

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF

THE NEVADA INTERAGENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS TO HOUSING

December 18, 2024

The Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing was called to order by Chair Tim Robb at 11:05 a.m. on Wednesday, December 18th, 2024. The meeting was video conferenced via Microsoft Teams. This meeting is being conducted virtually. This meeting was noticed in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law and posted at the locations listed on the agenda, as well as on <https://dwss.nv.gov/Home/Features/Public-Information/> the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services website.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Tim Robb, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Governor

Dina Neal, Senator, Nevada

Max Carter, Assemblyman, Nevada

Emily Testwuide, Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Corrections

Juawana Grant on behalf of Stephen Aichroth, Administrator, Nevada Housing Division

Dr. Catrina Grigsby-Thedford, Governor appointed member who has experienced homelessness

Judge Mike Montero, Sixth Judicial District Court, Nevada

Lieutenant Shatawna Daniel, Washoe County, Nevada

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robert Thompson, Administrator, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Colonel Mary Devine, Director, Nevada Department of Veterans Services

Sheriff Jerry Allen, Pershing County, Nevada

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Lieutenant Christopher Gorell, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Judge Christy Craig, 8th District, Nevada

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shelly Aguilar, Social Services Chief, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Alexis Ochoa, Social Services Manager, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Carlea Freeman, Family Services Supervisor, Homeless to Housing, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Abigail Bagolor, Administrative Assistant, Homeless to Housing, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Ryan Kokoski, Administrative Assistant, Homeless to Housing, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Agenda Item I. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

Abigail Bagolor:

Good morning and welcome to the Governor's Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing. This meeting has been publicly noticed in compliance with Nevada's Open Meeting Law. Chair Tim Robb will call the meeting to order.

Chair Tim Robb:

Good morning everyone, it is 11:05 a.m. on December 18th, 2024. I'd like to call the meeting of the Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing to order. Will the moderator please call roll?

[Roll Call. We Have Quorum.]

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you so much. I was hopeful that we would make it and glad we did. We will move on to item number two on the agenda.

Agenda Item II. [General Public Comments]

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Chair Tim Robb:

Item number two on our agenda is public comment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If you are making a public comment via phone, please call 1-775-321-6111 and the meeting ID is 285 404 721 followed by pound. We are now open for public comment. Is anybody online wishing to make public comment today? Was there any written comment that was submitted?

Abigail Bagolor:

There is none.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you. Hearing none, seeing none, we're good to close public comment. We will move on to agenda item number three.

Agenda Item III. [Discussion and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 26th, 2024, Meeting of the Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing]

Chair Tim Robb:

Do we have any discussion on the meeting minutes or any additions and edits that anyone would like to see? If not, I'd entertain a motion for approval.

Mike Montero:

I'd move to approve the minutes.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you. Do we have a second?

Max Carter:

I will second.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you. All those in favor, please indicate by unmuting yourself and saying "aye".

Dina Neal, Max Carter, Emily Testwuide, Juawana Grant, Shatawna Daniel, Mike Montero, Catrina Grigsby-Thedford:

Aye.

Chair Tim Robb:

Any opposed, please unmute yourself and indicate by saying "nay". Any abstentions? Please unmute yourself and indicate by stating you abstain. Motion carries. We can move on to agenda item number four.

Agenda Item IV. [Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Review and Recommendation of Housing Applications from the Nevada Housing Division in Accordance with Assembly Bill 310, the Supportive Housing Development Fund – Stephen Aichroth]

Chair Tim Robb:

Deputy Administrator Grant, are you going to take this item?

Juawana Grant:

Yes, I am here. It's Juawana.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you so much, Juawana. Go ahead.

Juawana Grant:

Awesome. Thank you so much for being here today. I know you called a special meeting for this presentation, and I really appreciate it. We're excited to share with you where we are in the process for the very first round of the Supportive Housing Development Fund. My name is Juawana Grant, and I am the new Deputy Administrator for the Housing Division. Some of you may know me from my former role at the Coalition. We've been engaged closely on AB 310 and the Supportive of Housing Development Fund for a long time. I'm very excited to be here today on this side. Moving this process forward with my team, Christine Hess and Tracy, who are both on the call for support as well. Many of you know who the Housing Division is but as a refresher, Assembly Bill 310 passed in the last Legislative Session, creating the Nevada Supportive Housing Development Fund. This was intended to build infrastructure capacity and provide funding support for quality, permanent supportive housing projects. Additionally, there's \$2 million of the \$32 million one-time appropriation that we have RFPD out for capacity building, data and evaluation. This is a pilot program in Nevada. And we're rolling it out just this year for the first time. Part of the regulations of the AB 310 in Supportive Housing Development Fund was to consult with the Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing. That is what we are doing today. And that was within forty-five days of the application closing. That's why we called this December meeting. The goals of the Supportive Housing Development Fund were to increase the supply of quality supportive housing. To build the capacity of supportive housing and reduce homelessness and inappropriate institutionalization. And to evaluate the effectiveness of that intervention here in Nevada. We have laid out to do that with this program. We are starting that out with these first applications. I will go through our application process and some of the highest scoring applications. So, you will have a better idea of our scoring process. We started with pre-applications. We received seventeen pre-applications and approved thirteen to move forward. The application round for those approved thirteen applications closed on the 25th. Ultimately, we received twelve applications for this round of Supportive Housing Development Fund. We've also released, but are still open, request for proposals for the Statewide Capacity Building and Training, and the Program Measurement and Evaluation. Those will close on a week from Friday, December 27th. We're still waiting on those, and we'll likely be moving forward in January. With the awarding process and selecting RFPs through our scoring and ranking process as well. As far as the scoring process, we

reviewed the pre-application internally. We were only reviewing to make sure that the project proposals met the threshold requirements of the program before moving forward to applications. We created a scoring and ranking committee of internal NHD team members across departments. We held a standard of eighty-five score or higher to move forward in the process. Our scoring committee scored on the point rubric independently. Then we came together to discuss our scores and the reasoning behind our scores to ensure a transparent process. We have selected five potential awards that have scored above the eighty-five threshold. But we still have some steps before making awards. I'll be sharing the highest scoring applications with you today. But we haven't officially selected awardees or made awards. There's still some in-depth fiscal review that needs to happen. And some clarifying outreach that needs to happen with the potential awardees. I just want to make that clear in case there's any applicants on the call here today. Of all the applications we received, four were from Southern Nevada, seven from Northern Nevada and one planning grant application from Rural Nevada. The average score across all the applications were about eighty points. We say awarded but these really are the selected highest-ranking applications because we have not made awards yet. The average score amongst the five highest ranking applications was eighty-eight points. And the non-selected applications' highest score was an average score around sixty points. There was a big difference across all our scoring. Of all the scoring and ranking committees, the rubric scoring was pretty well aligned. There weren't any major discrepancies across scoring committee members. That was great for transparency and consistency. Of the highest scoring awarded applications, four were from Northern Nevada and one was from Southern Nevada. We're hoping to finalize the scoring process through these final and fiscal reviews and make award letters in January. All of the applicants will be hearing from us over these next few weeks for clarifying questions, notifications of denial or moving forward in the awarding process. If we ultimately score this selection of five high scoring applications, the anticipated first round of awards will total to \$11 million, almost \$12 million. The potential highest scoring applicants range from all eligible organizations types aside from tribal projects. We didn't receive any applications from any tribal projects who would also be eligible under these categories. Four of the projects were in Northern Nevada, one in Southern Nevada. Ultimately, we'd be supporting one hundred eighty-two of new units of permanent supportive housing across the state in this first round. If we move forward with all five applicants that were scoring highest. Because we weren't oversubscribed in this funding round and we have remaining funds left, we are anticipating opening a second round in the spring. Providing some capacity building and training ahead of the second round. To improve outreach, scoring and project planning for these applicants. I will go through the five highest scoring applicants. I've selected some key highlights from each application to give the committee an idea of our logic around scoring and why these applicants were scoring higher. The first one is the Washoe County Cares Campus Permanent Supportive Housing Project. Totaling to forty-five units in Washoe County. Their application outlined their evidence based clinical practice. They outlined a low tenant to staff ratio. Which is best practice in supportive housing anywhere under twenty-five depending on the acuity of the population. They have significant leveraged funds through the county and formal partnerships with ancillary services. To ensure some sustainability of services. They're working strongly on regional coordination and will be using coordinated entry for the tenant selection plan. Which is a gold standard for permanent supportive housing. To ensure that the most vulnerable population is served by these units. The second one is

Line Drive Apartments by Accessible Space. Similar high scoring points targeting medically vulnerable, and veterans with VASH vouchers. Some increased resources there to ensure sustainability, low tenant to staff ratios and mission driven property management. ASI has experience nationwide doing their own property management and services. Has previous experience in providing this type of housing and some leverage partnerships with Medicaid billing to ensure sustainability of services funding. As a reminder, this is a time program. As of now, we only have a one-time appropriation. It is a pilot program so we were looking at projects that could come to the table with some sustainability plan. To ensure that as these projects go live and the tenants start moving in, they don't get cut off from services after five years. We will all be working together as a community to continue this program as well by proving this model. But we're really looking at projects that have some sustainability plan in case that we aren't able to renew this funding resource. Next one is the Carville Court by the Housing Authority of the City of Reno. This is a small project with eleven units. We'll have one case manager on site for all eleven units. It is bolstered by project-based vouchers. The Reno Housing Authority has a moving on strategy. For folks that reach some level of where they can sustain independent housing and can be accelerated into their housing choice voucher program. Which ensures some sustainability and some turnovers in the units. So, they're available for other potential tenants that might need this level of intervention. They will also be working alongside Volunteers of America who is an experienced permanent supportive housing provider in Washoe County. Instead of providing the services themselves, they'll be doing the development and property management. Volunteers of America will be partnering to provide the services. Volunteers of America also had their own application for the Highway 40 Project. This is twenty-six units. Fourteen of those units will be served by the Supportive Housing Development Fund. With the remaining units in partnership with Nevada Adult Mental Health Services, who will be providing referrals and services for those units. Some sustainability on those units as they're partnering and using their funding as a funding source for services. This project will be targeting individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. They'll also be pulling from the coordinated entry queue. VOA will be providing property management as they do with their other supportive housing projects in Washoe County. South Nellis Permanent Supportive Housing is our one project that was highest scoring in the South in partnership with Coordinated Living and Mojave Mental Health Services. This project will also be targeting individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. They included a budget item for twenty-four hour staffing. And have already contracted consultants to provide technical assistance as this project has moved forward in the development process. Those consultants including Mojave Mental Health, and a supportive housing subject matter expert will be providing staff training for the property management staff. This will be their first supportive housing project that I know of for coordinated living. Strong capacity building plan is already in place for this project which increased their scoring. This project is supported with project-based vouchers and some Medicaid billable services through Mojave who's bringing some funds to the table. Some sustainability factors there as well. Those are the summary of some of the highest scoring points for these five projects. We do have some clarification on some of the projects. We're going to do a deeper dive into some of the finance and budget to ensure sustainability. Also to ensure that budgets align with allowable cost before we make official selections. But those are the highest scoring applications at this point in the process. We have some curing processes and final reviews to make. I wanted to bring up the ongoing collaboration with the

Interagency Advisory Council. As that was a part of the intention of the original bill for us to consult with you. It was not necessarily just to present but also to have some meaningful engagement. Potentially a subcommittee, more support and feedback on the future rounds and reviewing the program guidance as we improve processes. Potentially enlisting some folks from this group to be on our scoring and ranking committee for a spring round. That is one thing we could talk about. Also wanted to get your thoughts before we move forward on what you've heard so far. The pilot process and what you think might work best moving forward.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you so much. This is amazing. I know that it's been a ton of work to get to this point. I know that the regular process is always a little bit challenging as well to navigate. So, appreciate you guys sticking through the process. Bringing this to us and making these great recommendations. I also appreciate the partners that are all coming together to make this work and economies of scale within the projects that are being proposed. That is great and the sustainability pieces is huge. We'll now open up the questions. Senator Neal, go ahead.

Dina Neal:

Thank you, Chair. In the plans, they didn't break down what their sustainability is for. Let's say it's drug addiction and not mental health or if it's an overlay. How are they going to fund it in that five years?

Juawana Grant:

In the application process, we requested tenant selection plans. Those were a way to figure out regional coordination which was a requirement of the grant process but also targeting populations. To ensure that these funds are going units that are going to support the most vulnerable Nevadans that were intended by the creation of this program. We also asked about service plan. All the applicants submitted their service plan for how they're going to address common barriers to housing. And how they're going to approach tenancy support services whether through specific clinical interventions. If they have a special population, they might have behavioral health or healthcare professionals on site. If they're targeting a broader chronic homeless population, which is the intended buckler for permanent supportive housing, they have a case management housing plan coordinator, and a tenancy support services case manager. That person connects them through intensive case management. Not only like a hand off referrals but through intensive case management to the appropriate services. You could see those in some of the stronger service plans that were provided. You can see some outlines of that process for navigating different potential case management activities.

Dina Neal:

Thank you. And thank you, Chair.

Juawana Grant:

You're welcome.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you Senator. Judge Montero, go ahead.

Mike Montero:

Thank you. It's great to hear about this. I'm curious as a rural District Court Judge, if you have any sense of why you're not receiving more rural applications.

Juawana Grant:

This is just a brainstorm and not any evidence or fact-based information. In my work in outreach across the state for affordable housing in my previous position and seeing what's coming through the applications, a lot of development in the rural communities' cant access the bigger funding pieces. Because they need larger development. They might not need a fifty-unit development in one rural community for this type of population. It really depends on the needs. What we did see in the couple of rural applications that came in and also in my conversations with rural communities in the past, there may be needing a more partnership approach. Or even smaller scale unit development. The folks that they are serving with this approach are accessing units that are in the market. But they need a subsidy and services to come alongside. Whereas this program was development based. We're trying to create new units versus it being a rental subsidy program which is a little bit different.

Mike Montero:

Thank you. The applications that you presented have pretty significant partnerships with mental health providers and other agencies that can assist. I am wondering if there may be limitations in some of the rural areas of having those supportive services. To bolster an application if you're noticing that as a barrier. Thank you.

Juawana Grant:

That's very valid. If we saw more rural applications come in, I could make a better assessment. We could also improve our outreach and capacity building in the rural areas. To support the development of these types of projects in the future.

Mike Montero:

Thank you. If there's some outreach that I can help with in rural Nevada, please let me know. Because I know that we have a need. I understand that it's not to the scale of Washoe and Clark, but we have significant problems with finding affordable housing. Something like this is probably non-existent in most rural areas like where I'm at in Winnemucca. So, thank you.

Juawana Grant:

Yes, no problem.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you so much. Are there any additional questions for our Housing Division? Hearing none, Juawana, is there something that you would like us to do on today's meeting? Are you looking for approval by the Council of moving forward? As you guys have proposed and started the process on before moving to the next step of final approval for projects?

Juawana Grant:

The decision to be made today is the level of involvement this group would like to have in future processes. We could create a subcommittee specific to the Supportive Housing Development Fund that the Housing Division could staff. We could talk about that decision today if that's part of your processes or we could save that for future presentation and talk more about what that looks like. Folks who are interested and want to engage in this process more could let me know. What is ideal is engaging this body in some capacity building and training once we have those proposals submitted. Once we have that technical assistance provider in and consultant in place. Also using this body as feedback for improving the application and outreach processes to communities that might not be reached. Like Michael Montero's comment, there's a great point that possible multiple factors are preventing rural communities from coming in. We could do a little research on that. Also for the future rounds in the spring, having some folks from this body. Those who are interested in this intervention and this housing invention joining the scoring process from the beginning would be a great use of this Committee.

Christine Hess:

I'm Christine Hess from the Housing Division and is supporting Juawana. I just wanted to add that in the engagement with the potential subcommittee, it could be members of your agency or team that participate. I don't want this committee to feel overwhelmed with engagement. The intent of engaging the Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing is because of all the cross-sector partners here at this table. Impacting, influencing and making sure that we are leveraging all possible resources and outlets. I don't want people to feel burdened that they have to come to the table. But if the Department of Health perhaps thinks that a team member makes sense to engage on a subcommittee level. It doesn't have to be made today. If you'd like to engage what you want to bring separately to the next ICHH, that also works for us. However the committee chooses.

Juawana Grant:

That's a great point. Thank you, Christine.

Chair Tim Robb:

Thank you. The answer is we would love to enhance our engagement here on the Council. Also, potentially through a subcommittee. It would be best if we include that on an upcoming agenda with some ideas on what seats we'd be looking to fill. And how we would want to structure that. Between now and the next meeting, we can have some discussions with the Housing Division and some other partners to see what that should look like. Then, we can bring a proposal to the Council for approval in the next meeting at the beginning of next year to start down the path. Also, if you wouldn't mind sharing the slide with our Division of Welfare and Supportive Services team to distribute to the Council members, that would be great. And including your contact information for members that would like to reach out on individual questions or comments on the process. We would love to stay involved. This is an amazing step forward. We love to be a part of a pilot program that hopefully will have a lot of success and drive some impacts across the state. I also would love to see some rural engagement and some tribal as well in the program. Hopefully we will be able to enhance all of our communities. We appreciate all the work. The work that you guys have done at this point will really set us up for success.

Juawana Grant:

We can definitely do that. Thank you all so much.

Chair Tim Robb:

Absolutely. Are there any additional questions for the Housing Division Team? Hearing none, we're good to move on. Thank you so much for the presentation and all the work that's gone into it. We'll move on to agenda item number five.

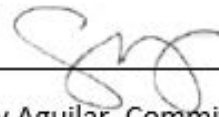
Agenda Item V. [General Public Comments]

Chair Tim Robb:

Item number five on our agenda is our second period of general public comment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this agenda item until specifically added to the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If you are making a public comment via phone, please call 1-775-321-6111 and the meeting ID is 285 404 721 followed by pound. Please unmute yourself and state your name for the council. Seeing none, hearing none, we will move on to adjournment. We are adjourned at 11:35 a.m. Thank you all for joining. We appreciate everybody's engagement on this. Thank you to the Housing Division for all that they've done to get to this point.

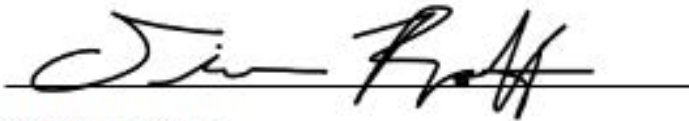
Agenda Item VI. [Adjournment: 11:35 AM]

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Shelly Aguilar, Committee Moderator

APPROVED BY:



Tim Robb, Chair

Date: January 6, 2025