



5070 VEGAS VALLEY DR, LAS VEGAS, NV 89142

PROGRAM PLAN TITLE

Operation COVID-19 Preservation of Life Bail Out Project

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Homelessness plagues Nevada neighborhoods coupled with COVID-19 shutting down community organizations that usually house over 500 homeless. Over 4000 people return from incarceration each month to the Las Vegas region adding to the homeless crisis, of which there is no statistics for how many individuals leave institutions with little to no resources. This project focuses on incarcerated individuals with minor offenses awaiting trial/sentencing those with less than 90 days left on their sentence, as well as those who are most vulnerable to the virus due to the lack of resources and support. Incarceration forces many into homelessness, by way of low-income and the lack of affordable housing. The goal of Operation COVID-19 Preservation of Life Bail Out Project is to aid underperforming homeless shelters and assist detention facilities in preserving life and preventing the spread of COVID-19 as well as assist in the successful reentry and transition after release by providing affordable housing and social services.

INTRODUCTION

Reentry and Homelessness are national and local issues. According to Nevada Alliance of Homelessness, on any given night, over 5,000 individuals will experience homelessness in Southern Nevada. A snapshot of the Homeless Census from 2019 there were an estimated 56,000 homeless individuals lacking suitable shelter, and 67% of those individuals were natives to the area. The purpose of "Operation COVID-19 Preservation of Life Bail Out Project" is to preserve life of those who have served their time at local and state facilities through incarceration without adding to the homeless crisis. True Beginnings proposes to help supply affordable housing and social service needs to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 inside of these facilities and potential spread to the public through staff, visitor contact with staff, and vendors. True Beginnings will implement housing and social service needs after bail out/release.

PROBLEMS ADDRESSED

As of March 10, 2020, the county released approximately 200 individuals to combat the spread of COVID-19. Many of these individuals will not be tested unless they become ill or after death, and many of them are and will be homeless as this pandemic continues to keep all non-essential business closed preventing employment and sustainable housing.

As of April 13, 2020, despite extreme measures such as 23 hour lock downs and face masks for every person in the facility, a case of COVID-19 has been reported within the CCDC facility and two cases dealing with staff within NDOC facilities. proving that this virus can and will enter such facilities, it is only a matter of time before COVID-19 spreads and overwhelms the staff and those in custody. Correction facilities were not built to combat any outbreaks. Unfortunately, due to the lack of testing kits and the ration of staff to those in custody, there will be no way these facilities will be able to keep up or get in front of such a crisis and worse case scenario, the staff continues to infect those in custody if not practicing social distancing after leaving their assignment.



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The lack of affordable housing within the Southern Nevada region especially for those with criminal history, as well as the lack of available shelter space, weaken the communities ability to overcome the pandemic within a time frame that a corrections facility can sustain if ever there is an outbreak. Operation COVID-19 Preservation of Life Bail Out Project is set to begin April 2020 and last for a duration of six to nine months during the pandemic era and economic fallout, as a means to preserve life, prevent the spreading of COVID-19, and aid in public safety. This project will also assist in circumventing the influx of homelessness as Clark County recovers.

VISION

We envision saving lives as we work on ending homelessness for the formerly incarcerated individuals and their families within Southern Nevada.

MISSION

Our mission is to assist in the reentry process by way of true rehabilitation, providing social services, and other aids that will make for a smooth transition from incarceration to permanent housing or into custody after sentencing.

SCOPE OF WORK

True Beginnings, a re-entry housing program, 501c3 has joined forces with Plan Action - Mass Liberation/National Bail Out. True Beginnings has been serving formerly incarcerated individuals for nearly eight years, has opened the first trauma informed gender responsive home for women in Las Vegas. True Beginnings, a member of the Safe Housing Network, follows A New Way of Life Reentry Project model which has been proven to be one of the most effective methods to reentry, providing housing first accompanied by services that strengthen, support and cultivate positive relationships as well as self-images and equity within the community.

True Beginnings proposes to provide supportive housing to 50-60 non-supported/homeless individuals released from incarceration through the efforts of the Plan Action - Mass Liberation Project/National Bail Out team. As each individual is released from custody, True Beginnings will provide transportation from the facility to the housing complex, where the individual will receive an evaluation to build a case plan that will support their efforts to regain their rightful place in American society and or assist in the process of rehabilitation.

A shared housing space, two individuals per 2-bedroom unit, will be provided along with other amenities. True Beginnings will also be working with other programs such as the Health Plan of Nevada to provide such services as food, transportation, education, case management, and behavioral health for those opting to utilize such opportunities.

The objective, to shelter and support through to permanent housing, individuals who would otherwise have no place to go. True Beginnings aim is to provide services to those who are discriminated against due to such disparities as low to no income and/or negative backgrounds. The housing first methodology subscribed by HUD outlining the criteria for support is the basis for such a program. True Beginnings and Mass Liberation Project/National Bail Out sees this as a measure taken to stabilize the homeless crisis in our community.



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Each month an estimated 4000 individuals are released from incarceration from county and city jails. At last count in 2017, approximately 30% of these individuals reoffend after being released with no plan of action, no support, faced with enormous barriers, returning to previous environments consisting of violence, drugs, and poverty. The systematic affects are not contained in the smaller neighborhoods, but rather bleed out into suburban areas causing public nuisances and economic inflation.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Lessening recidivism, thus aiding in public safety.
2. Preventing a critical outbreak of COVID-19 by way of practicing shelter in place and social distancing in an environment allowing for treatment and testing.
3. Providing sustainable housing to the underserved population.

TIMETABLE

The time frame for this project is 6- 9 months. From planning through sustainability. At various times during the project time frame, personnel and volunteers will actively seek new funding opportunities. Throughout the entire planning and implementation stages, our personnel will be constantly evaluating our processes and actions to inform “best practices” in Year 2 of our program. Our program is largely run by volunteers so we recruit and provide training opportunities through the project for new volunteers.

BUDGET

There are various funding sources during this crisis, such as foundations, private, state and federal. True Beginnings would like to publish a thorough evaluation and impact report to entice local businesses to donate money or resources. We propose a portion of the costs come from allocated reentry funds as well as COVID-19 grant monies.

TRUE BEGINNINGS	DETAILS/QUANTITY	COST	SOURCE	FUNDS NEEDED
STAFF	Director(30 hrs wk)	\$25 hr (\$27,000)	Grant/City Funding	\$27,000
	Security (part-time x’s 3)	\$15 hr (\$81,000)	Fundraising/City	\$50,000
	Volunteers (Intake/H&W)	\$0	Volunteer	\$0
	Maintenance (on call)	\$17 hr (18,000)		\$0
PROPERTY	21 Units (2 bd 1 ba) (3 bd 1 ba)	\$900 (120,000) \$1000 (44,000)	City Funding	\$164,000
Essentials	Housewares/Bedding	\$650 (27,300)	COVID funding	\$27,300
	Food	\$0	Food Banks/HPN	\$0
	Utilities	\$12,000	City/COVID Funding	\$6000
	Cleaning Supplies	\$10,000	COVID Funding	\$10,000
	6 MONTH COSTS	\$339,300	COST NEEDED	\$284,300

STAFFING



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True Beginnings operates and sustains through a collaboration of community advocates, providers, and the practice of accountability among residents. We propose paid operational services such as the Director, security, and maintenance/janitorial. These supportive services will be supported by residents through an incentive program that provides additional aid as payment for services rendered on the premises. By giving individuals responsibility and providing a communal atmosphere, residents will be more adapt to preserve their community and work as a team to succeed. All members will be provided the exact same opportunities as they move through to permanent housing or return to incarceration and all residents will be encouraged to take advantage them as well.

- Director: Oversees general program operations. Securing funding and proper allocations of funds to support various services is a key responsibility of this role.
- Volunteer:
 - Intake: In the residential community, volunteers assist with intake, assessments, scheduling, overseeing resident leads, and incentive programs.
 - Health & Wellness officials: to provide wellness checks weekly
- Security: Will provide a safe environment to prevent the onset of any looting, vandalism, and/or any other criminal behavior.
- Maintenance: Supervise any and all upkeep of property to include the consistent sterilization of the property and each individual units.

