

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 14, 2024**

In attendance:

Albert Chavez, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
Amy Jones, Southern Nevada CHIPS
Angela Ranck, HMIS Lead
Arcelia Barajas, City of Las Vegas
Brenda Barnes, CoC Director, Collaborative Applicant
Davion Taylor, Youth Action Board
Donica Martinez, Lived X Consultants
Elizabeth Jarman, Veterans Administration
Kevin Murray, SilverSummit Healthplan
Lauren Boitel, ImpactNV
Lisa Corrado, City of Henderson
Martin Castro, Lived X Consultants
Miguel Davila Uzcategui, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
Sally Moore, City of North Las Vegas

Absent:

Abigail Frierson, Clark County, NV
Juawana Grant, Nevada Housing Coalition
PJ Moore, Coordinated Entry Lead Entity
Rebecca Edgeworth, Touro University Nevada

Agenda Item 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board achieved quorum and was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on Monday, October 14th 2024, at the Clark County Government Center.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of the minutes from the September 9th, 2024 SNHCoC Board meeting; for possible action.

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

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Agenda with the inclusion of any emergency items and deletion of any items; for possible action

A motion was made to approve the agenda with the removal of item 9 and the flexibility to remove any items that come up during the meeting that can be tabled due to time restraints. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 4. Receive a report on the progress of the 2024 SNHCoC local competition and approve the Priority List for submission to HUD on the progress of the 2024 SNHCoC local competition; for possible action.

Ede Coligny Consulting Team presented the CoC Priority list to the Board for approval. The consulting team provided an overview of the 2024 NOFO and the scoring and ranking results. The recommended priority listing was presented to grantees at the October 2nd public meeting. Appeals were due on October 7th. The Consulting team have not received any appeals. The NOFO application is due to HUD on October 30th. Sixteen renewal applications received. Four additional renewals were held harmless (not scored) and included 2 Coordinated Entry and HMIS projects that supported HUD mandated systems, and 2 Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects renewing for the first time without a year of performance data. Eleven new applications were received. The total CoC Bonus requested (\$3.1M) was roughly \$700K more than the available CoC bonus funding. The Scoring and Ranking Team (SRT) reduced the request to \$2.4M. The DV Bonus requested (\$2.4M) was roughly \$600K less than the available CoC Bonus funding of \$3M.

Board discussion and deliberation around the difference in requests and available funds to be sought after. Leading to post NOFO recommended actions to include, analyzing the overall system performance; identify key goals and strategies to improve the overall performance of the system; establish program and project level goals; conduct project monitoring to better understand performance; create processes to allocate funding to projects that are contributing to achieving system goals and improving system performance.

Lisa Corrado, Board Member, City of Henderson, proposed developing the strategic plan to determine target populations. Lauren Boitel, Board Member, ImpactNV, proposed thanking the SRT for their work during scoring and ranking.

Agenda Item 5. Note for the record the vote of the SNHCoC Board to approve the Thrive Together program for the CoC Builds NOFO.

Miguel Davila, Board Member, RTC, shared that on October 1st the Board voted via email to approve the Thrive Together for the CoC Builds NOFO. Approval is noted for the record.

Agenda Item 6. Note for the record that none of the current SNHCoC Board Members are due for re-election or are vacating seats at this time.

Noted for the record that the current SNHCoC Board will remain as is, with no members up for re-election or vacating their seats at this time. A discussion was held around planning for a staggered exit of Board seats to ensure continuity and avoid a complete turnover every two years. It was noted that some members may stay on the Board longer, while others may exit sooner to support the future board members as they transition, ensuring the CoC maintains stability without starting fresh each term.

Agenda Item 7. Review of existing membership and call for new members; for possible action.

Brenda Barnes, Collaborative Applicant, led the discussion and review of existing membership and call for new members. Per federal regulations [24 CFR 578.7 (a) (2)] and charter requirements, a CoC is to annually review existing membership and call for new members to join the Continuum of Care. The ability to become a member is open and available on HelpHopeHome's website throughout the year. In the September SNHCoC Membership meeting, we had an open discussion with the membership to review existing membership, identify any gaps in equitable and sectoral representation of membership (to ensure we are serving the unique needs of those experiencing homelessness within Southern Nevada), and suggest additional partners or players in the community who are underrepresented and/or have a vested interest in the work of housing and homelessness to support the representation of those gaps. Board members were asked to review the list of CoC members included in their packet and provide and further suggestions via email to HelpHopeHome. Once any suggested groups or individuals are identified, the CoC team will send out invitations to join the CoC. Board members are also able to direct interested new members to the HelpHopeHome website and complete the membership form without awaiting a formal invitation.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a report on data quality efforts and preparation for Federal Reporting period; for possible action.

Angela Ranck, HMIS Lead, led a discussion on data quality efforts and federal reporting including: providing an overview of the Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA); its inclusion in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) and relationship to the Point in Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC); history of data quality and efforts to address within the community; level of effort required for each community organization to prepare, submit, and resolve the data; timeline of submission, and recommendation not to provide a report to the SNHCoC Board until after the HUD submission date to allow community providers the maximum time available to work on the data report.

The Board expressed concern regarding the pattern of data submission and waiting until the last minute for submission. They were informed that this is a year of client data which is a significant amount and HUD sets the timeline for submission. It would be appropriate to provide updates about progress of submission, and resolution but a complete report prior to submission will not allow for the full amount of time available.

The Board expressed concern that a report is potentially being submitted to HUD on behalf of the community in their name that they had not seen, and information is provided retroactively, and it needs to be addressed. Further discussion about the boards lack of training in reporting and inability to make any adjustments or hold the community accountable to the data entry and quality was had.

The Board asked about what has been done to prepare to address LSA data quality. The Board was advised on the efforts of quarterly data reports, trainings throughout the year, agency meetings, and preparation communications that had been sent to prepare the community. The Board indicated that while training had been provided to the community it goes back to accountability of community organizations.

The Board expressed wanting to hear from community organizations about the process, is it the use of the HMIS system, what specific struggles they are experiencing, or is it clerical error and they just need to be held accountable to enter the data.

The Collaborative Applicant discussed the history of performance monitoring within the community and efforts to do more than monitor but provide quality improvement and inclusion of the board in that process. The Board expressed that previous monitors were over monitoring but only in regulatory functions not in performance outcomes.

The Board made a suggestion to submit the report to the Board concurrently with the submission to HUD. The board further expressed that if training is not provided prior to the submission to HUD a memo be prepared.

The Board continued that the LSA is not a data cleaning exercise it is a programmatic problem, a capacity problem, training and accountability issue.

Sally Ihmels proposed that the Board receive the data quality report with errors for review. A motion was made by Lisa Corrado to amend the workplan to remove the 30-day review 2024.

Agenda Item 9. Receive a report on the activities of the Continuum of Care Committees; for possible action

In Agenda Item 3. Approval of the agenda the board moved to remove this item from the agenda and receive a summary report on the activities of the 3 Core Committees via email.

Agenda Item 10. Review the SNHCoC Board's work plan and identify actions to be taken; for possible action.

With only 20 minutes remaining in the meeting Board determined to table this item to the next meeting and use the remaining time on item 12.

Agenda Item 11. Receive a report on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); for possible action

With only 20 minutes remaining in the meeting Board determined to table this item to focus on item 12.

Agenda Item 12. Receive a report on HUD's Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) technical assistance; for possible action

Brenda Barnes, Collaborative Applicant, shared with the Board the history of involvement of TA within the community including the requesting of assistance, and projects identified for support. After receiving feedback from multiple providers in the community, of the lack of technical assistance and training with SNOFO projects, the community expressed feelings of being demoralizing dismissed and unheard by the HUD TA., and The Collaborative Applicant's efforts to address the issue with HUD TA were also provided and the decision was made to request new Technical Assistance providers through the SNAPS office who can provide a collaborative approach to the community. Discussions with the SNAPs office was on the priorities specifically to provide TA support to SNOFO recipients with capacity building, data monitoring within the community, and outreach efforts for unsheltered individuals.

Some Board members elevated their concerns regarding the lack of inclusion in decisions regarding TA. The Collaborative Applicant expressed the importance of TA in the community and this decision was not to end TA but to respond to the feedback from the community (CoC Membership). The Board stated that if it was an issue, it should have been addressed with TA via coaching. The Collaborative Applicant advised it was addressed with TA and the issues continued to be voiced by the community (CoC Membership).

The Board expressed feeling the HUD TA was responsible for all the changes that the Board has been making and for the Board not to have been included in the decision for change in TA was concerning and appears that the Collaborative Applicant is making unilateral decisions. Part of the changes is there needs to be more transparency on decisions of the Board and communication, specifically what the Board has decision-making authority over.

The Board indicated that change is hard and if TA is pointing out that improvement needs to be made by the community there can be pushback about how things are done, and it is a natural reaction for membership to push back against change. The Board advised that TA should have been provided coaching from the Collaborative Applicant staff and communication should have gone out from trusted community members prior to the separation of the specific TA because the Board valued that TA's insight. The Board felt TA should have been given corrective feedback, but the community needs TA and the individuals should have remained.

The Board stated there is an opportunity moving forward to incorporate some language in the charter to give the Board input and decision-making authority regarding TA involvement. The Board needs additions as to what comes to the Board for decision and what doesn't because there isn't a clear role between the Collaborative Applicant and Board members as well as a need for more Charter updates in general.

The Board indicated that they need training and that the work plan shows the need for ongoing training but there is a gap in TA and now training cannot be provided. While there were issues within the community, the TA could have stayed to continue to support the Board in their training needs as this would have brought continuity. It was suggested that the previous TA could return to support the Board, but new TA be provided to the community to address the identified priorities.

The Board requested that a community email for feedback about TA be sent. It was further recommended that this not be done to allow the community their anonymity.

The Board noted that the TA had five years of history in the community acknowledging their hard work and the good they did in the community. The SNAPs office should be provided additional feedback of all the good they did. The Board further expressed TA is crucial in the community and for the Board in a review of the work plan reveals all the training that has been missed and that is why the Board is struggling in their role and decision making. Members of the board expressed a request for additional communication with the membership to acknowledge that the Board wants the previous TA individuals to remain in the community and that they were not involved in the decision making related to their (specific TAs) departure.

Although this was not brought up in the grievances, the Board raised concerns that the statements of "you're not from here you don't get it" is common in Nevada and is a form of discrimination. After further discussion, it was noted that while those specific HUD TA are not from Southern Nevada they have spent five years in the community and know the community.

The Board members noted the needs for board specific training, the board's performance plan, and the inability to move forward with agreeing to an increase in cadence of meetings. The time the Board spends isn't enough, the board has run out of time every meeting, individuals have been brought in to present or attend virtually and they have been rushed or not heard from. The Board has not been

leveraging their experiences, teaching each other, listening to the work of the amazing committees that have been putting in the time to do the work.

The Board voted to request a reinstatement of the previous HUD TA individuals to provide training to the Board and new HUD TA to provide assistance to the community (CoC Membership). The Board requested to review Community concerns regarding HUD TA without any names.

A vote by the board to increase the meeting frequency of Board meetings to one in person and one virtual meeting a month. The next meeting will be November 18th virtually. December 9th will be scheduled in person, December 23rd virtual meeting will be canceled, and the January 13th will be in person.

Agenda Item 13. Identify emerging issues to be addressed by staff or by the Board at future meetings, and direct staff accordingly.

- Kevin Murray, Board member, Silver Summit Health Plan, shared that Nevada is preparing for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to be able to bill Medicaid for housing supports and services, also known as in lieu of services (ILOS). Nevada Medicaid has added housing support services to what can be covered by MCOs with Medicaid funding. The hope is that enhanced funding will expand coverage for housing support and meal services. Some plans have been covering services as value-added benefits with their own profits for several years, even purchasing property for housing. Housing supports and services fulfil Medicaid's mission by reducing taxpayer costs through providing preventative measures that ultimately reduce members reliance on more expensive services. Nevada Medicaid is leading the effort to get these initiatives up and running in early 2025.
- Donica Martinez, Board Member, Lived X Consultants, stated on behalf of Dr. Catrina Grigsby-Thedford a thank you to the Board for their participation during the NHA Conference on Ending Homelessness.
- Arash Ghafoori, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, shared that the Nevada Youth Homelessness Summit will take place on November 8th from 9 am to 5 pm at the Smith Center. Tickets are free to Board members, and they would love to see everyone there.

Agenda Item 14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.