



RNCoC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

When: Thursday, July 17, 2025
Where: via Teams
Who: Rural Nevada Continuum of Care Steering Committee
Why: To discuss addressing homelessness in Rural Nevada

Attending:

Michele Fuller-Hallauer/ Winged Wolf
Jackee Stewart
Wendy Nelsen
Christie Contreras
Mary Jane Ostrander
Dawn Tann
Jennie Martin
Tessia Fairbanks
Tishell Morgan
Lourdes Zuniga-Perez
Jennie Martin
Cheryl Borgstrom
Meisha Jensen
Karyn Smith
Jamal Cunningham
Kim Stover

Summary of the meeting:

The RNCoC Steering Committee convened to address various operational and funding challenges faced by the committee. Technical difficulties were noted, particularly with screen displays, which affected notetaking. The roll call was conducted by Jackee Stewart, who confirmed quorum and recorded attendance. The meeting was recorded for transcription, and participants discussed the need for new leadership following Jackee's announcement of her resignation as co-chair after five years. Jackee provided an overview of the contract's purpose and strategic objectives, emphasizing compliance with federal requirements amid funding limitations. Dawn Tann introduced the transition to a deliverables-based model for contract payments to align with HUD regulations. The importance of technical assistance from Winged Wolf was

highlighted, with concerns raised about the impact of funding shortages on their services. A conference room participant echoed the need for additional funding to support ongoing work and emphasized the necessity of financial contributions from various counties, particularly noting Carson City's lack of commitment.

The committee discussed the significance of the point-in-time report for various departments and agencies in Carson City, stressing the need for contributions to ensure its completion. A conference room participant mentioned a potential grant opportunity from the Nevada Governor's Office to support coordination efforts, while Dawn shared a successful past collaboration for funding. Michele provided an overview of the funding worksheet, detailing contributions from different counties and agencies, and clarified the source of funding from rural clinics.

Standing agenda items were reviewed, with Jackee noting the absence of updates from the Nevada Housing Division and Bit Focus. Michele discussed HUD's announcement regarding a full competition this year, which would include street outreach and transitional housing, diverging from previous commitments. The need for advocacy to ensure HUD and lawmakers honor their commitments was emphasized.

Dawn inquired about agency participation in the coordinated entry process, and Jackee set a deadline for responses regarding upcoming training. The group also discussed the closure of the National SOAR TA Center due to funding issues and introduced Ambrosia Crump's Dignity Disability Solutions LLC for SOAR services. The need for timely communication and the inclusion of expanded Medicaid presentations in the next agenda were also highlighted.

Topics:

Michele Fuller-Hallauer and a conference room participant shared their experiences with technical difficulties related to their computers, including a screen display issue that made note-taking challenging. Jackee Stewart led the roll call, encouraging participants to introduce themselves and their agencies while also confirming that the meeting was being recorded.

Public Comments and Announcements

Jackee Stewart confirmed the quorum and invited public comments, leading to Mary Jane's offer to help with minute-taking. Jackee announced her resignation as co-chair, citing the need for new leadership after five years in the role. The importance of finding new co-chairs was emphasized by a conference room participant, who encouraged members to consider stepping up.

Overview of Contract Scope and Activities

Jackee Stewart outlined the contract's objectives, highlighting the importance of maintaining HUD planning grant eligibility and the limitations imposed by insufficient funding. Dawn Tann discussed the shift to a deliverables-based payment model, which

provides predictability but lacks flexibility for emergent needs. The group also reviewed the activities covered under the modified scope of work, which are federally required.

Funding Challenges and Technical Assistance Needs

Dawn Tann discussed the critical role of Winged Wolf in providing technical assistance, which is essential for navigating complex reports from HUD. She pointed out that the lack of system-level analysis and tailored support due to funding constraints leaves the team feeling unprepared. The conference room participant acknowledged the expertise of Winged Wolf and the favorable rates they offer, stressing the need for proactive efforts to secure more funding.

Funding Challenges and Opportunities for COC

Concerns were expressed regarding the lack of financial commitment from Carson City and other counties, with an emphasis on the need for collective buy-in to secure funding. Jackee Stewart pointed out that the total contract cost is \$174,825, with a current shortfall of \$45,321. Michele Fuller-Hallauer elaborated on the budget shortfall, detailing specific unfunded activities related to coordination and COC application.

- Funding shortfall and the need for contributions from various counties and agencies.
- The implications of HUD's decision to not honor the two-year NOFO cycle and the potential changes in the upcoming competition.

Funding Coordination and Community Contributions

The critical role of the point-in-time report for multiple agencies in Carson City and the necessity of securing contributions to fund its preparation were discussed. It was noted that a grant from the Nevada Governor's Office might assist with coordination, while Dawn Tann recounted a previous experience where additional funding was successfully obtained through teamwork. Jennie Martin suggested establishing a specific funding target to encourage participation from rural counties.

- The importance of securing a coordinator for the COC to maintain compliance and produce necessary reports.

Financial Contributions and Budget Clarifications

Michele Fuller-Hallauer explained the funding worksheet, highlighting the contributions from rural clinics and the breakdown of costs among counties. Dawn Tann emphasized the distinction between rural clinics and DPBH funding. Jennie Martin sought clarification on Nye County's financial obligations, confirming that a \$10,000 contribution would reduce the overall amount needed.

Standing Agenda Items and Competition Discussion

Jackee Stewart facilitated a conversation about standing agenda items, highlighting the lack of updates from the Nevada Housing Division and Bit Focus. Tashell Morgan

shared that she and Kessa were working on a flyer, while Michele Fuller-Hallauer discussed the need for a full scope of work to secure funding. The group agreed on a three-week deadline for feedback on funding proposals, with Wendy Nelsen noting the need to get approvals from multiple county agendas.

HUD Competition Updates and Technical Assistance Opportunities

Michele Fuller-Hallauer informed the group about HUD's plans to release a full competition this year, which will include street outreach and transitional housing, contrary to their earlier two-year commitment. She highlighted the National Alliance to End Homelessness's advocacy efforts to encourage HUD to honor this commitment. Additionally, she presented an opportunity for community workshops focused on coordinated entry fundamentals, urging participation and a decision by the 28th of the month.

- The upcoming technical assistance workshops and the need for participants.
- Upcoming training details and participant confirmation
- Coordination of entry agencies and their involvement

Discussion on Agency Involvement and Leadership Capacity

Dawn Tann asked for suggestions on agencies that should be involved in the coordinated entry process. Christie highlighted the need for input from individuals at coordinated entry sites, while Jennie Martin acknowledged her site's limited capacity but showed interest in participating if resources allowed. Jackee Stewart and others supported the idea of involving more agencies to enhance the process.

Deadline for Review and Upcoming Training Updates

Jackee Stewart suggested a deadline of the 22nd for responses about training participation to avoid last-minute sign-ups. Michele Fuller-Hallauer informed the group about the closure of the National SOAR TA Center and introduced Ambrosia Crump's organization, Dignity Disability Solutions LLC, which provides SOAR services. The group discussed the importance of timely responses to secure training spots and the potential for additional participants.

Next Meeting