HOME! page on the Help Hope Home website. As private funds come in an MOU is needed to ensure that operation HOME! can access the funds for moving costs, flexible funding, and all the other pieces of operation home. While UWSN can raise the funding, an agreement is needed so that funds can be dispersed into the community. An agreement has been drafted and submitted to Clark County for review. UWSN would require a 10% administrative fee on all donations received and that would allow UWSN to hold the funds, manage the funds and disperse any payments that need to be made out to vendors. The CoC would need to identify a representative who would be the primary person to request the disbursements to vendors who are providing the related services for Operation HOME! A point of action for the board today is for endorsement and approval of this agreement. A motion was made to approve the memorandum of understanding agreement between United Way of Southern Nevada and SNHCoC. The motion was approved

Agenda Item 11. Update on the local response to and recovery from Coronavirus Disease-19, for possible action.

Julie Calloway, City of Boulder City provided an update on the City of Boulder's response to COVID-19. Due to the reduction in demand for vaccines, one of the two vaccination sites have closed. Current vaccination appointments are being held at the Boulder City Hospital. There is plenty of availability for anyone in the community that needs a vaccination appointment.

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service provided an update on Clark County's response to COVID-19. The County is continuing to provide housing for people experiencing homelessness who are getting out of the hospital and recovering from COVID. The County is continuing to provide non-congregate shelter and supporting vaccinations for people experiencing homelessness through the support of the Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA). The Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA) Has received notification along with the CoC, that they are eligible to receive enough funding for 586 vouchers. The vouchers are time-limited to 2030. They are specifically designed for certain groups which included people who are at risk of homelessness, people who are experiencing homelessness, currently fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or Having a high risk of housing instability. Referrals will be coming from the continuum of care through the coordinated entry process. The team will be working with the domestic violence service providers to figure out the prioritization for these vouchers. The team is working closely with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA). If you are interested in helping to work on this effort, the team is putting together a committee to provide input to SNRHA regarding the Housing vouchers. Please contact Kristin Cooper, Michele Fuller-Hallauer, or Catherine Huang Hara for more information.

David Slattery, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, updated that since COVID-19 vaccinations became available, thousands have been vaccinated throughout the community, specifically 400 people experiencing homelessness. Vaccinations are continuing at the Courtyard. The City of Las Vegas will continue its vaccination efforts.

Rick Damian, Government, City of North Las Vegas, updated that the City of North Las Vegas is using their CDBG funds of rounds one and three to implement a senior hot food delivery program, rental, and utility program, and a mobile pop-up food pantry. The City is administering a mortgage assistance program to get in front of the state and CDC eviction moratorium lifts. With the ESG-CV funding, the city implemented a homeless prevention program and with the rapid rehousing funding that is contributing to the collaborative applicant for Operation HOME!

JoAnn Rupiper, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), updated that SNHD is still providing COVID testing and vaccinations. SNHD is switching its focus from large pods to a more targeted and strike team type of focus. Vaccine efforts and vaccine supply are abundant right now. However, there has been a decrease in demand as appointments have slowed and that's why SNHD is changing its focus to a more neighborhood and community-based approach. School vaccinations will be scheduled on June 1st and will continue through the summer to get kids ready for school.

Agenda Item 12. 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 13. Receive an update from Board members regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness.

Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District provided an update on the recent activities of the Title I HOPE program. Regarding the upcoming school year, parents must opt in to attend school virtually for the next school year for 2021-2022. The official deadline is Friday the 12th.

Agenda Item 14. Public comment

Genevieve De Lynch, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance shared that the Nevada Homeless Alliance NHA is having Pop-Up Project Homeless Connect events happening twice a month in response to COVID-19 and the need in the community. A vaccine clinic will be included at the Pop-Up events. The next one is on May 19th and will be at HELP of Southern Nevada from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.