

**Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
December 4, 2014**

Committee Members Present: Dean Ishman, Wendell Williams, Patrick Smith, Bonnie Chu, Lavonne Lewis, Taurus Duncan, Vida Lin,

Committee Members Absent: Esther Langston, Nancy Brune, Ylonda Dickerson

Clark County Staff Present: Tim Burch, Bobby Gordon, Gina Olivares and Rachelle Tyler-Martin

I. Call to Order

- By Dean Ishman at 11:43 a.m.

II. Introduction of All Members

III. Public Comment

- None.

IV. Approval of August and October's Meeting Summaries

- Approved.

V. Announcements from Members/Social Service Staff

- Wendell Williams – The 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Parade will be held on Monday, January 19, 2015 at 10 am. We look forward to celebrating with you.

The Young Dreamers Awards Program will be held on Friday, January 16, 2015 at Second Baptist Church located at 500 W. Madison Ave. at 6:00 p.m.

The Annual MLK Scholarship Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at the Orleans Hotel & Casino. The program and dinner begins at 7:00 p.m.

- Dean Ishman – Feeding the hungry will be held on Thursday, December 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30pm at Fountain of Hope AME Church located at 2955 E. Russell Road.
- Lavonne Lewis - The Salvation Army will be having their annual toy distribution on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5. If you would like to donate toys or help a family in need, contact The Salvation Army at 702-870-4430.
- Tim Burch shared news of the passing of Linda Lera Randle El, founder of Straight from the Streets and tireless advocate for our community's homeless. The Homeless Vigil will be held on December 18, 2014 at 3p.m. at St. James Catholic Church located at 1920 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.

VI. Working Groups Update

- None.

VII. Department Update

- Tim Burch – Project Homeless Connect was very successful, over 3,000 individuals were served. The final report is forthcoming.

- Bobby Gordon - Coordinated Intake Update: On July 1, 2014, Southern Nevada launched the local Coordinated Intake process as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Coordinated Intake is a single access point or process where individuals are assessed for housing, homeless prevention, and other related services. Individuals are assessed and referred to the most appropriate housing and/or service resources available in the community. Clark County Social Service currently serves as the “hub” for single adults in Southern Nevada and the Veterans Administration serves as the “hub” for all veterans. Clients can be assessed for housing assistance at all CCSS locations.

Coordinated Intake makes the system easier for clients to navigate, sends individuals in need to the best fitting intervention from the beginning, improves systems efficiency and, and reduces the length of time individuals remain homeless.

Generally speaking, initial thoughts indicated that the community was in need of more permanent supportive housing. However, and based on a review of the data collected thus far, it appears that there is a greater need for transitional and rapid re-housing programs.

Coordinated Intake has identified several gaps in service which need to be addressed. The leadership team is also working on ways to engage the business community in addressing homelessness.

- Tim Burch – The legislative session begins in February, which is our next meeting together. We will present to the CAC the legislative issues that pertain to the Health and Human Services arena. We will be tracking bill drafts and issues, and will have a tracker for the CAC’s review at the February, April and June meetings. We will send you an email version in the March and May non-meeting months to keep you informed of the issues that are important to CCSS.

Appeals Process – At the February meeting, we will discuss changes to the CCSS appeals process. We will walk the CAC through the current process, what works and where improvements may be needed. We would like the CAC’s input on ways to have a more friendly, client supportive appeals process.

VIII. Membership:

- At the next BCC meeting, we will present to the County Commission all of the members who will remain on the committee, as well as the new member that was ratified via email.
- There are six vacancies on the committee that need to be filled. CAC members are encouraged to provide recommendations of individuals who are interested in being on the committee. Please submit recommendations to Rachelle Tyler-Martin by email at rachelle.tyler-martin@clarkcountynv.gov
- A Thank You Certificate was presented to CAC members who recently resigned from the committee.

IX. Public Comment:

- None.

X. Adjournment: 12:35pm

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. at the Clark County Social Service office located at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, NV.