# Nevada Interagency Council on Homelessness to Housing and Senior Homelessness in Nevada

Niani Cooper

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## Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing

- Assembly Bill No. 174(2019)/NRS 232.498
  - Nevada's Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness to Housing (ICHH) was established via Executive Order 2013-20 and reestablished through Assembly Bill 174 in 2019 to coordinate and focus the State's efforts to effectively address the challenge of homelessness in the State of Nevada. The Council provides the opportunity for Nevada to engage in an integrated approach regarding the issue of homelessness and promote interagency cooperation.
  - The purpose of the ICHH council is to develop an integrated approach regarding the issue of homelessness and promote interagency cooperation.
  - The Council works to increase the awareness of homeless issues among state and local government agencies and local organizations that provide services to people who are experiencing homeless.

### ICH Council Members

- Tim Robb Chair (Designee of the Governor's Chief of Staff)
- Administrator Robert Thompson (Designee of Director Richard Whitley DHHS)
- Deputy Director Emily Testwuide (Designee for the Department of Corrections)
- Administrator Steven Aichroth (Housing Division)
- Director Lisa Maciel (Department of Veterans Services)
- Lieutenant Christopher Gorrell (Designee of Sheriff for Clark County)
- Lieutenant Bandon Zirkle (Designee of Sherriff for Washoe County)
- Assemblyman Max Carter
- Senator Kina Neal
- Judge Christy Crag
- Judge Mike Montero
- Sheriff Jerry Allen (Pershing county)
- Dr. Catrina Grigsby-Thedford (Governor's appointment)



### ICH Subcommittee for Technical Assistance (TA).

- The Council established the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) during their meeting on September 15, 2020. The subcommittee was charged with establishing a strategic plan for the Council. The strategic plan subcommittee met regularly to develop the strategic plan.
- During 2020 and 2021, the TAC accomplished revising strategic issues and goals.
  The updated plan was presented to the Council at the October 2021 meeting for
  approval and direction. A final version was presented and adopted during the
  October 26, 2022, Council meeting. The TAC will review, revise and update (if
  applicable) the strategic plan annually and present its findings to the Council for
  approval and direction.
- The TA is currently working on the Action Plan based on the eight strategic issues.
  - Housing Homelessness Prevention & Intervention Wraparound Services
  - Education & Workforce Development Coordination of Primary & Behavioral Health
  - Policies Coordination of Data & Resources Long Term Planning



### **Technical Assistance Subcommittee Members**

- Michele Fuller Hallauer (Chair) Winged Wolf Innovations LLC
- Brooke Page (Vice Chair) Corporation for Supportive Housing
- Karen Van Hest Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada
- Nolga Valadez Three Square
- Austin Pollard United Healthcare Health Plan of Nevada Medicaid
- Dr. Pamela Juniel McKinney Vento Nevada Department of Education
- Chris Murphy New Frontier Nevada
- Lorena Lemus Northern Nevada Hopes
- Scott Benton Nevada Cares Campus
- Cristy Costa Northern Nevada Community Housing



### ICHH Strategic Plan Overview

- Homelessness is a complex public health concern and when viewed through the lens of social
  determinants its clear homelessness is often a cumulative result of social, economic, and relational
  factors. It is through data-driven strategies that the root causes of homelessness can be addressed, and
  equity achieved. There is no easy solution or one-size-fits-all approach but through identifying the
  primary causes of homelessness, it can be prevented.
- This report offers a concise summary of the Nevada Interagency Advisory Council on Homelessness (ICHH) Strategic Plan, originally composed in 2015 and continuously updated through 2022. This summary aims to distill the key insights and goals outlined in the ICHH Strategic Plan. For a comprehensive understanding, the complete document can be accessed at the following link:
- <a href="https://dwss.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dwssnvgov/content/Energy/NV%20ICHH%202022%20Strategic%20">https://dwss.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dwssnvgov/content/Energy/NV%20ICHH%202022%20Strategic%20</a> Plan.pdf
- The Strategic Plan serves dual roles as a dynamic management and communication tool for ICHH
  action. It stands as a living guide shaping the Council's efforts. A dedicated Committee, including a
  Chair and a voting ICHH member, oversees plan implementation. The Technical Assistance Committee
  annually updates the plan, collaborating with Nevada's Continuums of Care and statewide stakeholders
  to meet goals. Progress tracking and reporting fall under this committee's purview.
- The Strategic Plan undergoes comprehensive reviews, removing achieved or obsolete strategies. It
  receives updates at least once every five years, adjusting timing and adding crucial strategies to
  fulfill ICHH's mission: leading Nevada's campaign to prevent and end homelessness.



The Department of Health and Human Services, through the Division of Welfare Supportive Services (DWSS), Homeless to Housing Unit (H2H), shall provide such administrative support to the Council as is necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.

- AB 174- Established the Nevada ICH and instructs DHHS to supply administrative support to the Council.
- NRS Code 232.498- 232.4983- Defines the Council, its creation, meetings and duties.
- Nevada Open Meeting Law- Ensures public body deliberations and actions are done openly.
- ICH Council By-Laws- Governs the ICH Council.
- DAG- Present at every meeting.
- Chief Administrator- Approves our actions.
- Robert's Rules of Order- For administrative organization tasks.



# PREVALENCE OF **HOMELESSNESS** AMONG SENIORS IN **NEVADA**

#### **AGING**

There has been an upward trend in the proportion of "older" persons (aged 50-64) among the homeless population.

They are not old enough to qualify for Medicare.

Due to poor nutrition and living conditions, they may resemble someone much older.



#### They may become eligible for services at different points.

Subsidized housing – available at age 62

Medicare – available at age 65

Social Security benefits – available at age 65

### CHALLENGES OF UNSHELTERED SENIORS (AGED 50-62)

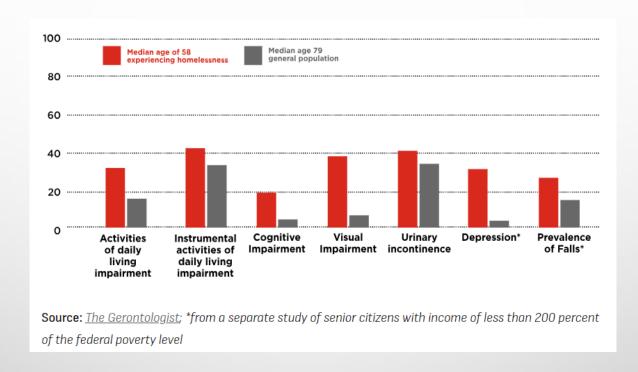
Often have similar healthcare needs to housed persons 10-20 years older.

Higher rates of geriatric syndromes when compared to the general population

• Includes problems performing daily activities, walking, vision, hearing, falls, and frailty

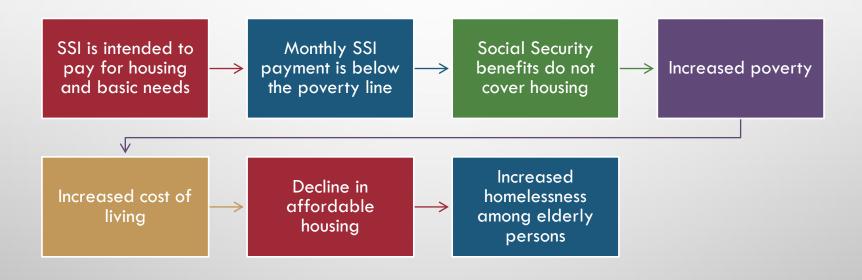
Higher rates of cognitive impairments when compared to younger homeless adults

• Impairments resulting from depression or dementia can contribute to worsening of physical health



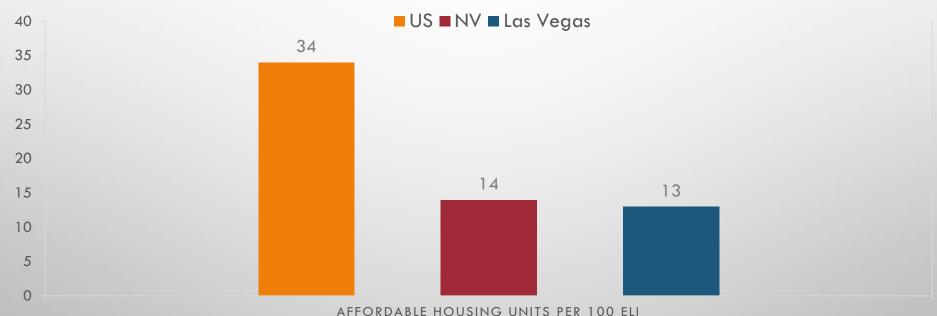
### YOUNGER ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS HAVE WORSE HEALTH THAN MUCH OLDER HOUSED ADULTS

### LIVING INCOME GAP



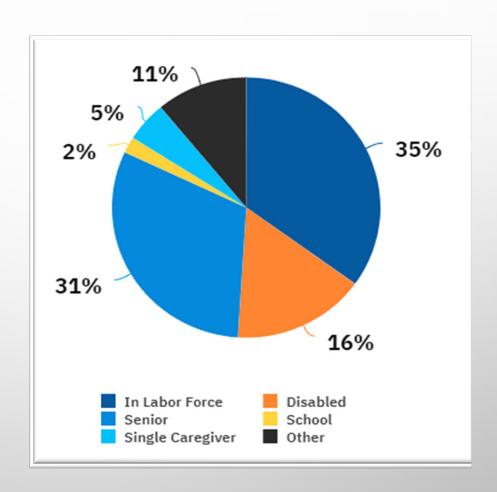
#### LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS PER 100 EXTREMELY LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS



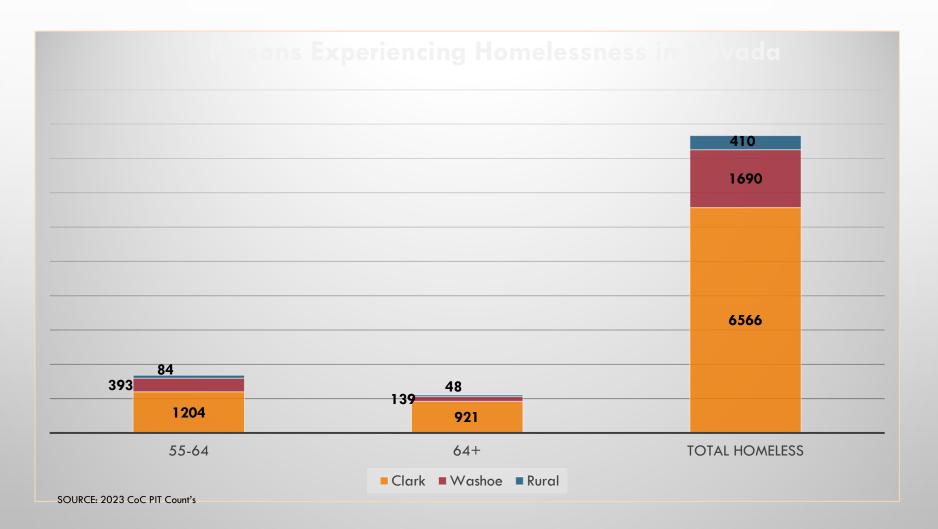
Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), 2024

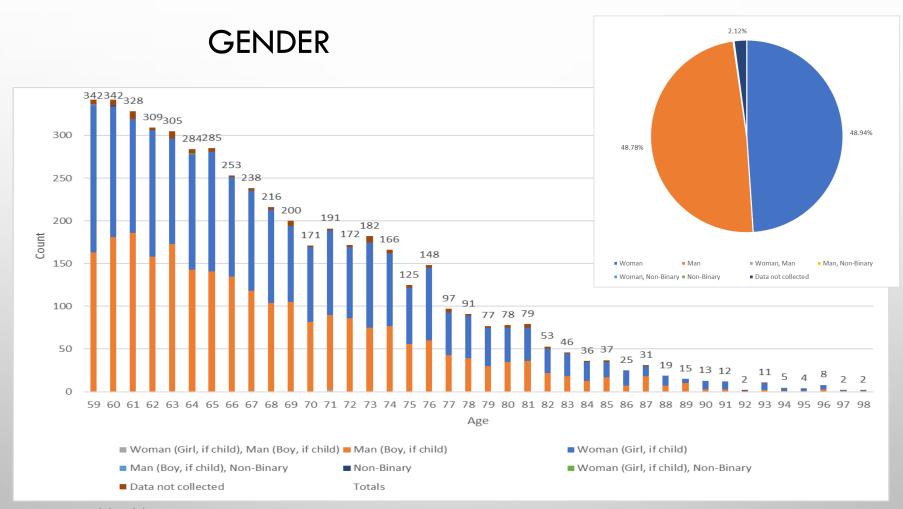
NEVADA
EXTREMELY
LOW-INCOME
RENTER
HOUSEHOLDS



Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)

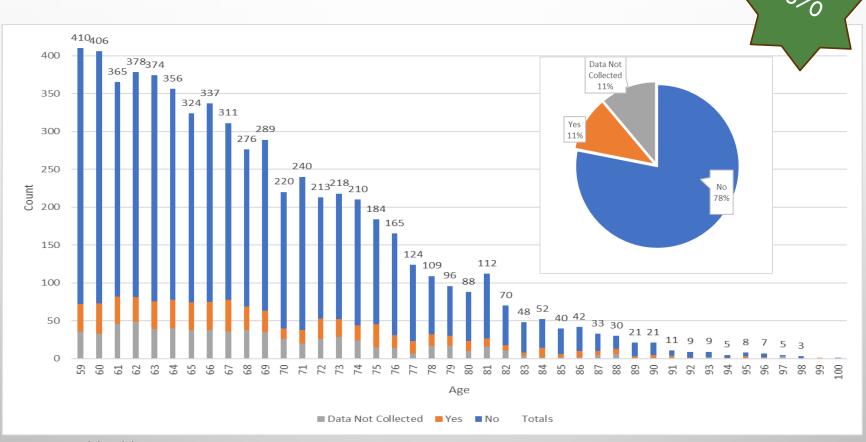
### PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN NEVADA





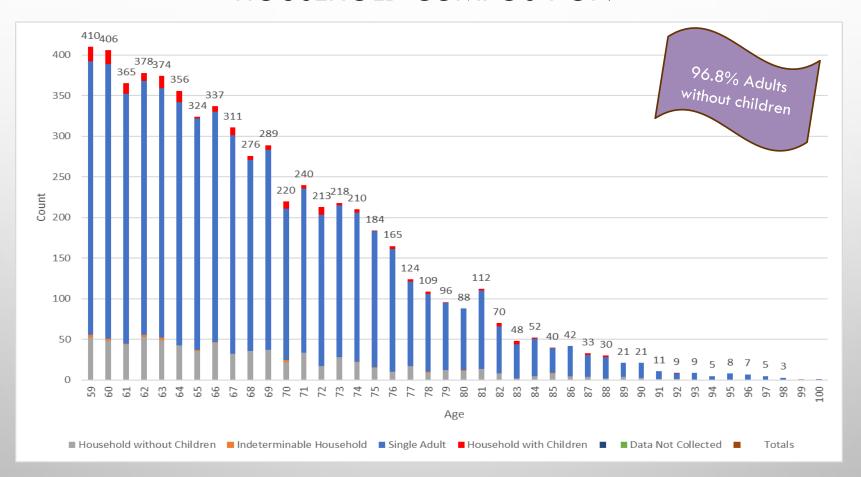
SOURCE: HMIS 3/2/23-3/1/24

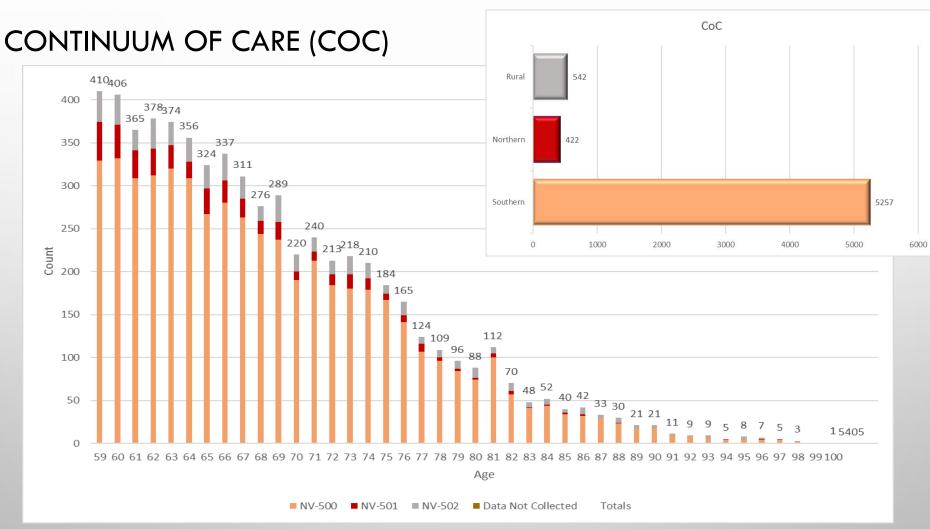
### **VETERANS**



SOURCE: HMIS 3/2/23-3/1/24

#### HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION





### **Contact Information**

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