



RNCoC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

When: Thursday, February 19, 2026
Where: via Teams
Who: Rural Nevada Continuum of Care Steering Committee
Why: To discuss alternatives to homelessness in Rural Nevada

Present Members:

Tessia “Tess” Fairbanks, Vitality Unlimited (Co-chair)	Wendy Nelsen, FCC
Joanna Radtke , NyE Communities Coalition	Kessa Lee, Eddy House
Shayla Holmes, Lyon County Human Services	Jackee Stewart, Churchill County Social Services
Jackie Rhea, Advocates to End Domestic Violence, Carson	Tishell Morgan, Nevada Housing.
Heather Hatch, SilverSummit Healthplan	Kelly Robson, BitFocus
Kacey Hansberry, Vitality Unlimited	Adrienne Babbitt, Nevada Housing Division
Christie Contreras, Carson City Health and Human Services	Madalyn Larson, Nevada Public Health Foundation
	Brandon Hallauer, Winged Wolf (WWI)
	Morgan Ulmer, Winged Wolf (WWI)

1. Public Comment and Announcements

Summary:

No formal public comments were provided. Members briefly discussed winter weather conditions across rural Nevada and the impact of snow and frozen road conditions on local operations. No additional announcements were made.

Action Items:

None.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

2. Standing agenda items for updates

Nevada Housing Division

Summary:

Nevada Housing Division announced the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) application is now open. Agencies needing assistance with the application process were encouraged to contact the Nevada Housing Division grants team.

Adrienne Babbitt introduced herself as the Deputy Administrator for Programs and noted that this year is the first time the ESG process is using the Neighborly system. Due to winter storms and office closures in Carson City, staff have experienced delays responding to questions and processing requests. Nevada Housing Division is exploring the possibility of extending the ESG pre-application deadline due to these disruptions. Updates will be distributed through the Nevada Housing Division listserv once a decision is finalized.

Action Items:

1. Agencies to monitor the Nevada Housing Division listserv for updates regarding possible ESG pre-application deadline extensions.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

Bitfocus

Summary:

Bitfocus reported that System Performance Measure (SPM) data quality notifications were sent to agencies. These emails identify data issues that must be corrected prior to final submission. Agencies were originally asked to complete corrections by the following Monday; however, due to weather disruptions and office closures, Bitfocus indicated that Friday, February 27 would likely be the latest acceptable date for corrections while still allowing time for data reanalysis.

Bitfocus staff encouraged agencies needing assistance to schedule one-on-one meetings. A tutorial video demonstrating how to convert Client IDs to UIDs in HMIS is available for agencies experiencing confusion when reviewing correction lists.

Bitfocus also reported that HIC and PIT reporting forms for non-participating HMIS agencies will be distributed soon. Agencies should watch for emails with instructions and workbooks to complete.

Action Items:

1. Agencies to review SPM data quality emails and complete required corrections.
2. Agencies needing assistance to contact the Nevada admin support email or schedule a support meeting with Bitfocus.

3. Bitfocus to distribute HIC/PIT workbooks to non-HMIS participating agencies.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

Veterans Administration

Summary:

No VA representatives were present during roll call and no updates were provided.

Action Items:

None.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

3. Lived Experience Speaker

Summary:

No lived experience speakers were present for this meeting.

Action Items:

None.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

4. Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition

Summary:

Winged Wolf reported that the Rural Nevada CoC submitted a letter to HUD confirming a straight renewal request for the current funding cycle, meaning no new projects were proposed.

An update was also provided regarding ongoing federal litigation affecting the FY24–FY25 NOFO. HUD recently filed a motion requesting the court dissolve the injunction currently impacting the NOFO. HUD indicated the intention to release a second FY25 NOFO addressing bonus funding and reallocations if the injunction is lifted. However, the outcome remains uncertain as the plaintiffs have until the following week to respond.

Winged Wolf advised the Steering Committee that the situation remains fluid and updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Action Items:

1. Winged Wolf to continue monitoring federal litigation and provide updates regarding the FY24–FY25 NOFO process.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

5. CoC Coordination Contract Continuation Discussion

Summary:

The Steering Committee discussed the upcoming expiration of the CoC coordination contract with Winged Wolf on June 30 and the need to determine whether the contract will continue.

Winged Wolf shared that the fully funded coordination contract totals \$175,000, which covers all federal compliance requirements and additional coordination activities. The current planning grant provides approximately \$60,000, leaving a significant funding gap if no additional contributions are secured.

Members discussed the need to determine the total funding available before making decisions regarding contract continuation or issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP). Several members noted that agencies may not have funding available to contribute this year, and there is uncertainty about whether state partners will provide additional funding.

Members also discussed potential funding opportunities, including exploring grants through healthcare partners such as CareSource Foundation and other nonprofit funding sources. It was suggested that nonprofit agencies within the CoC could apply for these opportunities with letters of support from participating counties.

The committee agreed that additional discussion is needed and that progress must occur quickly due to the timeline required if an RFP is pursued.

Members agreed to begin weekly meetings to discuss coordination funding and options to ensure a decision can be made within the next month.

Action Items:

1. Schedule weekly coordination funding discussion meetings for the remainder of the month.
2. Agencies to explore potential funding opportunities, including CareSource Foundation grants.

3. Nonprofit agencies to review eligibility for potential grant applications supporting coordination activities.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

6. Discussion on CoC Training Needs (Rural BLI)

Summary:

Winged Wolf shared the results of the training priority survey distributed to members. Approximately fifteen responses were received. Based on survey rankings, the top identified training priorities were:

1. Coordinated Entry 101
2. Trauma-Informed Care
3. Housing Types and Eligibility
4. Housing First
5. File Documentation Management and Compliance

Members recommended adding CoC Governance 101 as a priority topic due to the number of new Steering Committee participants and the possibility that coordination responsibilities may shift in the future.

Winged Wolf will coordinate with Christie Contreras to discuss next steps for organizing training sessions funded through the Rural BLI opportunity.

Action Items:

1. Winged Wolf to coordinate with Christie Contreras regarding training planning and implementation.
2. Include CoC Governance training within the priority training topics.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

7. Policy Adjustments; if needed

Summary:

No policy adjustments were identified or discussed during this meeting.

Action Items:

None.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

8. CoC Coordination

Summary:

Winged Wolf reported that work is ongoing to finalize PIT and HIC data validation. Agencies were thanked for their participation in the PIT Count. Winged Wolf explained that preliminary numbers will not be released until they have been validated by HUD reviewers to prevent confusion caused by revised numbers.

Members discussed opportunities for improving PIT coverage in rural counties, including the possibility of neighboring counties assisting with counts where local participation is limited. Some members noted that nonprofit organizations may have greater flexibility to assist in neighboring areas than county agencies.

Winged Wolf also reported that some volunteers did not enable location services during PIT data collection, and follow-up will be conducted to verify locations where surveys were completed.

Action Items:

1. Winged Wolf to continue validating PIT and HIC data prior to releasing preliminary results.
2. Winged Wolf to follow up with volunteers regarding missing location data.
3. Steering Committee to discuss improved cross-county coordination for future PIT counts.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

9. Any items for addition to the agenda for the next meeting

Summary:

Members requested the CoC coordination contract continuation discussion remain on the agenda for the next meeting as progress continues through the weekly coordination meetings.

Action Items:

1. Continue coordination funding discussion at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

10. Public Comment and Announcements

Summary:

Nevada Housing Division encouraged members to participate in the Nevada 2026 Annual Action Plan survey, which helps guide the use of HUD funding for housing and homelessness programs statewide. The survey takes approximately five to ten minutes to complete, and members were encouraged to attend public hearings if they wish to provide additional input.

Members also discussed identifying a potential law enforcement representative to participate in the Steering Committee. A wildlife and fisheries officer who regularly engages with rural encampments may be invited to participate.

The meeting adjourned early.

Action Items:

1. Members to complete the Nevada 2026 Annual Action Plan survey.
2. Provide the RNCoc mailing list sign-up link to potential new Steering Committee members interested in participating.

Motions: N/A

Vote: No vote necessary

Next Steps / Action Items

1. Agencies to monitor Nevada Housing Division listserv for ESG pre-application updates.
2. Agencies to review and correct SPM data quality issues.
3. Bitfocus to distribute HIC/PIT workbooks to non-HMIS participating agencies.
4. Winged Wolf to monitor federal litigation and update the CoC regarding NOFO changes.
5. Schedule weekly meetings to determine coordination contract funding strategy.
6. Agencies to explore potential grant opportunities to support coordination services.
7. Winged Wolf to coordinate with Christie Contreras regarding Rural BLI training implementation.
8. Winged Wolf to continue PIT and HIC data validation before releasing results.
9. Continue coordination funding discussion at the next Steering Committee meeting.
10. Members to complete the Nevada 2026 Annual Action Plan survey.