

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
April 14, 2022**

In attendance: Aaron Krolkowski, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada
Albert Chavez, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
Annie Wilson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Arash Ghafoori, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth
Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance
David Slattery, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue
Emily Paulsen, Business, Anthem Healthcare
Hassan Chaudry, Co-Chair, Business, Foresight Housing Partners
Hayley Jarolimek, Government, City of Henderson
Jennifer Huse, Mental Health Provider, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Julie Calloway, Co-Chair Government, City of Boulder City
Katherine Marcal, University, University of Nevada Las Vegas
Kena Adams, Advocate, Indian Voices
Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County
Lewis Jordan, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority
Liz Jarman, Veteran Service Provider, Veterans Administration
Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District
Sanaa Khan, Government, City of Las Vegas
Serafin Calvo, Government, City of North Las Vegas
Shalimar Cabrera, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas
Troy Oglesbee, Faith-Based, Destiny Church

Absent: Audra Hamernik, Affordable Housing, Nevada HAND
Christy Shannon, Social Service Provider, S.A.F.E Nest
Jennifer Harris, Homeless or Formerly Homeless
JoAnn Rupiper, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District
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
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, April 14th, 2022, via WebEx.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

Cheryl Borgstrom, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), shared that HUD is requesting agencies to voluntarily participate in the Healthy Homes Initiative survey.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for April 14, 2022; for possible action.

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

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the Minutes from the March 10, 2022, 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, Education, Clark County School District, provided an update on the recent activities of the Steering Committee. At the last meeting, the committee discussed agenda setting for the April and May Board meetings. The committee also discussed updates to ARPA funds, results from the funding competition, potential ideas for leadership and client engagement, the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP), and the formal bid request for the Youth Needs Assessment.

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

Mary Duff, Clark County Social Service, provided an update on the relevant business of the Continuum of Care. The team received feedback regarding the 2021 Youth Homeless Demonstration project (YHDP) grant application that was not funded last year. The

results and feedback will be presented at the May Board meeting. The 2022 funding announcement has been released and is due June 28th. The community is convening a consortium of youth-serving organizations and stakeholders to support this application at the May Board meeting. A timeline for the 2022 application process will be presented to keep this board informed. Also, for the collaborative applicant and the consolidated application, the team has been working with Homebase and anticipates bringing the scoring and ranking tools and scoring and ranking policies and procedures to the Board at the next meeting. A timeline is set for the renewal applications that are anticipated to be released at the beginning of June. The team is also working with HUD TA on a learning series partnering with persons with lived experience. In addition to the collaborative applicant, the Nevada Homeless Alliance, and the City of Las Vegas are participating in these hands-on trainings and will produce a Community Action plan to partner with individuals with lived experience in the CoC structure. After the cohort, there will be HUD TA support for the implementation of this plan. The group will meet on Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00 pm through June 15th. If interested in joining the learning series please contact Mary Duff at mary.duff@clarkcountynv.gov.

Agenda Item 7. Approval of the written standards for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) as drafted by the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas and Clark County; for possible action.

Jaini Christison, City of North Las Vegas presented the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) written standards for approval. The ESG written standards were posted for public comment over the last 30 days. No public comments were made regarding the posted written standards, so the document is being brought back to the board for approval. The Board voted to approve the ESG written standards.

Agenda Item 8. Presentation by Silver State Fair Housing Council on fair housing protections; for possible action.

Kate Zook, Silver State Fair Housing Council, shared a presentation on fair housing protections. Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) is a private non-profit agency. The mission of SSFHC is to ensure equal housing opportunities for all residents of Nevada. SSFHC is funded by HUD's fair housing initiatives program, Clark County, City Las Vegas, City Henderson, Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County. The council works to assist jurisdictions in affirmatively furthering fair housing, assist people who believe that their fair housing rights have been violated, and works with agencies in assisting clients when they encounter housing discrimination issues. The Federal Housing Act makes it illegal to discriminate in housing-related transactions due to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, family status, or disability. Furthermore, Nevada law also prohibits discrimination against ancestry, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression. The Fair Housing Act protects people from discrimination when they are buying a home, getting a mortgage, seeking housing assistance, or engaging in other housing-related activities. The Fair Housing Act covers most housing. In very limited circumstances, the Act exempts owner-occupied buildings with no more than four units, single-family houses sold or rented by the owner without the use of an agent, and housing operated by religious organizations and private clubs that limit occupancy to members. There are additional protections for persons with disabilities. Housing providers must make reasonable accommodations and allow reasonable modifications that may be necessary to allow persons with disabilities to enjoy their housing. All Americans have the right to choose where they wish to live, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, familial status, handicap, sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression. For more information on fair housing protections, please visit ssfhc.org/learn-the-law/fair-housing-laws.

Agenda Item 9. Presentation by Clark County Social Service on the Shared Housing Learning Collaborative, for possible action.

Mary Cannizzaro, Clark County Social Service, shared a presentation on the Shared Housing Learning Collaborative. The Shared Housing Learning Collaborative was led by the Shared Housing Institute and was an intensive 8-week session that began in January of 2022. The session focused on Client Choice, Landlord Engagement, Housemate pairing, conflict management, case management, training, and Progressive Engagement. There were 140 attendees from 29 different agencies which included case managers, housing navigators, administrative staff, finance staff, and supervisors. Shared Housing is when two or more unrelated tenants who live together in individual rooms or shared spaces. Shared housing expands the available housing placement options and allows us to strengthen our system of care while potentially improving the mental health and economic status of our clients. The benefits of shared housing are shared between the client and landlord. Client benefits include the opportunity to move out of homelessness sooner; the ability to choose a housemate; better quality housing with more living space; better neighborhood and housing options; decreased isolation and personal support network; reduced housing costs and living expenses; flexibility in participation. Landlord benefits include increased availability to renters; ability to fill large units faster; flexible leases; tenant support through housing program; financial support available through mitigation fund; Operation HOME! landlord sign-on bonus; increased security deposits; timely rent payments; the opportunity to help those in need. Funding for shared housing comes from various funding sources such as the CoC RRH, PSH, prevention fund, ESG-CV, ESG funds, Housing Choice Vouchers, CDBG, HOME TBRA, HUD VASH, HUD SSVF, and HOPWA funds. The shared housing process begins when a client expresses willingness to explore shared housing options. The client submits the shared housing preference form, and the shared housing coordinator facilitates the initial pairing process to identify people with similar preferences. If both parties agree to move forward, clients each sign their own leases. Keyed locks are put on bedroom doors and clients are enrolled in Tenancy and roommate training. Frequent check-ins by peer navigators, shared housing coordinators, and case manager(s) are conducted for

stability and mediation services. Moving forward the shared housing team hopes to have agency staff trained on the shared housing process. Process and program testing will be ongoing, and the shared housing pilot will be launched for collaborating agencies this summer. For more information, please contact Mary Cannizzaro at mary.cannizzaro@clarkcountynv.gov

Agenda Item 10. Update from the Trust Fund Committee on the Homeless Trust Fund; for possible action.

Aaron Krolkowski, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada, shared a presentation on the Southern Nevada Regional Homeless Trust Fund. The Southern Nevada Regional Homeless Trust Fund was established in January 2005 by the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC). The SNRPC transferred authority and oversight of the Homeless Trust Fund to the Southern Nevada Homeless Continuum of Care Board (CoC Board) in 2016. Agreements governing the fund were updated in 2021. The fund is held by the United Way of Southern Nevada, and it currently holds \$103,158. The Housing Flex Funds program was developed and approved by the CoC Board in January 2022. The program is an initiative of the Southern Nevada Homeless Continuum of Care, funded by the Southern Nevada Regional Homeless Trust Fund. The program was developed to pay for expenses that are directly connected to a housing outcome such as assistance for non-lease holders; assistance for employment-related expenses; assistance for fees required by landlords. Agencies receiving Housing Flex Funds from the Homeless Trust Fund will be responsible for monthly reporting on the use of Housing Flex Funds. Eligible agencies are qualified CoC partner agencies participating in the Housing Problem Solving initiative. Agencies can request up to \$5,000 in housing Flex Funds. To learn more about the Housing Flex Funds Program, please visit <https://uswsnefsp.smaply.io/prog/housingflexfunds/>

Agenda Item 11. Presentation by Clark County Social Service on Board orientation to the continuum of service delivery within the SNHCoC; for possible action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Clark County Social Service, shared a presentation on the continuum of service delivery within the SNHCoC. Setting a path to ending Homelessness in Southern Nevada requires having a system of care that prevents homelessness to the maximum extent possible while seeking to ensure that homelessness, when it occurs, is rare, brief, and limited to a one-time occurrence. This is done with proven practices, collaboration, and civic engagement. The Coordinated Entry System is a system that provides a one-door equal opportunity for access to housing. It is a centralized/coordinated process designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referrals. The four components of Coordinated Entry are Access, Assessment process, prioritization, and referral. Access or Access points are either virtual or physical places where an individual or family in need of assistance accesses the Coordinated Entry (CE) process. The assessment process is a standardized approach to triage, problem-solving, and collecting the information needed to determine who might be prioritized and eligible for housing resources. The assessment process should be a phased approach that included multiple conversations over time, especially focused on housing problem-solving. Prioritization is based on what the community has set as a policy for who is prioritized for housing resources. Referral is supporting the household connection with the agency that the client has been matched with. Other types of service delivery include outreach, prevention, diversion, rapid exit, emergency shelter, non-congregate shelter, bridge housing, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, transitional and rapid rehousing, supportive subsidy, and rental assistance. Outreach is done in the field and provides intervention, assessment, treatment referrals, and other related services. Prevention is financial assistance and other services that directly result in the maintenance of housing and/or prevention of eviction. Consumers are not homeless before coming into the program. Diversion now known as Housing Problem Solving is a housing problem-solving strategy that identifies immediate alternate housing solutions for people seeking shelter. Helps clients to connect with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing. Rapid Exit is also a housing problem-solving strategy that provides housing services as quickly as possible to resolve episodes of homelessness. Emergency Shelter provides overnight accommodations for individuals experiencing homelessness. Bridge Housing is a term used for emergency sheltering of households that provide accommodations in a way that provides private space for guests and is a complementary program to Southern Nevada's Emergency Shelter program. The program is intended to be short-term and offers case management services to clients as they work on their exit strategy to permanent housing. Clients are referred through Coordinated Entry. Transitional Housing (TH) is designed to provide housing and supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living in approximately 24 months. Rapid Rehousing (RRH) is a model of permanent housing and has a limited and temporary duration. Transitional Housing/ Rapid Rehousing (THRRH) is a joint TH-RRH component that combines transitional housing and rapid rehousing into a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The program provides a safe place for people to stay with financial assistance and wrap-around supportive services. Participants should quickly move to permanent housing. Supportive Housing is typically referred to as permanent supportive housing (PSH). The program is long-term, community-based, and provides intensive case management. Shallow Subsidies provides a long-term rental subsidy to participants to help them achieve housing stability and prevent homelessness or reentry into homelessness. The term "shallow" is derived from the comparison to traditional "deep" subsidies because they provide a lower level of assistance. This program is currently under development in Southern Nevada. Finally, rental assistance is monetary help with rent that can come from a government agency or a non-profit. These programs help to achieve a healthy system of care which is a system that is robust with programs to serve everyone who seeks services.

Agenda Item 12. Update on the local response to and recovery from Coronavirus Disease 19; for possible action

Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA), shared that NHA is continuing to partner with Touro University, immunize Nevada, and the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) to provide the COVID vaccine and other vaccines to the most vulnerable population in the community. In March there were three events, two were hosted by NHA, and one was hosted in collaboration with HELP of Southern Nevada's outreach team. The event took place at a level one encampment, and the team administered a total of 45 vaccines. NHA will host four events in April at several sites including the PTC, Flamingo Library, Catholic Charities, and a local church in North Las Vegas. Vaccine incentives as well as other evidence-based information about vaccines are being distributed to encampments and shelters by the peer ambassadors.

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service shared that Clark County is continuing to operate the non-congregate shelter both for people with COVID who are coming out of the hospital and those who are unhoused. Clark County is Also, continuing with the non-congregate shelter for individuals who are at high risk which includes people 65 years and older or those considered medically fragile.

Agenda Item 13. Questions and answers regarding reports from the Board Working Groups (Community Engagement, Coordinated Entry, Data and Systems Improvement, Evaluation, Monitoring, Planning, Youth)

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service, shared that due to the hard work of the Moving-On Working group, mainstream voucher utilization is at 100%, and therefore, the community is now eligible to apply for an additional 50 mainstream vouchers. The mainstream vouchers are housing vouchers for people with disabilities. The Moving-On Working Group has also been working hand in hand with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNHRA) on the emergency housing vouchers. Currently, there are 189 lease-ups and 350 people looking for available units.

Agenda Item 14. Receive an update from Board members regarding relevant activities within their respective organizations relating to homelessness.'

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service, shared that Governor Sisolak had a meeting on the Home Means Nevada initiative that is now posted on the Nevadarecovers.com website. Applications for funding affordable housing projects can be located on the website. There is \$250 million that the interim Finance Committee at the state allocated to the Nevada housing division. The amounts are as follows: \$500 million for the initiative overall but the initial \$250 million is out now for pre-application; \$150 million set aside for new construction of affordable housing; \$65 million set aside for preservation or acquisition rehab; \$15 million for homeownership initiatives; and 20 million for land purchase. Any agency that is interested in doing work on affordable housing whether that's acquisition rehab or rental construction rehab should apply on the Nevadarecovers.com website. Applications for funding are open until May 15th. The Clark County Commissioners approved a fund of \$160 million for affordable housing development. More information is forthcoming at the May meeting of the Board of Clark County Commissioners.

Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance shared that on April 21st NHA will be partnering with the Flamingo library to give away 300 phones to low-income individuals and people experiencing homelessness. In November 2022 Nevada Homeless Alliance will be hosting the first annual 2022 Nevada Conference on Homelessness. NHA will be reaching out to agencies to engage interest in participating on panels and facilitating breakout sessions.

Agenda Item 15. Public Comment

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Clark County Social Service shared that Social Service staff recently met with representation from the Clark Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board to discuss the coordination and collaboration on Homelessness and behavioral health. At the last meeting, the Social Service team and the representatives from the Clark Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board voted to develop a joint task force between their policy board and the CoC. If anyone is interested in participating on that task force to discuss the intersect between behavioral health mental health, substance abuse, and homelessness as well as how to bridge the gap between the two systems, please reach out to Mary Duff at mary.duff@clarkcountynv.gov or Ashley Brown at Ashley.brown@clarkcountynv.gov.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.