

Scoring Tool Questions

- Lived Experience
- Experience in Homeless Services/ Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services
- State Geographic Representation
- Skills and Knowledge Expertise

Scoring Summary	Score Results
DiCarlo, Donna	78
Martin, Kimberly	122
King, Julee	98
Babbitt, Adrienne	121
Ramirez, Salina	88

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Donna DiCarlo, and I am the Assistant Director for Hosanna Home. We are a 5-bed sober living transitional home in Sparks Nevada which has been serving homeless women since 2008.

We have a nine-month program designed to provide women with everything they need to move their life successfully forward. The program includes housing, electricity, food, personal toiletries, clothing, and laundry facilities (including detergents) in a safe and stable environment. The program also includes life skills training, job placement assistance and Biblical teaching through group meetings and Celebrate Recovery.

I volunteered as a teacher and care partner for several years before I officially became an employee of Hosanna Home in 2020 and began working with the women on their life skills. I work with them individually with job placement by helping them secure their documents such as ID, Social Security Card and birth certificates as these documents tend to get lost while they are on the street. I help them build resumes, teach them interview skills and assist them with learning the budgeting process once they start working. I also help these ladies move forward by helping them work through the things that got them stuck and unable to move forward. I also assist them at the end of their stay in the program with securing a place to live.

My background is government and as a former Assistant City Clerk I am very familiar with governmental processes and how meetings are run. I have degrees in Paralegal Law and Psychology; both of which are very helpful in my work at Hosanna Home.

I would consider it an honor to serve on The Technical Assistance Subcommittee to the Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donna DiCarlo

Assistant Director

Hosanna Home

Hello and thank you for allowing me the opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself, and the reasons I would like to join your subcommittee.

My name is Kimberly Martin, and I am a Las Vegas native. Being born and raised in Las Vegas, I have seen the homeless population grow and grow every year and remember my parents always teaching me to have compassion, little knowing that one day that would be my fate. Due to my own struggles with opiate addiction, I caused my father and I to lose our house and become homeless at the beginning of 2016. For the first few months we stayed at motels & weeklies, when possible, but as times got tougher and tougher it was Impossible to find someplace that would help a father and daughter team.

My father was disabled, in a wheelchair, 80% blind, and completely dependent on me so in those times I found hospitals and rehabilitation centers for him to stay in, as being on the streets always declined his health. I was very fortunate that most of those places would allow me and my service animal to stay with him for a lot of the time. Not all of them though and not all the time. When I was able to place my dad somewhere and I couldn't be with him, I slept in parks, behind power boxes, anywhere possible. I stayed at the Salvation Army emergency shelter, was a client of Shade Tree on three different occasions and was even a client of safe house due to a domestic situation while on the streets.

My father passed away on October 13, 2017, he had a large mass tumor above his eye that I couldn't get anyone to take care of, the hospitals kept sending him home, and he ended up bleeding out, and I had to have him put in hospice and he died two days later. I was still on the streets at this time and was unable to come up with the money to bury him, so he sat for months until the state finally cremated him. I was finally able to claim my father's ashes in mid-May 2019 and after multiple times at Monte Vista and hospital ER's, I finally decided I wanted help and on June 2, 2019, my new life began.

Due to my struggles with mental health, especially severe depression, social paranoia, and high anxiety, coupled with my substance use disorder, Nevada Behavioral Health placed me in a sober living, Clean Shot Living and covered my rent while I attended their program and sought to get assistance. Due to my homeless status, and my placement by NBH being considered emergency housing, HELP of Southern Nevada was able to get me into their New Beginnings program and they placed me in a studio and had me file for disability. The longer time I was sober, I did not want to just sit and do nothing. I wanted to rebuild my life. I had been taking the bus back to Clean Shot Living daily (2 hours each way) to attend meetings and be of service for almost a year when the Director of Clean Shot Living said that she felt i was better served returning to the Clean Shot Community, not as a resident but rather staff, as the house mom at the new woman's house they were opening.

I left the HELP of SN program and since then, I have not only become the corporate administrator for Clean Shot Living nonprofit but also a board member. I have also become a bonded, notary public, and obtained my business HIPAA certification and have my own apartment that I am blessed to say I pay for myself.

Clean Shot Living recently became SAMHSA certified at our newest property and I am well versed in all aspects of substance use disorder. I would be honored and humbled to be able to use my experiences to make a difference by helping to make changes, to help spotlight areas that need addressing for more attention and resources for all the unhoused. Mental health issues and substance use disorder nearly ended my life and homelessness destroyed my self-worth, my social standing, my beliefs and gave me a huge reality check in how quickly society will disregard you but today I am living proof that you can survive, rise, and succeed. All it takes is a lot of willingness and just a little guidance.

On that note, I am extremely proud to say that I currently have 4 years 9 months and 17 days of sobriety and am following the treatment plan for my mental health.

I am grateful for your allowing me to tell you about myself and I hope you will allow me to continue to give back by helping you to stand for and serve this sometimes-invisible demographic.

I appreciate your time and I thank you for starting this subcommittee and addressing the issues of homelessness coupled with or without mental health and/or substance use disorders. It is a serious subject and a worthwhile cause that shows, as I learned, you can't count anybody out, for if you give someone a little encouragement and something to strive for, they can regain their confidence and reclaim their place in society.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Martin

To Whom It May Concern:

Please allow this email to serve as my letter of interest in connection with joining the Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness Subcommittee for Technical Assistance (ICHTA).

I have worked in the field of housing and homelessness since 2005. During the last 19 years, I have worked directly with persons experiencing and at risk of homelessness, and have extensive experience working with housing and service providers and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in a variety of roles, including:

- Project Applicant
- Continuum of Care Collaborative Applicant
- Homeless Management Information System Lead
- Homeless Management Information System Administrator
- Homeless Management Information System vendor

As a Las Vegas native, I am particularly interested in advocating for affordable housing solutions in Nevada and removing the negative stigma attached to mental health conditions and substance use disorders. I am a licensed Master Social Worker, and my educational background includes policy analysis, social service delivery, and community engagement.

Thank you in advance for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Julee King, LSW, MSW, ABD

March 19, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to express my interest in serving on the Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness Subcommittee for Technical Assistance. My current position is with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as the Field Office Director, tasked with ensuring HUD's mission is successfully represented in Nevada and as the "front door" to HUD for those that have a question about HUD funds, programs, or services. Throughout my career I have been deeply committed to advancing the mission of HUD and housing advocacy, even before my journey with HUD started.

My passion for housing began in 2006 with my first job as a Housing Case Manager for a small Shelter + Care program in Rural New York providing direct services to those experiencing homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health disorders. After 3 years in Case Management, I traveled to Las Vegas and took a job coordinating a transitional housing program for Veterans experiencing homelessness and took my professional development further embracing crisis intervention skills, person centered care, and learning about housing first principles. These hands-on experiences both in non-profit and government have provided me with valuable insight into the multifaceted issues surrounding homelessness and the complex challenges that exist in our community.

In addition to professional development pursuits listed above I consider myself to be a thoughtful and creative thinker who looks for innovative ideas and strategies. My values are resourcefulness, altruism, and strategy. I enjoy problem solving, data analysis, and research and am passionate about the work to end homelessness.

On a personal level my passion for housing may have been shaped by my own experiences with housing insecurity between ages 12 and 15, and being severe rent burdened and forced to make difficult decisions in my early 20's between rent and other daily necessities. I have deep empathy and commitment to the belief that housing is a human right, and it is this conviction that drives my efforts to impact meaningful change.

Thank you for considering my application. I am hopeful that I could contribute to the important work of the council.

Adrienne Babbitt

March 20, 2024

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

RE: Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness

Dear ICHTA,

I am writing to express my sincere interest as a subcommittee member of Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness Subcommittee for Technical Assistance (ICHTA). With a passion for community service and a strong background in mental health working with the homeless daily and 18 years of commercial real estate experience, I am confident that my experience as a Mental Health Support Worker, coupled with my service-oriented approach and real estate background, makes me a perfect fit for this subcommittee member chair.

As a commercial real estate agent for the last 18 years specializing in apartments and low-income neighborhoods in Las Vegas, Nevada. I have also been a board member for Southern Nevada CCIM Chapter as Treasurer, Finance committee, community caring chair for the last eight years as well as serving on the board for All for Health, Health for All, FQHC. I have acquired a comprehensive understanding of the diverse needs and experiences of individuals facing homelessness and the challenges Southern Nevada faces to solve the issues for affordable housing. In my most recent role as a Mental Health Counseling center owner of Inner Healing Center, I have developed invaluable skills and gained extensive practical knowledge that are directly applicable to the responsibilities of becoming a subcommittee member for Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness.

Firstly, my experience in decision-making and working with the homeless daily has taught me to assess complex situations objectively, consider all perspectives, and make informed choices. This skill will be paramount in developing effective strategies and policies to address homelessness in Southern Nevada. I have demonstrated my ability to make sound decisions by collaborating with multidisciplinary teams such as the City of North Las Vegas Home Team to develop personalized treatment plans for individuals experiencing mental health issues and homelessness. This experience has honed my critical thinking and analytical skills, enabling me to make well-informed decisions when considering the unique challenges faced by the homeless population.

Secondly, my proficiency in team building has allowed me to foster strong relationships with both clients and colleagues. I firmly believe that addressing the issue of homelessness requires collaboration and partnership among various agencies and stakeholders. Throughout my professional journey, I have effectively engaged with diverse groups to promote a cohesive and inclusive environment. By leveraging my team-building skills, I will be able to establish relationships and work collaboratively with agencies, nonprofits, behavioral health hospitals and community organizations involved in tackling homelessness in Nevada.

Lastly, my strong problem-solving abilities have been instrumental in helping individuals experiencing mental health challenges progress towards their goals. I am skilled at identifying

barriers and developing innovative solutions to help individuals overcome obstacles. These problem-solving skills, combined with my determination and empathy, will enable me to propose and implement sustainable strategies for addressing homelessness in Nevada.

I am excited about the opportunity to join the Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness ICHTA as a subcommittee member and contribute to the collective effort to end homelessness in our state. My dedication to service, combined with the strengths I possess in decision-making, team-building, and problem-solving, will undoubtedly contribute to the mission and vision to end homelessness.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my letter of interest. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss my qualifications further and how I can contribute to Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness Subcommittee for Technical Assistance (ICHTA).

Sincerely,
Salina Ramirez