

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes September 30, 2015 10:00a.m. - 11:30a.m.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Betsy Fadali - NV Housing
Sharath Chandra - NV Housing
Sheila Roberts - SocialServe
Francine Lebrato - NV Housing
Josie Hatem - NV Housing
George Graham - City of Sparks
Lorena Candelario - City of N. Las Vegas

Kate Zook - Silver State Fair Housing Amy Jones- Reno Housing Authority Michelle Khau-Aging and Disability Services Phyllis Hargrove - HUD Alex Crockett -Nevada 211 Sherry Manning – Gov. Council on Developmental Disabilities

#### SPECIAL MENTIONS – EMPHASYS & HUD 811

- Social Serve partnered with Emphasys seven weeks ago- Emphasys has acquired the Social Serve technology assets, the marketing staff and some of the development staff, including Sheila Roberts
- The change doesn't impact the service, there is now opportunity to grow the technology and now have key development staff that is already in place.
- Social Serve has been operating a nonprofit for over 16 yrs and because of its growth recently has had to turn away many development projects that can help make this a better service.
- Social Serve has 38 housing locators across the country; Emphasys is an entity that primarily focuses on housing finance authorities
- Acquisition ended as follows:
  - o Emphasys now has the sales, marketing and software for SocialServe
  - o For NVHousingSearch, the call center remains with Socialserve.com
  - HUD Section 811 addin module is being discussed with the Housing Division
  - Call center will still be run by SocialServe
- HUD811 Nevada was awarded a portion of the HUD Section 811 PRA funds.
- Discussions are taking place to help administer the award through P.A.I.R. module.
- P.A.I.R. module is a prescreen assessment, intake and inflow tool to help screen and process client information from multiple programs.
  - o Able to build out waitlist and tools with only one log in and one intake form
  - This makes it possible to work directly with a caseworker and to place clients into
     811 units as they are being built and assigned
  - P.A.I.R. has been customized for every state and every region; if discussions move forward we will be able to implement in Nevada.



One Year

## **ANNIVERSARY!!** ~ Socialserve.com

- September 16<sup>th</sup> was the 1 year anniversary for NVHousingSearch.org
- Betsy expressed appreciation to all those who helped
- NVHousingSearch was featured in the Silver State Spotlight; it a gave jump on the searches.

#### **PROGRAM STATUS UPDATE AND PROJECTIONS** ~ Socialserve.com

- Reviewed State and Update projection slides
- Currently over 36,000 housing units and over 45,000 searches
- Betsy has new goal of 40,000 housing units
- Dip in searches during the holiday is normal
- 4045 searches every month shows the need and success of the program

# Google Analytics- Slide reviewed for June – September

- Allows a closer tracking of the use of the system
- Sessions are at 12,677, that is separate users
- Users are spending an average of 4.5 minutes on the website
- Over 68% of the traffic are new searches
  - Over 30% are return users

# Estimated % of Total Multi-family units-slide

- Betsy has done a great job in getting connecting with landlords
- Single families seem to get leased fast
- 14% of multifamily listed in Nevada are listed on NVHousing
  - o 24% in the north, rural has 39%.
- NVHousingSearch is open to any and all rental units (condominium, townhouses, module homes)
- Rental market is expected to be diverse, there is more in a demand than in other areas
- With the market getting tighter we expect to see more nontraditional rentals on the system than from years pass

## Special Needs Housing Module and Demonstration ~ Socialserve.com

Service Provider/Restricted Access Portal

- Allows approved agencies that work with different types of target consumers.
- Transition coordinator and case workers may be benefit from this.
- This is for those who want to work strictly with the agencies who serve the special need consumers.
- Many landlords want to work with agencies and want to be connected with agencies
- System also helps keep track of what the agencies are looking for
- Many landlords have demonstrated interest in working with special needs agencies.



#### **REPORTING NEEDS**

- Can collect over 100 different criteria's for the landlord
- Also have search criteria on Google analytics
- Can also pull custom recording, based on need of the office
- There may be a fee to do customized reports, onetime fee based on the size
- NHD is starting to see the uses of the data, by using data with A&D Services to see which reports can be helpful
  - Been sharing listing with a few other agencies, plan to do more work with the search criteria
- Helps identify the accessibility features, units that are needed

#### **TRAINING AND PRESENTATIONS**

- NVHS has taken part in various events. Also people from this advisory and board meeting have all helped out by taking NVHousingSearch information to various events
- Advisory members are already planning on taking material to future events
  - Please reach out to us, we can get you material
  - o Also, training is always available to be tailored to your needs
- Betsy got 20 min of air time on "It's Your City" to talk about the locator; it will be featured
  on public access channel
  - o clips may possibly be used on future PSA spots
- NHD has a few PSA spots already airing in northern Nevada in both English & Spanish.
- Reached out to Hispanic community via news channel Entrevision and El Mundo newspaper

#### **TESTIMONIALS**

- Received great feedback from many of our partners, we would like to continue to see more
  - Please share your testimonials, it helps carry the word to others

#### **MEDIA & PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITY DISCUSSION**

- Continuing to promote NVHS via web optimization
  - The more a website is visited the higher it's going to come up on a search
  - o The more people will find the website
- Social media, is also a great way to increase attention to website
  - Both Washoe's and Lyon Co. have done Facebook posts
  - Social media is great way for agencies to help each other
- Betsy will provide a chart to shows the vacancy rate
  - 75% of tax credit properties are listed
- There are many media opportunities, online webinars, training and presentation opportunities that are available; there are marketing materials on benefit to landlords, service providers also



## OTHER FEEDBACK

- Committee was asked to please give feedback on anything that can be improved or any thing that needs to be addressed, sometimes they are important points
- Visit the info link if you'd like to suggest a resource, or suggestions for in any changes

# MEETING CALENDAR/ADJOURN

We will meet again in another 4 months, date to be determined Meeting adjourned 11:21am