

Citizen's Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
February 5, 2015

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

Committee Members Absent: Laura Martin, Nancy Brune

Clark County Staff Present: Tim Burch, Bobby Gordon, Gina Olivares, Deneen James

I. Call to Order

- By Wendell Williams at 11:45 a.m.

II. Introduction of All Members

III. Public Comment

- None.

IV. Approval of December 4, 2014 Meeting Summary

- Approved.

V. Announcements from Members/Social Service Staff

- Tim Burch – Our Annual Black History Luncheon will be held on February 26, 2015 from 11am to 1:30pm at 1600 Pinto Lane. I encourage and invite you all to come join the event.

VI. Working Groups Update

- None.

VII. Department Update – Tim Burch

- Thank you to Bonnie Chu for attending the homeless vigil and memorial for our former chair Linda Lera Randle, we were able to stand in for assemblyman Thompson and present a state proclamation to Linda's surviving husband, recognizing what she's done for this community and specifically for us as a department in the cause of homelessness. Her husband, Chicago, is keeping Straight from the Streets alive.
- Change A Life Update – Change A Life is a project to support local efforts to address the multi-faceted issue of homelessness by aggregating donations as small as one cent and channeling funds to effective, accountable, trustworthy organizations in order to increase their positive impact. How it works:
 - Traveler approaches the security area
 - Drops their loose change in the receptacle
 - Money is collected and deposited in the Homeless Trust Fund
 - Money is issued to approved agencies by the CoC Board
 - Families are housed

The program is modeled on what London Heathrow Airport and Denver International Airport have been doing for several years.

London Heathrow Airport:

- 25 years of success
- 3rd busiest airport in 2011; 69.4 million travelers
- 26 containers across 4 terminals collected \$392,000
- Equal to 10% of travelers donating a nickel

Denver International Airport:

- Initiated in February 2013
- 3 containers total; 1 for each checkpoint
- Averages \$4,000/month in donations

Donations at checkpoints alone could yield \$75K/year. A Heathrow model could yield upwards of \$172K/year.

We are in the design stage. Clark County Real Property Management is having a contracted architect to complete the design for the project. We would like to see the project Go-Live sometime this calendar year and start bringing some new resources to the community.

- Grant Funding Update – Approximately \$1.8 billion is being awarded at this time for renewal projects, new projects created through reallocation, and bonus projects. Clark County CoC was the only recipient of 25 cities in the nation to receive the Continuum of Care bonus project. The project was awarded as part of a special competition designed to help the department make progress toward its goal of ending chronic homelessness. In Southern Nevada, all projects that were submitted through the 2014 HUD consolidated application process were funded. As a Continuum of Care, we requested a total of \$13,099,933 and were awarded \$12,561,109.
- Homeless Census – The counts are conducted by Continuum’s of Care (CoCs) nationwide to provide unduplicated counts and statistically reliable estimates of homeless persons in sheltered and unsheltered locations. There were over 200 volunteers who dedicated their time to participate in the homeless census. Our entire census track was completed before sunrise, which was a great accomplishment. We received a lot of media attention from every news channel including Spanish-language channels. The Review-Journal and the Las Vegas Sun came out and walked an entire census track with us, including the railroad tracks. The data from the count will be part of the federal report that will be published in April. We completed several hundred surveys; these surveys are intended to further investigate the precursors and defining characteristics of homelessness, as well as the defining characteristics of different homeless subpopulations. This information can be used to create more effective programs, alter existing programs, and predict future challenges.
- Policy Update – We are going to have a public hearing in March to expand our service array.
 - 6 month FAS issuance will be expanded to a full year
 - Expand case management to a full year
 - Bring on an outside entity to help write the policy guide
 - Take the recommendations staff has put together over the last year of different products and see how we can look to provide those services
- Legislative Update – The Nevada State Legislature opened Legislative Session 2015 on February 2, 2015. A handout was provided of the Assembly and Senate Bills that have been introduced to the legislature and that CCSS is monitoring for outcomes due to their direct or indirect impact to the department. As the Legislative Session progresses, we will send out monthly trackers to keep you updated.

VIII. Membership:

- Wendell – We currently have 9 members. I was going to make the suggestion to increase membership. We've always had around 12 members. I would love to see it at its capacity of 15. I would also like to have a discussion around where the group would like to go and talk about workgroups as a piece of that. What type of individual or what does an individual have to do to become a member?

Tim – Send an email to me that they would like to be on the Citizen's Advisory Committee. If you have any recommendations of someone who has interest in the human services sector in business, healthcare, or in direct provider services, please have them contact me. If they would like more information I would be happy to contact them and explain the commitment level.

- A recommendation was made to submit names of potential committee members at the next meeting
- Discussion held on frequency of meetings, monthly versus every other month
- Add election of officers to next meeting agenda

IX. Public Comment:

- None.

X. Adjournment: 12:45pm

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. at the Clark County Social Service office located at 1600 Pinto Lane, Las Vegas, NV.

Submitted by: D James