

## **Seven Questions on Homelessness (lightly edited for clarity)**

### **John Curran writes: What about a “housing first” approach in the City of Las Vegas?**

- **Kathi Thomas Gibson writes:** The city supports and advocates for the inclusion of housing first approaches to address homelessness. We are actively engaged with all other jurisdictions exploring how we can implement this model across southern Nevada. [The cities of] Las Vegas, Henderson, Clark County and North Las Vegas, along with several non-profits, recently completed a housing "boot camp" where we learned how to apply housing first in our local context and developed several proposed projects to explore. We have some important steps we still need to take: we need more accessible, affordable housing; we need comprehensive supportive services that can support individuals in housing of their choice, and we need effective navigation and data systems that help providers share information appropriately to better serve persons experiencing homelessness.

### **Dayvid Figler writes: What is the participation of law enforcement in San Antonio’s Haven for Hope? How often is law enforcement called to the Haven of Hope for 911 service?**

- **Kenny Wilson writes:** Haven for Hope has a strong and positive relationship with the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) and is intimately involved with SAPD in a variety of ways to include:
  - o Haven for Hope’s Outreach team work closely with the SAPD Hope (Homeless Outreach Positive Encounters) Team. The HOPE team addresses homelessness in the downtown area of San Antonio and is a community-oriented collaboration between public and private/non-profit service providers and facilitated by the SAPD. Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) bicycle patrol officers lead and facilitate outreach efforts inclusive of Haven for Hope’s Outreach team to assist in addressing basic human needs, shelter, resources etc.
  - o Haven for Hope has an Agreement in place with SAPD to have 3 off-duty SAPD Officers work at Haven but be in full uniform. Primary function is to provide services on the Courtyard but these officers are a valuable partner with us for all law enforcement needs on the campus.
  - o Haven’s Life Safety Department collects and maintains various data elements. One example: EMS calls from the campus. Span of 3 weeks in April 2018, a total of 48 EMS calls were made from Haven with 35 resulting in transports being needed to hospital.
  - o Haven for Hope also has a good relationship with the Bexar County Sheriff Department.

### **Pam Stuckey writes: Do the arts and humanities participate in the Haven of Hope (or in the Corridor of Hope)?**

- **Kenny Wilson writes:** Haven for Hope has a long-standing relationship with the San Antonio Museum of Art who come to campus every two weeks to provide high quality art classes to our children and women with the classes taught by the Museum of Art’s staff artists. Haven for Hope has multiple performance group camps, classes and

performances. Haven for Hope currently has a music program for Mom's & Tots and is also engaged with the Children's Museum on activities. At the current time, Haven is also working with the San Antonio Symphony regarding them coming to perform at Haven.

- [Kathi Thomas Gibson writes](#): [In regard to the City of Las Vegas's Courtyard] No not in a sustained way. We have had murals painted in the Corridor of Hope. We have had some musicians come to the courtyard to play music for homeless guests. We have had some volunteers doing arts, crafts and puzzles. We do not have art therapy or sustained programming; nor do we have significant donations of resources from the arts community.

**Rebecca Miller writes: What RTC route best serves the new facility on Foremaster Lane? Does RTC have some sort of token system for homeless to use?**

- [Kathi Thomas Gibson writes](#): There is a bus route on Las Vegas Blvd that stops directly in front of Catholic Charities and another line that stops on Owens Ave in front of Salvation Army. I am not aware of a token system specific to homeless consumers.
- [Deacon Tom Roberts writes](#): The local jurisdictions, in conjunction with the RTC, fund bus passes for the nonprofit partners to utilize when helping homeless individuals. A very common occurrence can include a service provider giving a bus pass to a homeless individual to make their way to services. Many of the nonprofits in town can purchase bus passes from the RTC at a discounted rate to help underserved individuals get around town.

**Meredith Spriggs writes: How much has street homelessness decreased since the Haven for Hope opened? How many clients have been permanently housed and not returned to homelessness?**

- [Kenny Wilson writes](#): Haven for Hope opened its doors in April 2010 and the annual Point-in-Time Downtown count conducted in January 2010 reflects a total 738 individuals being identified as homeless. The January 2018 downtown count totals 197 individuals. Since Haven opened its doors, the downtown homeless count has decreased by approximately 80%.

**Kathleen Khar writes: Why is the City removing benches from downtown locations?**

- [Kathi Thomas Gibson writes](#): I am not aware of bench removal. Some of the construction and street work going on downtown may impact where benches are located. There are still a lot of benches throughout downtown.

**Lauren Boitel writes: What is the County doing, or planning in the near future, to address homelessness in our region given CLV's leadership in this area and with the Courtyard?**

- [Kevin Schiller writes](#): Clark County funds multiple agencies within the Corridor area. Below is a chart which outlines the current funding inclusive of both direct funding and pass through funding from Federal and State funds.

# What We Are Doing To Support A Healthy System -Clark County's Contribution

| Outreach                                                                                                                               | Emergency Housing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Bridge Housing                                                                                                                   | Rapid Re-Housing                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Permanent Supportive Housing                                                                                                                                                                                                | Prevention/ Diversion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mobile Crisis Intervention Team (MCIT)+</li> <li>✓ LINK Outreach<br/>\$1.2 Million</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Financial Assistance (FAS)<br/>\$600,000</li> <li>✓ Year Round Shelter<br/>\$1,362,373</li> <li>✓ Inclement Weather Shelter<br/>\$673,919</li> <li>✓ Emergency Shelter Program (ESG)<br/>\$347,973</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Bridge Housing Program<br/>\$2,000,000</li> <li>✓ Bridge (FAS)<br/>\$600,000</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hospital to Home<br/>\$650,000</li> <li>✓ ESG-RRH Program (ESG)<br/>\$231,982</li> <li>✓ CABHI/LIHTF TBRA<br/>\$850,000</li> <li>✓ Keeping Families Together<br/>\$255,784</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ New Beginnings<br/>\$2,515,304</li> <li>✓ Healthy Living<br/>\$565,540</li> <li>✓ The Vivo Housing Project<br/>\$2,001,686</li> <li>✓ Clark County FUSE<br/>\$1,652,924</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Financial Assistance (FAS)<br/>\$5,800,000</li> <li>✓ Welfare Set-Aside Program (WSAP)<br/>\$658,770</li> <li>✓ Indigent Nursing Home<br/>\$24,000,000</li> <li>✓ Group Care<br/>\$1.2 Million</li> <li>✓ Homemaker Services<br/>\$1.2 Million</li> </ul> |

As referenced at the panel as the regional provider we will continue to leverage funding at all levels to support the needs to include the corridor along with a focus on intensive transitional supportive housing. This will create a resource for programming and movement of clients within the corridor to programming throughout the region. A significant gap is transitional housing beyond intake and initial assessment to move from shelter to independence. The County will continue to focus on filling gaps specific to a continuum of care as a partner.