

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 27, 2025**

**In attendance:**

Abigail Frierson, Clark County, NV  
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 Smith, Youth Action Board  
Donica Martinez, Lived X Consultants  
Elizabeth Jarman, Veterans Administration  
Juawana Grant, Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Housing Division  
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:**

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 was called to order at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> 2025, virtually via Teams.

**Agenda Item 2. Approval of the minutes from the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 SNHCoC Board meeting; for possible action.**

Liz Jarman made a motion 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**

Agenda was approved. No motion was made.

**Agenda Item 4. Receive a report on the activities of the Continuum of Care Committees; for possible action.**

Karla Amezcua, Collaborative Applicant, provided an update on the activities of the CoC Programs Committee (CPC). At the last meeting, the Programs Committee discussed the PIT count, and members shared their experiences with participating in the previous PIT counts. The Committee will begin PIT planning for 2026 with a heavy focus on preparation, training, and recruitment for volunteers. Albert Chavez, Board Member, Catholic Charities, mentioned concern regarding deployment start times and suggested conducting an overnight count instead of an early morning deployment.

**Agenda Item 5. Receive a report on the activities of the Youth Action Board; for possible action.**

Davion Smith, Board Member, Youth Action Board, presented an update on the activities of the Youth Action Board (YAB). YAB is inviting youth to join the Youth Action Board meetings which are held on the last Friday of the month at 3:00 PM. On Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, YAB will be having the Youth Action Board Executive Team meeting and first kickoff with their TA support. YAB is looking forward to learning more information about the collaboration expectations with the Youth Action Board membership. The meeting will also feature guest speakers Karla Amezcua and Monique Cardenas, from Clark County Social Service.

**Agenda Item 6. Receive a report on the activities of the Lived X Consultants; for possible action.**

Donica Martinez, Board Member, Lived X Consultants, provided an update on the activities of the Lived X Consultants. The lived X team are looking to onboard new consultants. Lived X is looking for individuals with diverse backgrounds that have experienced homelessness within the last three years. The Lived X team also, recently met with two individuals that are working on A documentary for Netflix. The documentary is seeking the expertise of people with Lived Experience.

**Agenda Item 7. Receive a report on the progress of SNHCoC Charter comment collection and proposal for a time limited ad hoc committee for the purpose of charter edits; for possible action.**

Brenda Barnes, Collaborative Applicant, provided an update on the progress of the Charter comment collection. The CoC team reached out to the community for charter edit contributions, and responses have been collected and added to the current draft of the Charter. Some responses provided language changes, while others were more global in nature. They incorporate more evidence based practices, and comments about restructuring the entire content. To do this, the CoC team will need more parties involved in Charter edits before taking it to the community. It is recommended to establish a time limited or ad hoc working group from the board to include all mentioned groups in the Charter, which includes 1 Board member, 3 individuals from each of the core committees, and 2 with lived experience. Albert Chavez, Board Member, Catholic Charities, stated that he can provide 2 team members to review the Charter edits. Kristin Carl, Programs Committee Co-chair, The Just The One Project, stated that she will call for volunteers at her next staff meeting. Martin Castro, Board Member, Lived X Consultants, stated that he will call for volunteers at his next meeting. The Board voted to approve the implementation of the time-limited work group for review of the Charter comments, with Catholic Charities representing the Board in the ad hoc group

**Agenda Item 9. Receive a presentation on the Homeless Information Management System (HMIS) access, licenses, and community needs; for possible action.**

Angela Ranck, HMIS Lead, shared a presentation on the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The presentation focused on a comprehensive overview of HMIS at both national and local levels. The presentation highlighted significant changes in HMIS software vendors, which have dramatically reduced from 34 to just 12 nationwide due to increasingly complex technical requirements and data collection standards. Bitfocus has served as the primary HMIS software vendor in Nevada, serving all three Continuums of Care (CoCs) in the state. Funding HMIS is predominantly sourced from dedicated HUD grants, with approximately 62-84% of funding coming from CoC-funded sources. Local governments, including Clark County, City of Las Vegas, Henderson, and North Las Vegas contribute matching funds through interlocal agreements. The funding breakdown shows that most HMIS spending goes towards personnel (around 75%) with software fees accounting for about 25% of expenditures. The presentation also addressed the current challenges in license allocation and agency needs. Clark County has recently purchased additional licenses, which are expected to make approximately 100 licenses available to CoC providers. The HMIS Steering Committee is developing strategies for license distribution, including reviewing previous license denials and conducting a careful needs assessment. The goal is to ensure efficient and equitable access to HMIS licenses while allowing agencies time to onboard staff and clean up their existing license allocations. The recommendation moving forward includes developing a growth funding model, continuing policy development by the HMIS Steering Committee, and implementing a phased needs assessment plan. The HMIS Steering Committee anticipates completing the initial cleanup and assessment process by the end of February or early March, which will provide a clearer picture of the community's HMIS license requirement.

Martin Castro, Board Member, Lived X Consultants, asked is there a distinction of the collaborative applicant and the County? Dr. Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Nevada Homeless Alliance, asked will there be a policy that provides a way where agencies can just purchase the licenses, maybe in advance or write them into our grant so that we won't have the two or three month wait for new staff to be able to enter data? Will there be a way in the future where we can just purchase the license? Sally Moore, Board Member, City of North Las Vegas, asked what is your estimated time frame to get through all that and understand like where licenses are at? Who needs to give them up? The Board determined to allow the HMIS Steering Committee to continue to develop policy around HMIS access, license distribution, and plan for needs assessment. The Board will look at future funding strategies to support the needs of the community.

**Agenda Item 10. Receive a presentation on the Safe Camping Ordinance; for possible action.**

Jamie Sorenson, Alternate Board Member, Clark County Social Service, shared a presentation on the Safe Camping Ordinance. The presentation discussed the new Clark County Ordinance addressing homelessness, focusing on regulating sleeping, storing personal property, and occupying public spaces. The ordinance aims to compassionately manage homeless encampments by providing notification and shelter options before potential citations or arrest, with strong emphasis on connecting individuals to services rather than punitive actions. Clark County Social Service is collaborating with various departments like Code Enforcement, Public Works, and Law enforcement to develop a coordinated and comprehensive implementation protocol. They are preparing informational brochures, developing guidelines for handling personal property during abatements, and prioritizing a gradual, responsive approach to enforcement. The primary goal is to engage with people experiencing homelessness, offer navigation to shelters and resources, and create a compassionate system that supports vulnerable populations while managing public spaces effectively. Dr. Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Nevada Homeless Alliance, suggested updating the term personal property to be defined by the individual. Martin Castro, Board member, Lived X Consultants, spoke about how Reno's code enforcement acts as outreach and maybe a similar process could be implemented in Clark County.

**Agenda Item 11. Review the SNHCoC Boards Work Plan and identify actions to be taken; for possible action.**

Lauren Boitel, Board member, ImpactNV, provided an update on the work plan. There were 18 responses received from the work plan survey that was sent out in December. Board members are working with TA to establish a work plan strategy and determine prioritization.

**Agenda Item 12. Identify emerging issues to be addressed by staff or by the Board at future meetings, and direct staff accordingly; for possible action.**

No updates were provided as there was no remaining time. Staff are to prepare the agenda and circulate to the board for feedback and agenda building. Miguel Davila Uzcategui, Board member, discussed providing the jurisdictions feedback about ordinances and contribute to the discussion.

**13. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.