



Community Engagement Working Group Report to the Board

August 2023

Working Group: Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG)

Chair: Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA); **Co-Chair:** Amanda Lakin, Nevada Housing Coalition (NHC)

Meeting date, time, and location: August 21, 2023 via WebEx

Purpose

The Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG) is charged with leading efforts as it relates to coordinated messaging, media, outreach, inventory of community partners, public service announcements, educational materials, and Website content for the Southern NV Homelessness Continuum of Care. The CEWG will coordinate with other working groups to share information for effective implementation of CEWG strategies.

Attendees: CCSS: Catherine Huang-Hara. NHA: Catrina Grigsby-Thedford. RTC: Miguel Davila. Page Strategic Solutions: Maurice Page. Lived X Consultants: Martin Castro, Donica Martinez

Action Items Discussed

- One sheeter re: Unsheltered Homelessness – Unfinished
- Additional NOFO Funding: Some focused on Human Trafficking, medical outreach
- Coordinated Entry Assessment Evaluation by HUD TA/Lived X: Discussed issues with responsiveness to clients trying to access services and challenges with access to assessments. There is now a targeted CE group twice per month at HOSN. Goal is to get people to the table, including new agencies to attempt to do navigation services, see who is next on the housing cue, and people are seeking to locate them. Hope is to have an easier process to connect clients to services.
 - SN Lived X Consultant elevated that some people on CE list have been engaged and may have some barriers such as not being able to do ADLs and are being denied. The community needs to look for additional resources. Discussion will be elevated to Coordinated Outreach working group to discuss options.
 - There are many different teams: HOT, MORE, HOSN, Shine A Light. It's difficult to pull an outreach specific report because agencies re doing different types of outreach (peer outreach related to behavioral health vs more traditional street outreach). Discussed how different teams collect info/conduct info.
- **Homeless Census**
 - Census does not include specific data as it used to in the past
 - RTC Traditionally got their info as it relates to homelessness and transportation from Clark County. No info since this is no longer collected.
 - Prior survey used to be longer, approximately 15 minutes, current survey is short and reduced down to what is required by HUD to collect.
 - NHA can assist with gathering additional information from unsheltered populations at Pop-Up PHC.
 - Discussed a 5-question survey at event exit.
 - Questions related to transportation accessibility, barriers to get housing.
 - Lived X request will be submitted to assist with person centered questions. RTC staff will assist
 - Miguel (RTC) suggested that we also use national data and formal interviews as it is good to highlight specific individuals.
 - May use CCSS Survey Monkey
- **Landlord Engagement- Maurice Page**
 - Contract updated under OH!/CCSS umbrella.
 - Discussed possibility to reach out to new agencies funded with SNOFO to assist with Homeless Census due to staff shortage at the county as well as the desire for agencies to help more vs volunteers as agency staff has experience working with the population.



Community Engagement Working Group Report to the Board August 2023

- Upcoming Survey to landlords to get insight as to why they continue to participate in the program: For example- Do incentives help? Do they care about housing low income individuals?
- There are many units but the rent is too expensive for clients, biggest concern is that the community will lose the units because housing is not happening quick enough.
- Discussed possibility of ongoing landlord incentives and options to expand to get more.
- Training
 - CCSS drafted a training for topics under the NOFO.
 - Making sure staff know how to help their clients access benefits such as social security.
 - Discussed live vs virtual options to ensure the community knows the info is being provided and how to get it.
 - Other topics: Equal Access Training, Overdose training

Next Meeting: 9/18/23, 2-3p, via WebEx