

Nevada Department of  
Health and Human Services  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



## Strategic Plan

# Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness

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# LETTER FROM GOVERNOR SANDOVAL

## Acknowledgements

This page recognizes the Interagency Council on Homelessness and other individuals who participated significantly in the planning process or in the development of the plan.

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## Executive Summary

This section summarizes the key information from all of the other sections of the strategic plan down to a 3-4 page executive summary. It will be written so that an outsider can easily read and understand the intent of the plan, the process used to establish the plan, community engagement techniques, critical issues, and corresponding goals, strategies and objectives.

## Introduction

This section will include a 1 page introduction to the planning process and the purpose of the plan.

Nevada's Interagency Council on Homelessness was established via Executive Order 2013-20 to coordinate and focus the State's efforts to effectively address the challenge of homelessness in the State of Nevada. The Council provides the opportunity for Nevada to engage in an integrated approach regarding the issue of homelessness and promote interagency cooperation. The Council works to increase the awareness of homeless issues among state and local government agencies and local organizations that provide services to people who are homeless.

### Methods

This section will describe the mechanism for establishing the strategic plan

### Engaging Stakeholders

This section of the plan will describe the process used to engage people into the development of the strategic plan. It will describe who was included in the process and how they were identified, community coalitions that exist to support the work and the linkages between organizations within the community/region of interest. This section will also describe the agreements made regarding the planning process (through use of logic model), and the readiness of the community to move the work forward.

## Vision for the Future

This section of the plan describes the focus, purpose and direction for the state in regards to ending homelessness.

### Mission

#### Draft Mission for Council Approval:

**Nevada's Interagency Council on Homelessness will lead Nevada's efforts to prevent and end homelessness.**

### Values

Nevada has a common set of values it shares with federal, state and local jurisdictions:

- Every person matters and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Homelessness is unacceptable.
- Homelessness can be prevented.
- Homelessness is expensive; it is better to invest in solutions.
- Homelessness is solvable; we have learned a lot about what works.
- There is strength in collaboration.

Nevada uses guiding principles shared with the Dedicating Opportunities to End Homelessness (DOEH) initiative, a joint effort between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). These guiding principles include:

- ✓ **Coordinating Across Partners**
- ✓ **Community-led Action**
- ✓ **Data-driven Achievable Strategies and Goals**
- ✓ **Making Commitments and Measuring Results**
- ✓ **Leveraging Existing and Untapped Resources**
- ✓ **Removing Barriers**
- ✓ **Targeting**

## Needs of the Community

This section of the plan should describe:

- What conditions exist in the state?
- Why do these conditions exist?
- What assets are available in the state?
- What system weaknesses must be improved?
- What system strengths can be leveraged?
- What short term and long term system performance opportunities are there?
- What forces affect how to take action?

The regional strategic plans and Continuum of Care plans can be used to inform many portions of this section.

### State Assets/Demographics

**Comment [SYP1]:** Demographic info – poverty, children in poverty, veterans data. Clark County 2014 Census PIT – pull in the one page statewide data. Housing presentation and pull in data.

## Identifying Strategic Issues

This section will describe the strategic issues facing the state as determined through an analysis of the preceding phase. Strategic issues are fundamental policy choices or critical challenges that must be addressed in order for a community to achieve its vision.

Strategic Issue #1

Strategic Issue #2

Strategic Issue #3

Strategic Issue #4

Strategic Issue #5

## Goals, Strategies and Objectives

This section lists all of the long-term goals (3 to 5 year statements of desired change) of the state. It will also identify specific strategies that will be pursued to achieve the goals and objectives and specific course of action.

State Councils are critical in aligning State and Local Plans with the four principal national goals as set forth in Opening Doors, the Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness. The national goals include:

1. Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness by 2015;
2. Prevent and end homelessness among Veterans by 2015;
3. Prevent and end homelessness for families, youth, and children by 2020;
4. Set a path to ending all types of homelessness.

The USICH recommends that state plans include:

- Develop measurable goals to end homelessness
- Set targets and measure results.
- Set numeric goals for permanent housing units made available for target homeless populations.
- Measure progress using the annual point-in-time data for the four population goals.
- Measure housing retention and how well homeless programs help their clients become employed and access mainstream programs.
- Create and coordinate statewide data collection and reporting system
- Assemble accurate fiscal and demographic information and research/data to support policy development and track outcomes
- Map out a state-wide production plan for permanent, supportive housing
- Coordinate goals and tasks of Balance of State Continuum of Care with local continuums
- Promote systems integration (e.g. health services and housing supports) to increase effectiveness and efficiency

Outcomes of the plan may include strategies to<sup>1</sup>:

- a. Identify and develop, through partnership with the state Medicaid eligibility/determination office, a process that accelerates and streamlines Medicaid enrollment for individuals who experience chronic homelessness.
- b. Develop Medicaid provisions (e.g., Medicaid billable services) that are used to cover the various services needed for those who experience chronic homelessness.
- c. Assist substance abuse treatment and homeless providers in becoming Medicaid providers and developing Medicaid reimbursement mechanisms.
- d. Engage and enroll persons who experience chronic homelessness into Medicaid and other mainstream benefit programs (e.g., SSI/SSDI, TANF, SNAP, etc.).

<sup>1</sup> CABHI-States RFA

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- e. Identify and enroll persons in Medicaid and other mainstream benefits with multiple chronic conditions who are likely to need or be served by medical homes or care coordination services.
- f. Identify, develop, and train staff on SOAR and create partnerships with the SSA offices to address seamless processing for SSI/SSDI applications.
- g. Train case managers and other staff on medical documentation needs of individuals seeking mainstream benefits

## Evaluating and Updating the Plan

This section describes how the region will measure and report on its success and lessons learned. Specific milestones for progress are described, along with the resources and tools needed to conduct evaluation, and the method and frequency for reporting and discussing results. It also describes the process and timing for reviewing and updating the strategic plan document to reflect significant changes over time.