

**SOUTHERN NEVADA HOMELESSNESS CONTINUUM OF CARE MEMBERSHIP
MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2026**

Agenda Item 1. Call to Order.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board was called to order at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 12th, 2026, Via Teams.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of January 8th, 2026 SNHCoC Membership Meeting Minutes. for possible action.

Item is tabled until the May 14th, 2026, Meeting.

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.

Agenda Item 4. Receive a report on activities of the Collaborative Applicant; for possible action.

Ashley Brown, Collaborative Applicant, provided an update on the 2026 Board and Core Committee election. The Spring 2026 Board and Core Committee Elections are now underway. Nomination packets will be sent out on Thursday, April 2nd. Election packets will then be distributed on April 23rd, and all votes will be due by May 7th. The election results will be announced at the May 14th Membership Meeting.

Agenda Item 5. Receive a report on activities of the HMIS Lead; for possible action.

Angela Ranck, HMIS Lead, provided a report on the activities of the HMIS Lead. The community continues to make strong progress on data quality efforts, with providers actively reviewing and cleaning enrollment records. Over the past several years, the number of records needing updates has dropped significantly from thousands to approximately 100 demonstrating consistent improvement. Special recognition was given to night-by-night shelter programs, which manage high volumes of daily enrollments yet have maintained strong coordination and data tracking, resulting in minimal overlapping enrollments. Additionally, street outreach teams conducted extensive manual reviews of over 2,000 records, greatly improving data quality particularly around missing exit data and strengthening the accuracy of federal reporting. The system performance measures were submitted on March 4th, with further analysis to be shared soon. The community is also preparing for upcoming federal reporting, including the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), with Point-in-Time (PIT) data pending HUD submission and follow-up requests expected. While PIT and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data have remained relatively stable over time with recent increases in available beds, particularly in rural and family shelter capacity the Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) shows a notable rise in the number of households and individuals accessing services since 2020, along with an increase in average household size.

Agenda Item 6. Presentation by SafeNest on the effects of domestic and sexual violence on homelessness and the infrastructure needed to ensure survivors are successful in housing; for possible action.

Liz Ortenberger, SafeNest shared a presentation on the effects of domestic and sexual violence on homelessness. This presentation highlighted the work of SafeNest and its role in supporting survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking throughout Southern Nevada. SafeNest serves approximately 15,000 clients annually through over 146,000 services, including crisis response, counseling, shelter, housing support, legal advocacy, and court assistance across multiple locations in Las Vegas and Mesquite. The presentation emphasized that domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and families, underscoring the strong connection between unsafe living environments and housing instability. SafeNest's approach centers on increasing "hope scores," an evidence-based measure tied to improved long-term outcomes, including lower rates of survivors returning to abusive situations and reduced cycles of violence among children and abusers. The presentation also introduced Domestic Violence Housing First (DVHF) as an evidence-based housing stabilization model adapted from the traditional Housing First framework. This model prioritizes rapid access to safe housing without preconditions and includes survivor-driven housing advocacy, flexible financial assistance for barriers such as deposits, rent, utilities, transportation, and childcare, as well as partnerships with landlords, legal systems, and community organizations. SafeNest discussed the opportunity to integrate this model within One Safe Place, offering co-located services such as legal support, workforce development, mental health services, childcare, crisis response, and relocation support. Key barriers identified included limited funding, lack of low-barrier housing, and legal concerns from landlords, reinforcing the need to address housing challenges proactively to prevent homelessness among survivors.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a report on the activities of the Continuum of Care Committees, Youth Action Board, and Lived X; for possible action.

Co-Chair Nicole Anderson, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, shared CSC in collaboration with the Long-Term Project Team is near completion of a new assessment tool, which is now in its final draft stage and moving through approval by the Coordinated Services Committee before advancing to the Board. An upcoming adult-focused training on the new assessment is scheduled for March

31 through April 2, with registration requested by March 23. This initial training phase is limited to adult participants, with broader community training to follow. The new assessment is designed to strike a balance between the limitations of the current tool and the complexity of the previous version, aiming for a more effective and practical approach. Additional trainings, including HPS and MAT-related sessions, are also expected to be announced soon.

Celeste Williama, Co-chair, Programs Committee, shared several updates, including current seat openings within the committee and encouraged interested members to review and submit nominations as outlined in the recent email sent by the Collaborative Applicant. The committee also recently hosted a Point-in-Time (PIT) Count deployment site lead appreciation breakfast, which provided an opportunity for in-person discussion and feedback on this year's operations. Attendees reviewed logistical aspects such as site coordination, mapping, and overall processes, allowing for more meaningful input than the limited survey responses received. This feedback will be analyzed to inform improvements for future PIT counts. Additionally, the committee is preparing for the anticipated 2026 HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), expected between now and June, and is actively discussing potential policy shifts, housing and preservation strategies, and scoring and ranking approaches to support upcoming Board decisions.

Ray Jung, Co-chair, HMIS Steering Committee, provided an update on the recent activities of the HMIS Steering Committee. The HMIS update highlighted recent license application activity, with one initial request in February for three licenses that were approved, followed by ten additional applications requesting a total of 41 licenses. Of those, five applications were approved, resulting in 21 licenses being distributed overall. In addition to this, work is ongoing on the HMIS Lead project, which began in fall 2025 as a collaborative effort between the HMIS community and the Board.

Aleema Edens, Youth Action Board (YAB), shared that YAB is currently participating in data collection for the 2026 Point and Time Count (PIT). YAB also attended an inaugural dinner hosted at the Culinary Arts Academy, where community plans and program goals were presented to stakeholders and potential investors. A significant focus this year has been the development of a vulnerability assessment, which has been refined to better capture factors such as physical vulnerability, domestic violence, and the needs of youth and older adults, while also being streamlined for clarity. This work has been done in close collaboration with the Coordinated Entry team and has resulted in a finalized draft that the team is proud of. Looking ahead, efforts will focus on strengthening member capacity through trainings, including upcoming sessions on YHDP and Google Suite tools to improve data tracking and presentation skills.

Donica Martinez, and Martin Castro, Board Members, Lived X Consultants, provided an update on the activities of the Lived X Team. The Lived X team continues to play an active role in strengthening system responsiveness by centering the voices of individuals experiencing homelessness. They are currently supporting an on-site navigation survey to gather real-time feedback from individuals accessing outreach and service sites, helping identify gaps in service delivery. The team is also advancing targeted initiatives, including a member-led effort focused on addressing the unique challenges faced by seniors experiencing homelessness. Several members recently participated in the National Alliance to End Homelessness Leadership Summit, with one receiving a scholarship and others serving as panelists. Locally, Lived X is collaborating with the City of Las Vegas on the Bloomberg project, contributing to both client and provider assessments aimed at identifying barriers to successful housing outcomes. They are also partnering with Campus of Hope to elevate community perspectives. Additionally, the team is in the early stages of launching a community-to-community engagement initiative focused on encampment outreach, emphasizing relationship-building through direct, human-centered interactions and basic support services to better connect individuals who are not yet engaged in the system.

Agenda Item 9. Receive a report on the activities of the SNHCoC Board; for possible action.

Miguel Davila, SNHCoC Board Chair, provided an update on the activities of the Board. In January the Board reallocated 131,000 as part of the FY 2025 NOFO to the expansion of the Coordinated Entry system, based on recommendation by the Collaborative Applicants. The Board also approved a 3-phase approach for the NOFO. The Board has also been working on strategic planning implementation. A draft of the Strategic Plan has been shared with the committees for feedback. The Board will review the feedback and incorporate the comments into the final draft of the strategic plan. The Board also voted in an ad-hoc working group for the 2026 NOFO.

Agenda Item 10. Identify emerging issues to be addressed by staff or by the Membership at future meetings and direct staff accordingly.

No updates were provided.

Agenda Item 11. Public comment

Jason Schwartz from Mojave Mental Health, now operating as UNLV Health Mojave Counseling, shared several updates, including that they are currently hiring case managers and encouraged interested individuals to apply through their website. He also announced the completion of their permanent supportive housing project, Sun Haven, which features 50 fully furnished one-bedroom apartments with site-based vouchers. The waitlist is now open, and notably, this is the first time the Housing Authority has allowed an owner-controlled waitlist managed by Ovation Properties. Once individuals are referred and added to the list, Ovation coordinates the application process before forwarding it to the Housing Authority for final approval. The housing is designed to be accessible, with no deposits required and a pet-friendly policy allowing up to two pets without additional fees.

Tanesha Travis, TSTJ Consulting, a consultant supporting coordinated entry efforts with Clark County Social Services, highlighted the extensive behind-the-scenes work carried out over the past two years by multiple teams and community partners. She emphasized the collaborative efforts of groups such as the Youth Coordinated Entry Core Team, Coordinated Services Committee, and others in improving the coordinated entry system, including the release and evaluation of a revised housing assessment in July 2024. This evaluation led to a more comprehensive, trauma-informed, and person-centered assessment designed to better capture vulnerability across populations. The teams have also worked to streamline system navigation, remove barriers, and strengthen policies and procedures while using both qualitative and quantitative data. As the process nears final approval, it was also noted that upcoming opportunities to share the updated assessment and the development of accountability structures to ensure consistency across agencies. She expressed strong appreciation for the dedication of the many contributors, especially youth advisors with lived experience and underscored the community's commitment to transparency, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

Morgan Shah, Nevada Legal Services, shared an update regarding new federal changes to SNAP benefits, warning that many individuals may begin losing assistance as early as May 1st following a delay due to ongoing litigation. Under the new requirements, adults aged 18 to 64 who do not meet specific exemption criteria must now complete at least 20 hours per week of approved work, training, or community service to maintain eligibility. Populations previously exempt such as individuals experiencing homelessness, veterans, former foster youth, seniors aged 55 to 64, and families without young children may now be affected. Nevada Legal Services is preparing for an increase in clients facing benefit terminations or denials and plans to conduct outreach to help individuals understand their eligibility, provide necessary documentation, and file appeals when applicable. The speaker emphasized the broader impact of these changes, noting that loss of SNAP benefits could increase financial strain and housing instability, and shared that resources and informational materials will be made available to support community partners and affected individuals.

Agenda Item 12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.