

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2022**

In attendance: Albert Chavez, Social Service Provider, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
Arash Ghafoori, Social Service Provider, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth
Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Christy Shannon, Social Service Provider, S.A.F.E Nest
Emily Paulsen, Business, Anthem Healthcare
Hassan Chaudry, Business, Foresight Housing Partners
Jennifer Huse, Mental Health Provider, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Jocelyn Acevedo, Affordable Housing, Nevada HAND
Julie Calloway, Co-Chair Government, City of Boulder City
Katherine Marcal, University, University of Nevada Las Vegas
Kristin Cooper, Co-Chair, Government, Clark County
Kyle O'Connell-Mock, Business, Gaming, Aristocrat Gaming
Liz Jarman, Veteran Service Provider, Veterans Administration
Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District
Michele Johnston, alternate, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. Vets-Las Vegas
Sanaa Khan, Government, City of Las Vegas
Stacy DiNicola, alternate, Government, City of Henderson
Tameika Ortiz, alternate, EFSP Board, United Way of Southern Nevada
Taisacan Hall, Advocate, Young Adults in Charge
Tracey Torrence, Public Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority

Absent: Annie Wilson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Vacant, Emergency Medical Services, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue
Vacant, Homeless or Formerly Homeless
Sarah Lugo, Healthcare Provider, Southern Nevada Health District
Kena Adams, Co-Chair, Advocate, Indian Voices
Phil Washington, Faith-Based, Promise Land Community Church
Rebecca Edgeworth, Healthcare Provider, Touro University Nevada
Robbie DeBuff, Workforce Investment, Workforce Connections
Serafin Calvo, Government, City of North Las Vegas
Troy Oglesbee, Faith-Based, Destiny 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, May 12th, 2022, via WebEx.

Agenda Item 2. Public Comment.

No Comments were presented to the Board.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda for May 12, 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 April 14, 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, Education, County School District, provided an update on the recent activities of the Steering Committee. At the last Steering Committee meeting, the group discussed agenda setting for the May Board meeting. There was a general discussion around the CHAP policy approval process, and it was determined that the Community Engagement Working Group will work to develop the policy and procedure for that process. The Committee also discussed the Youth Needs Assessment and reviewed the Historical Timeline, which is available to view on www.HelpHopeHome.org.

Agenda Item 6. Approval of the 2022 Local Priorities as presented by the Data and Systems Improvement Working Group; for possible action.

Mary Duff, Clark County Social Service, shared a presentation on the 2022 Local priorities. Identifying priorities informs how to allocate resources and funding in a community. It allows for a coordinated and strategic approach to a larger issue (homelessness), which is necessary to complete all the work that needs to be done. Setting priorities communicates out the goals to stakeholders, partners, and the broader community. The process and prioritization to establish these priorities includes client listening sessions; provider level surveys; system modeling data; HMIS utilization data; community-wide survey-forced prioritization; and the assistance of the Data and Systems Improvement Working Group (DSIWG). The data indicators used to determine the success of the priorities has also been tied to System Performance Measures (SPMs). SPMs look at the overall system functioning and are meant to provide a more complete picture of how well a community is preventing and ending homelessness. SPMs are interrelated and together give a complete picture of performance. Measure 1-Length of Time Homelessness includes the following priorities: expand short term housing for individuals who have a lower vulnerability score on the community queue for shorter wait times through engaging in dynamic prioritization; increase housing that integrates behavioral health and treatment services into the design for the segment of the homeless population that experiences substance use disorder; expand rapid rehousing projects; provide a holistic client-centered approach by increasing access to additional supports, including behavioral health and insurance. Measure 2-Exit Homelessness to Permanent Destinations includes the following three priorities: increase the number of permanent supportive housing resources; expand peer support for a client-centered approach to help navigate services; establish best practices to promote housemate paring and expand the shared housing model. Measure 3-Number of Homeless Persons includes increase community inventory for sale and affordable housing; engage in acquisition and rehabilitation projects to increase the number of available, affordable housing units. Measure 4-Employment and Income Growth includes Expanding innovative employment supports to help increase earned income. Measure 5- Persons who Become Homeless for the First Time includes expanding diversion strategies to support keeping households from entering homelessness; expanding the housing problem solving conversation to help guide and support the client. Measure 6-Homeless Prevention includes increasing early access to preventative services to prevent individuals from entering the homeless system of care; promote messaging around homeless services to raise awareness and increase accessibility. Measure 7-Successful Placement from Street Outreach and Placement in/or Retention of Permanent Housing includes promoting housing supports for families and individuals on a fixed income to help sustain housing; expand street outreach efforts to increase awareness and referrals for housing services and other supports. The priorities are considered when securing or allocating resources and dollars across funding streams. DSIWG is working to determine stakeholders involved with moving forward the different priorities.

Agenda Item 7. Approval of edits to the Scoring and Ranking Policies and Procedures as presented by the Evaluation Working Group; for possible action.

Max Discher, Homebase, presented the edits to the scoring and ranking policies to the Board for approval. Changes were made to the language of the reallocation process of the Scoring and Ranking Policy. The Board voted to approve the changes.

Agenda Item 8. Presentation by the Collaborative Applicant on the FY2019 and FY2020 scoring debrief for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Competition, for possible action.

Mary Duff, Clark County Social Service, and Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District, provided a scoring debrief for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Competition. Last year, for the YHDP competition, there were 111 applications submitted to HUD and 97 applications that were moved to the scoring and ranking phase. The lowest score was for urban application, which scored at 91.83 points. On September 15th, 2021, HUD announced that 33 communities were funded. Of those 33 communities, 11 were rural communities. The Southern Nevada community's application received 84.83 points out of 100 possible points, this is seven points below the lowest funded score for a funded community at 91.83. HUD does not provide specific feedback for each application, rather overarching strengths and weaknesses are identified across all applications received. These insights were provided for each of the five categories but for purposes of this presentation, the focus will be on the two lowest scored categories which were the only two to fall below the median scores: collaboration and data evaluation capacity. The weakness that HUD identified for collaboration was the planning efforts the CoC conducts with child welfare and foster care, the justice system both adult and youth, medical and physical health institutions. This question directly relates to the discharge planning to prevent individuals or youth from entering into the homeless system. The information on how the community scored last year around this question is unavailable, as this information is not specific to the application. The team will work to comprehensively answer this question for the 2022 application and receive full points. Data and evaluation capacity was another category that scored low. Bringing new homeless projects to HMIS was a weakness across multiple applications. Another area that has been identified by HUD as a weakness, was that many communities did not involve youth feedback in the evaluation quality improvement work within the community. Also, the use of subpopulations such as LGBTQ, people of color, and pregnant or parenting youth were not prioritized in the coordinated entry system or the queue. The last weakness identified by HUD for this section is youth voice. The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program really puts an emphasis on youth voices being part of the entire process from start to finish to help ensure that communities are authentically collaborating with youth. This funding and all YHDP applications are scored on the integration of youth voice within the actual composition of the narrative. In fact, the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) states that one of the five narrative sections has to be entirely written by youth.

Based on the feedback received from HUD, this Community had youth voice integrated throughout the entire application. In January, the CoC team was able to reach out to three agencies who were successfully funded during the last round of YHDP. The team was able to look at Oklahoma City, Atlanta, and the balance of New York. These applications have provided valuable insights for all sections of the narrative including how to capture our current HMIS recruitment efforts to best answer the questions here for the next round of applications. The team has also, been working with the Monitoring Working Group (MWG) and Strategic Progress is beta testing new evaluation tools that will integrate client voice into the monitoring process. This beta testing is happening in May and June of this year and will be formally adopted into next year's monitoring efforts. Strategic Progress is beta testing the school with youth clients from St. Jude. A draft of the 2022 YHDP application will be shared at the regularly scheduled Youth Working Group (YWG) meeting on May 24th and the team expects to have the application completed by the end of this month. The application will then be brought before the Board on June 9th and then onto the Board of Clark County Commissioners on June 21st for approval. The deadline for submission is June 28th.

Agenda Item 9. Presentation by the Nevada Housing Coalition on the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) set-aside and Home Means Nevada; for possible action.

Christine Hess, Nevada Housing Coalition, shared a presentation on the Home Means Nevada Initiative. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has provided a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform our affordable housing landscape and strategically prioritize long-lasting solutions for the benefit of all Nevadans by providing a \$500 million dollar investment through state fiscal recovery funds. \$300 million will fund affordable housing multi-family development, targeting the highest impacted communities and greatest need. \$130 million will go to affordable housing preservation, \$30 million will be applied towards affordable homeownership, \$40 million will be applied towards land development. To coincide with the Home Means Nevada Initiative. The Nevada Housing Coalition (NHC) is launching the Elevate NV Affordable Housing: Building skills to build housing initiative, which is statewide effort to build capacity for affordable housing development finance, construction, and permanent supportive housing. This new initiative is supported by, and in partnership with a \$500,000 grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco. Through this initiative, education and training for affordable housing development finance, construction and supportive housing will be provided for all emerging and established developers, non-profits, community service providers, and local/state and tribal government staff. NHC will provide outreach and awareness, as well as catalyze projects that are ready to move forward, including potential applicants for the FHLBank's affordable housing program. Nevada targeted fund scheduled to open in 2023 and capacity building for affordable housing statewide will launch in May 2022. The Nevada Housing Policy Forum, an interactive gathering for Nevada Housing Coalition members and special guest to help shape housing legislation for the 2023 session will take place in Las Vegas on June 21st and Reno June 22nd, from 10 AM to 3 PM. Registration now available on nvhousingcoalition.org/events.

Agenda Item 10. Presentation by the Listening Group on client engagement; for possible action.

Ed Boyte, HUD TA from the Listening Group, provided a presentation on client engagement. Client engagement is the means by which agencies create relationships with clients. Homeless Service providers are tasked to end the housing crisis, reduce street homelessness, etc. But when engaging with organizations. Staff and clients, it is important to articulate and maintain the core values, i.e., housing first, non-judgmental, equitable, client-centered, trauma-informed care. Training is available for all front-line staff. For more information, contact boyteedward@gmail.com.

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

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service, provided an update on the County's response to COVID-19. Clark County continues to operate the COVID-19 post hospitalization clinic which contains beds for people who are either homeless or cannot return home due to circumstances beyond their control. The County has expanded the non-congregate shelter for families and additional housing in hotel/motel setting is available for highly vulnerable families experiencing homelessness as a result of COVID-19.

Agenda Item 12. Update by the Leadership Team on the activities of Operation HOME!; for possible action

Kristin Cooper, Government, Clark County Social Service, shared that Operation HOME! is a community-wide initiative to house 2022 of the community's unhoused persons, who have the highest risk of negative impacts from COVID-19, by the end of 2022, and this will be achieved through a variety of interventions to move them to permanent housing and civility. The first intervention was to collaboratively fund thirteen agencies using rapid rehousing projects to serve approximately 1000 households by adding 40 case managers. As of today, 314 households have been housed. Community-wide, 648 households have been housed,

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).

Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance, provided an update on the activities of the Community Engagement Working Group. Currently, the group is in the process of filming client and landlord testimonials regarding their experience with Operation HOME. The Group is still active in recruiting landlords with available units via social media and landlord engagement.

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

Nathaniel Waugh, Advocate, Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA), shared that next week NHA is launching a barrier busting program, made possible by ARPA funding. A Pop-Up will take place at the Salvation Army where clients can access services such as ID recovery, birth certificate support, and resource navigation assistance. NHA will be sending three resource specialists into the community to assist clients with obtaining identification. NHA will also be continuing with its Pop-up vaccine clinics. Nathaniel Waugh will be presenting to the Interim Judiciary Committee around homelessness and misdemeanors which will take place May 13th at 10 AM.

Michelle Johnston, Veteran Service Provider, U.S. VETS-Las Vegas, shared information regarding the Memorial Day Benefit concert, which will take place on May 25th from 6pm to 8pm and is titled Vegas Voices for Veterans. All proceeds from the concert will go to supporting U.S. Vets and their mission to end veteran homelessness. Tickets are still available, and the concert will feature entertainment by the Top Rebels Band and comedian Sean Marshall. If you would like to support a veteran to go in your place, please contact Michele Johnston with U.S. Vets. U.S. VETS-Las Vegas is looking to partner with agencies on an expansion project for Bridge housing, employment, and training. If your agency is interested in partnering, please reach out to Michele Johnston.

Meg Pike, Education, Clark County School District, shared that Young Adults in Charge (YAC) the Youth Action Board has been attending the listening sessions conducted by Mary Duff with Clark County Social Service regarding the YHDP application. YAC has been using those listening sessions as a recruiting opportunity to increase YAC membership. The next YAC meeting is on May 25th at 5:00 PM, which is a change from their regularly scheduled meetings on Tuesdays. The group will now meet on the last Wednesday of every month from 5pm-6pm. Clark County school district is seeing the effects of a back to in-person learning environment. Last year Title I Hope identified 10,000 students and this year 14,000 students have been identified. Which brings the total of identified students back to pre-pandemic levels.

Agenda Item 15. Public Comment

Angel Lash, 8th Judicial Courts, shared that the Law Enforcement Intervention for Mental Health and Addiction (LIMA) is hosting a public meeting on May 26th from 1pm to 3pm at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters located at 400 Martin Luther King Blvd. The purpose of this meeting is to share resources. The LIMA program is a divisionary program, specifically a pathway to recovery for people with substance abuse issues, mental health issues, and homelessness issues. All are welcome to come out and share their resources or share things that an agency might need to support their program or themselves.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.