
**NORTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
April 11th, 2022
10:00 am to Adjournment**

Note: Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the chairperson's discretion.

1. Call to order/roll call – Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland

Members: Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland (Sub-committee Chair), Shayla Holmes, Nicki Aaker, Erik Schoen, Laura Yanez

2. **Public Comment:** No public comment.

3. **Informational:** Discussion of needs assessment and system modeling. (Brooke Page and Ariana Saunders, Corporation for Supportive Housing). *This item taken out of context.* Ms. Page offers presentation, and the importance of Supportive Housing needs to address our homelessness challenges in communities and to build affordable housing. Key principles. Chair Hyne-Sutherland suggests the focus be on the “need” modeling.

- What is the goal and who are we focused on?
- Short- and long-term strategies
- Who needs rent assistance?
- Every community has its own needs
- Looking at diverse populations and what are the disparities
- Look at how current resources are being utilized
- Do we have the right services for the population in need of housing?
- Make sure we have service dollars and service needs
- Need specifics to take to legislature with a timeline

See presentation on Zoom recording. The lack of affordable housing is the need. People are saying they need shelter. Shelter can cost just as much as housing. Shelter is short-term. We look at short-term and long-term for housing. How much do we need per community? Therefore, we need to look at multiple systems. Unidentified person asks there are 8000 supported housing does that account for persons with serious mental illness. Ms. Page agrees this a population that needs to be looked at. We must look at what that support looks like. Unidentified person suggests Housing costs and construction costs are sky high, I think a model focused on building or remodeling should be investigated. Ms. Page understands that they need to understand all systems that contribute to the homelessness situations. Having dedicated units dedicated to a particular population with a rent cap to make it affordable. People who have zero income, we need to be sure there

is resources to keep them stably housed. We want to get community feedback. Unidentified person questions the system modeling and how it is funded? Ms. Page states that we are a consulting organization that looks at the scope of work. Working with Home Arp through the American Rescue Plan.

4. **Informational:** Presentation on emergency housing efforts in Washoe County. (Catrina Peters, Washoe County staff)

Ms. Peters shares her screen. Please see Zoom recording.

- Washoe County Manager has taken oversight of some of the local emergency center and our COC.
- The City of Reno has opened the Nevada Cares Campus
- Additional staff was approved, and then our Safe Campus was opened
- It started with tents and now individual shelters.
- May- August resulted that the county would take over NCC
- The continuum of care transfers to Washoe County
- Fallen Springs, all contracts were transferred over
- Initiated construction to bring additional facilities to that NV Care Campus
- Many things shifting to County in short timeline
- Washoe Co. Housing and Homeless Services is a new group
- Done a lot of work in outreach efforts
- Established Case Conferencing
- Going through list of homeless people to get them connected
- 3 main programs, Safe Camp, Emergency Shelter, Built for Zero
- Future is to complete construction to Cares Campus additional 50 units
- Working to preserve the housing we have
- Exploring partnerships for housing units

Unidentified person asks what's working about the dividing and conquering? Ms. Peters states that transitioning everything to county and keeping collaboration as a united front. Ms. Holmes asks could you share the policy alternatives and how it occurs? Ms. Peters states she will connect her with JD Klippenstein a Housing Policy Specialist who is well versed.

5. **Informational:** Creating Supportive Housing in Nevada (Sarah Adler, NAMI Nevada). *This Item taken out of Context*

Ms. Adler offers her presentation. Please see Zoom recording.

- The biggest challenge is raising money
- Housing finance is complex
- Get many calls to find housing loved ones
- There are 105,000 that are extremely low income based
- Paying more than 50% for housing
- Need housing for short- and medium-term persons
- Need long term for some populations

- How does this work?
- Deep and less subsidy
- Affordable Housing Trust Fund that fills gaps
- ARRP funds
- Housing Choice Voucher is assistant in renting
- Advocates need to work to get QAP more priority to supportive housing for extremely poor people.
- \$135 million dollar request for low income and supportive housing
- We need capital to build
- Need Project based rental assistance that needs to be subsidized
- Supportive services, have those units attached to services

6. **For Possible Action:** Identify knowledge gaps and additional presenters for future committee meetings if needed, develop recommendations, and vote to approve housing subcommittee to provide recommendations to Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board. (Subcommittee members and members of public)

Chair Opens the floor regarding presentations today and meeting before. Ms. Holmes states that there are two clear recommendations, one a recommendation to the State of Nevada to be able to utilize funds for regional needs assessment in the modeling discussed for it to work in the rurales it is going to have to be done with multiple counties as far as jurisdiction goes to move that forward. The other is to recommend the portion of the Governors Housing Dollars that he is utilizing right now specifically a portion of that to be allocated to supportive housing development in the northern region. Chair Hyne-Sutherland feels comfortable to advocate for these recommendations. Additionally, recommendation to monitor these bills that are tied to housing and add our voice there. Develop a sustainable funding stream. Niki adds that support state in developing the 1915I and get them moving on it and offer help. Mrs. Holmes we could make recommendations to be involved to work for our region for long term sustainability, so the rural regions do not get overshadowed by larger communities. Chair asks if there are any other ideas for presentations and ask for a motion that the subcommittee make a recommendation to the board to support the 5 recommendations out of the Housing Subcommittee.

- advocate to the State to utilize the funds for regional modeling
- recommend a portion of the Governor's Housing Dollars to be allocated to Supportive Housing
- recommend sustainable funding streams for supportive housing
- staying abreast of the conversations that are actively happening around legislative action
- support of the of the State in developing 1915I
- recommendation to be involved in 1915I conversation

Mr. Schoen seconds the motion and vote is passed unanimously. Chair suggests bringing this back to board and if an additional meeting is needed then we can convene.

7. **Public Comment:** Kristian with NV Medicaid appreciates the opportunity to offer some background and will look forward to that invite and continued discussion.
8. **Adjournment** Meeting is adjourned

On the internet – agenda and supporting materials

- **Department of Health and Human Services Website**
www.dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/Advisory_Committees/ACPG/ACPG_Workforce_Development_Workgroup/
- Nevada Public Notices:** www.notice.nv.gov

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If you need supporting documents for this meeting, please notify Jerrie Manning, Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention, at 775-684-4295 or by email at j.manning@health.nv.gov.