

# MEETING MINUTES

## COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS

### SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

February 16, 2006

**In attendance:**

Thom Reilly, CHAIR, Clark County  
Kendall Wiley, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Adrienne Cox, Focus Las Vegas  
Keith Willoughby, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Rose Ann Miele, City of Boulder City  
Skeet Fitzgerald, City of Henderson  
Kenny Young, City of North Las Vegas  
Pat Duncan, Veteran's Administration

---

**Agenda Item 1. Call to order, notice of agenda compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.**

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Thom Reilly, Chair, Clark County, at 2:05 p.m., on Thursday, February 16, 2006, in the North Las Vegas City Council Chambers, 2200 Civic Center Drive, North Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the February 16, 2006, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

**Agenda Item 2. Approval of the Agenda for February 16, 2006.**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the February 16, 2006, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting on January 19, 2006.**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the January 19, 2006, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4. Receive a report on the Winter Shelter Program and other housing programs. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Coordinator, presented the Utilization Report for January 2006 for the Winter Shelter Program and other housing programs. She presented a summary of West Care's numbers for January 2006, including the Community Triage Center and the Mental Health Crisis Unit. Ms. West also discussed the Inclement Weather Shelter Program RFP timeline for the RFP that will be published on February 22, with the pre-submittal conference on March 1, 2006, so the Summer Shelter Program can begin July 1, 2006.

Thom Reilly, Clark County, asked if any strides had been made in making housing referrals in the mental health program; and Ms. West responded that Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) had already developed a partnership with the OUTREACH team, and the Social Service COACH team could also be included.

Mr. Reilly asked if any referrals had been made; and Keith Willoughby, SNAMHS, responded that weekly teleconferences were held with the Clark County Housing Authority, and Mojave Mental Health was part of the HELP of Southern Nevada consortium and had the ability to directly make referrals.

Dr. Leroy Pelton, Homeless Advocate, asked about short-term stabilization and what was envisioned for the Summer Inclement Weather Shelter Program; and Ms. West responded that the summer program was expected to be a mirror of last year's program. She discussed the definitions of short-term stabilization housing (i.e. totally bearing all costs for the clients) versus transitional housing (i.e. clients helping bear the costs) versus permanent housing (i.e. clients taking care of themselves).

Mr. Reilly and Ms. West further discussed the Summer Shelter Day Program funding and specifics with the hotel vouchers.

Dr. Pelton asked about the time limits on short-term stabilization; and Ms. West responded that there isn't a time limit, but it's based on individual case plans and treatment strategies. Mr. Reilly added comments on the flexibility of the program design.

Dr. Pelton commented on those people who are incapable of working or are on disability and asked what was being done to assist them; and Mr. Reilly responded there was a "...whole array of social service programs that are separate from Clark County Social Services...that supplement and continue to supplement incomes of a lot of individuals..."

Kenny Young, City of North Las Vegas, asked if it was known how many individuals that came through West Care may have been able to have been placed in housing; and Ms. West responded that West Care was going to be converting to the HMIS system so they'd be able to provide future tracking data.

Adrienne Cox, Focus Las Vegas, asked if the people reported daily at West Care would otherwise be in the emergency rooms and whether dollar figures could be added to those numbers; and Ms. West responded that the original intent was as the mental health care beds opened they would decrease West Care's numbers so West Care could absorb more from the emergency rooms, and what was happening instead was West Care was consistently staying overloaded and not being able to provide relief to the emergency rooms.

Mr. Reilly added that the numbers in the emergency rooms were getting back up to where they were before the project started.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 5. Receive a report on the status of the AB580 funded "Transition from Homelessness" Programs. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Coordinator, gave a report on the progress and activities of Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth (NPHY) and OUTREACH as summarized on the AB580 Monthly Report for January, 2006. She also referred to several successes reported as a result of using the protocols that had been developed in response to homeless encampments.

Myrna Pili, U.S. Vets, discussed some of their veteran services and numbers of veteran clients they were assisting.

Thom Reilly, Clark County, asked when the first quarterly report was due; and Ms. West responded it would be presented at the April meeting.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 6. Receive an update on the 2006 Continuum of Care competition process. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Clark County Social Service, gave a report on the 2006 Continuum of Care (CoC) general process milestones and presented a member participation list for the CoC Technical Advisory Board (TAB).

Kenny Young, City of North Las Vegas, recommended mandating that new or inexperienced CoC applicants attend the training process for technical assistance.

Thom Reilly, Clark County, asked if it was a requirement that applicants participate in the HMIS system; and Ms. Fuller-Hallauer responded it was part of HUD's requirements for CoC fund allocation that participants be active in the HMIS system, although they hadn't stipulated what active status meant.

Mr. Young added a recommendation to clarify that it was our HMIS system applicants had to use as there were multiple systems available.

Skeet Fitzgerald, City of Henderson, asked how many CoC applications there were last year and what percentage weren't funded as a result of them not having the technical training; and Ms. Fuller-Hallauer responded there were 13 applications submitted last year, and based on the HUD guidelines it was up to the CoC to determine what was mandatory.

A motion was made and seconded to include mandatory participation in CoC technical assistance as well as required participation in our-funded HMIS system. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. West added that the 10-Point Plan would also be included as general direction in the information initially sent out.

**Agenda Item 7. Public Comment.**

Gaylord Pearson, private citizen, asked how much was allotted per person per day in the OUTREACH program; and Mr. Reilly responded that the program was designed to be creative and untraditional with maximum flexibility and not as many bureaucratic barriers, and there was little dictating as long as general criteria was met. Ms. West added that this is a pilot project with programs not used before (i.e. Housing First).

William Cole, homeless citizen and UNLV graduating senior, asked if there was any support for homeless individuals to get an education; and Mr. Reilly directed him to meet with Ms. West about possible resources after the meeting.

Dr. Leroy Pelton, Homeless Advocate, commented on the OUTREACH team going out on their interventions to the homeless encampments, and he asked if the police had to be involved to require the homeless to move locations; and Ms. West responded on the size of the encampments posing health risks, not only to the homeless but to the surrounding community. She also discussed the general protocol procedures. Mr. Reilly added comments on how the current handling of encampments is dramatically different from how it was previously done.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.