



Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) Strategic Plan Implementation Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Intervention

Workgroup #1

January 4, 2017

Via Teleconference with Public Access At:

4126 Technology Way, Second Floor Conference Room, Carson City, NV 89706

1. Introductions, Roll Call, and Announcements

CJ Manthe called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was determined by roll call.

Members Present

CJ Manthe
David Paull
Jeni Chavez
Kelly Robson
Michele Fuller-Hallauer
Tony Ramirez
Wendy Simons

Others Present

Dale Hansen

Staff Present

Vanessa Pickles

Members Absent

Stephen Shipman
Tami Chartraw

2. Public Comment

Ms. Simons gave an update on the Veterans In Care (VIC) program, which is facilitated through the Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NVDS). The purpose of the VIC program is to provide outreach and assistance to Nevada's veterans who may reside in community settings and are not enrolled in the VA system or are not aware of benefits and services. Ms. Simons told the Workgroup she will continue to share information and give updates on the VIC program as it progresses.

3. Review and Approve the Minutes of October 12, 2016

Ms. Manthe noted one small change on page 3 of 6. She stated "Ms. Hansen" should read "Mr. Hansen" on paragraph 8.

Mr. Ramirez moved to approve the minutes with changes, Mr. Paull seconded and the motion carried.

4. Approve Proposed Name for Membership: Amparo Gamazo with Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority

Ms. Simons moved to add Amparo Gamazo to the Workgroup, Ms. Robson seconded and the motion carried.

5. Update On the Progress of the System Wide Analytic and Projection (SWAP) Tool as Used in Southern Nevada

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated the biggest challenge still being faced is gathering the full and true budget data from providers. She said Clark County is currently assessing the tool and identifying if it will prove to be a helpful and useful resource for planning in the community. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer said she is hoping to have more information to update the Workgroup on at the next meeting, including a live demonstration of the tool.

Ms. Manthe asked if anyone from the Workgroup would be able to assist with the data collecting efforts. Ms. Fuller-Hallauer said Workgroup members could reach out to their non-profit peers to explain the importance and necessity of the data. She asked Ms. Robson to mention the need for data at the next agency director's meeting.

Mr. Ramirez said northern Nevada attempted to get similar data about a year ago from the CoC [Continuum of Care] providers and faced similar challenges. He stated a survey was used asking the types of funding received from providers to assist with the data collection. Mr. Ramirez said he could provide the survey to Ms. Fuller-Hallauer to use as an example.

Ms. Manthe suggested requesting non-profits' 990-N tax reporting form to assist with data collection as it contains information captured by their major programmatic areas that shows their revenues and expenses.

Mr. Ramirez suggested Ms. Fuller-Hallauer reach out to Kelly and Peter Marschall to inquire on the steps they took to gather data in northern Nevada.

6. Discuss and Make Recommendations on Workgroup 1 Goals for 2017

Ms. Manthe first summarized the discussion from the Workgroup's previous meeting. Ms. Manthe stated one of the items discussed at the meeting was the need for good assessment tools in all regions of the state. She said the assessment tool would help to identify and prioritize those in need of housing, and also to ensure those no longer in need of assistance get moved out of the system. Ms. Manthe asked Ms. Robson to give an update on the southern Nevada Community Housing Assessment Tool (CHAT) as Ms. Robson mentioned at the previous meeting the tool would be rolling out soon.

Ms. Robson said the tool was rolled out November 1st, and a focus group consisting of clients was created to compare this assessment tool with the VI-SPDAT, which is another assessment tool being used. Ms. Robson said the results of that focus group will become available at a later time.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer mentioned a self-sufficiency matrix, which is an assessment and outcome measurement tool. She stated it may be worth looking into.

Ms. Manthe asked Ms. Chavez if she had an update on the Moving to Work (MTW) program. Ms. Chavez said Nevada Rural Housing Authority (NRHA) is still waiting on HUD [Housing and Urban Development] to allow application submission, which may not be until the spring. She stated NRHA heard the program may be limited to smaller housing authority applicants with less than 1,000 vouchers.

Ms. Manthe mentioned at the last meeting the Workgroup discussed holding a formal meeting between the housing authorities to discuss on how to best allocate resources within the state. The Workgroup agreed it would be best to wait until the Executive Director is hired at the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA). Ms. Manthe stated SNRHA is still in the recruitment process.

Mr. Ramirez stated it may be beneficial to start these conversations now rather than wait as most of the key leadership staff are already on-board.

Ms. Manthe said they will work on getting the meetings scheduled and report back to the Workgroup at the February meeting.

Ms. Manthe mentioned the discussion of housing databases from the October meeting, which everyone agreed are very robust. She stated everyone at the Workgroup agreed the portion that is most lacking is the integration of supportive services within the database.

Ms. Manthe suggested bringing up the supportive services topic at the next Affordable Housing Forum.

Mr. Ramirez asked Ms. Fuller-Hallauer if the SWAP tool will contain some of the supportive services providers and resources available to the homeless population.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated the tool does not break into the untapped resources within the community, but the tool will help show what the cost of support services is within each housing type.

Mr. Ramirez mentioned the primary focus of Workgroup 4 has been on the Medicaid expansion of services which will include permanent supportive housing services. He stated Medicaid is currently waiting on approval from both Washoe and Clark counties.

Ms. Manthe suggested waiting until those plans are set forth then continue the discussion on permanent supportive housing in this Workgroup.

Ms. Manthe mentioned another topic brought up at the October meeting, which was providing housing mediation opportunities for individuals and families at risk of being evicted. Mr. Hansen volunteered at the last meeting to work with the CoCs and report back to the Workgroup what was discussed.

Mr. Hansen stated the CoCs are currently working to achieve this goal.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer mentioned the discussion that took place at the Veterans Sustainability meeting. She stated providers in southern Nevada were concerned there will be a lot of individuals who are at risk of becoming newly homeless as the prevention dollars are drying up.

Ms. Robson stated Help of Southern Nevada receives 15 to 20 online requests for prevention dollars per week, but there is not a whole lot of prevention money in the community to go around. She said we need to find a way to allocate more prevention dollars because otherwise the prevention clients become the rapid rehousing clients.

Ms. Manthe mentioned when the Workgroup discussed rapid rehousing at the last meeting, the Workgroup decided it would be best to coordinate all the jurisdictions and work together to leverage resources to address the issue. She mentioned Ms. Robson volunteered to arrange a discussion among the local jurisdictions. Ms. Robson stated she has not made any headway with this task; however, she has plans to partner with Ms. Fuller-Hallauer on the task to assist her in determining key “players” as well as the best way to approach the issue.

Ms. Manthe suggested placing the rapid rehousing topic on the March agenda. Ms. Robson agreed that would give sufficient time to make some progress to report.

Mr. Ramirez suggested reviewing the current ICH membership to ensure there is equal representation throughout the state.

7. Discuss Next Meeting Date of February 1 and Approve Agenda Items

Agenda items include:

- Review Matrix Goals for 2017
- Review Workgroup Membership
- Housing Access Portal
- Permanent Supportive Housing Projects

8. Public Comment

Mr. Ramirez said there will be an Affordable Housing Forum on January 12th. The focus will be trying to create an affordable housing master plan for the Washoe County region. Mr. Ramirez said he will provide an update at the next meeting of the outcome and recommendations that result from the forum.

Ms. Chavez said NRHA is moving forward with construction of the 39-unit permanent supportive housing facility in Carson City. The waiting list for the program will open sometime in February.

Ms. Chavez stated she will provide the exact date at the next meeting.

Ms. Fuller-Hallauer stated the homeless census will start January 24th and conclude on the 25th.

Ms. Simons commented on all the progress being done at the Workgroup level and thanked everyone for their contributions.

9. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.