Clark County Homeless Action Plan





Background 1 of 3

December 2005

Board of County Commissioners adopted first 10-year Homeless Plan as required by The Washington Homelessness Housing and Assistance Act, which mandates the creation of 10-year homeless housing plans for every county throughout the state and provides additional funding for the state and counties to provide homeless housing and services, also known as House Bill 2163. The plan had input through community meetings a survey of community members, focus groups, and a survey of persons who are homeless.

August 2007

The plan was updated with additional strategies to reflect the community's priority activities and to ensure consistency with the State's Homeless Plan.

Background 2 of 3

April 2012

The plan was updated to recognize the outcomes that had been met, assess progress towards unmet outcomes and revise strategies in light of the then current economic situation, updated community needs assessments and new expectations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH). As part of the planning process, action items were prioritized for the Department of Community Services three to four year resource allocation process.

Background 3 of 3

April 2015

When the Clark County 10 year homeless plan was first written in 2005, it was an innovative document, which has helped guide the community's work and investment in efforts to prevent and end homelessness for almost a decade. However, during that time best practices have shifted and the landscape of the community has changed. The updated plan reflects extensive research and community engagement to draft a reset homeless plan. This reset plan is aligned with existing community efforts, recognized best practices, community will and priorities at all levels of government.

The Department of Community Services engaged the Council for the Homeless to lead the process in drafting the reset of the Homeless Plan.

Community Engagement

Input from over 60 entities

- Nonprofit organizations
- Clark County advisory boards
- Law enforcement
- Members of the faith community
- People who are homeless
- Elected officials
- Education

New Approach to Plan

- Shorter timeframe
 - 3 years v. 10 years

- Less comprehensive, more readable
 - □ 16 pages v. 82 pages

- Population focused
 - people v. strategies

Plan Section 1 of 4

Maintaining and improving homelessness system

- Prevention
- Outreach
- Emergency shelter
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Transitional Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- System Coordination

Plan Section 2 of 4

Families with children

- 114 families are homeless in 2015 point in time count
 - 29 had no shelter at all
- Grow and align resources
 - Diversion
- Increasing income so families do not return to homelessness
 - Employment

Plan Section 3 of 4

Chronic Homelessness

- 103 people (81 individuals and 7 families) in 2015 point in time count
- Improving access
 - Partnering with jails, behavioral health
- Increasing housing first capacity
 - Medicaid reform/integration

Plan Section 4 of 4

Unaccompanied Youth

- 64 unaccompanied youth were homeless in 2015 point in time count
 - 21 had no shelter at all
- Youth specific access points
- Youth specific programs
 - Crisis
 - Transitional housing

Questions?