

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
Wednesday April 28, 2021
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Webinar:
<https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m27923e86076d2aac0433668233a5d1bc>

Dial by Phone:
+1 (312) 757-3121

Access Code:
694-403-981

AGENDA

Board Members

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education
Matt Bates, City Net
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Natalie Bui, Veteran Affairs CRRC
Donald Dermit, The Rock Church
Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way [Secretary]
Tim Houchen, Hope4Restoration
Patti Long, Mercy House

Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter
Albert Ramirez, City of Anaheim
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options [Vice Chair]
Soledad Rivera, Families Together of OC
George Searcy, Jamboree Housing
Tim Shaw, Individual [Chair]
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

Call to Order – Tim Shaw, Chair

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

Public Comments: Members of the public may address the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board on items listed within this agenda or matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the CoC Board. Members of the public may address the CoC Board with public comments on agenda items in the business calendar after the CoC Board member discussion. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

In order to address the CoC Board, members of the public are to enter their name and agenda item number in the WebEx chat box to be placed in a queue. CoC Board staff will call your name in the order listed in the chat box.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters are approved by one motion unless pulled by a Board Member for discussion or separate action. The CoC Board requests that only pertinent information be discussed during this time.

1. Approve Continuum of Care Board Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2021.

2. Receive and file comparable data from 2017 to 2020 provided to Orange County United Way per CoC Board directive during the March 24, 2021, meeting.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **Orange County System of Care Update** – Jason Austin, Director, Office of Care Coordination
2. **Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Update** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
3. **Presentation on Community Care Response Team (CCRT) Program: Pathway Home** – Albert Ramirez, Grace Stepter, Jorge Cisneros, and Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim
 - a. Presentation by the City of Anaheim on the CCRT Team’s program, Pathway Home. The CCRT is a partnership between the City of Anaheim and City Net.
4. **Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) Update** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Overview of the 2020 Annual Funding Report
 - b. Overview of the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS)
 - c. Overview of the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness.
5. **Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Overview** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County
 - a. Overview of the Orange County CoC LSA submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
6. **CoC Committee Updates**
 - a. Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee – Maricela Rios- Faust, Vice Chair
 - b. Housing Opportunities Committee – Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
 - c. Coordinated Entry System Committee

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 26, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
Wednesday March 24, 2021
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Webinar:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/694403981>

Dial by Phone:
+1 (312) 757-3121

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MINUTES

Board Members

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education

Matt Bates, City Net

Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana

Natalie Bui, Veteran Affairs CRRC

Donald Dermit, The Rock Church

Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way [Secretary]

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Albert Ramirez, City of Anaheim

Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options [Vice Chair]

Soledad Rivera, Families Together of OC

George Searcy, Jamboree Housing

Tim Shaw, Individual [Chair]

Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

Call to Order – Tim Shaw, Chair

Chair Tim Shaw called the meeting to order at 2p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

Present: Jeanne Awrey, Matt Bates, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Patti Long, Dawn Price, Albert Ramirez, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, Christina Weckerly-Ramirez, and Soledad Rivera.

Absent Excused: None

Judson Brown was excused from the meeting during Business Calendar Agenda Item 2 and did not vote on Business Calendar Agenda Items 3 to 7.

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- Jay Cole shared the location of his church and offered it as a temporary shelter. Mr. Cole hopes to see his church offer permanent solutions for people experiencing homelessness in the future.
- Callie Rutter commented on the word homeless, the negative connotations tied to the word, and recommended other words such as housing displaced, unhoused, or housing impacted be considered for use instead.
- David Duran commented on the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) proposed policy presented to the Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee on March 9, 2021, and advocated for more access into HMIS.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters are approved by one motion unless pulled by a Board Member for discussion or separate action. The CoC Board requests that only pertinent information be discussed during this time.

1. **Approve Continuum of Care Board Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2021.**
2. **Receive and file approved data provided to Orange County United Way per prior CoC Board action on February 24, 2021.**

Tim Houchen motioned to approve the items on the Consent Calendar. Dawn Price seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **Orange County System of Care Update** – Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination
 - a. Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program: The ERA Program assists households experiencing financial hardships who unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The County of Orange second application period starts on April 1, 2021, and will remain open until April 30, 2021. The County of Orange will provide up to \$10,000 financial assistance per eligible rental households. For more information visit ERA.211OC.org or call 2-1-1.
 - b. Project Roomkey: The County of Orange continues to operate Project Roomkey. Referrals into the program are made by Public Health Services, hospitals, shelters, street outreach teams, and law enforcement.
 - c. COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts at Homeless Shelters: The Office of Care Coordination (OCC) is working with Incident Management Team, Public Health Services, and the Orange County Fire Authority to vaccinate interested participants residing at shelters in Orange County. To date, 290 participants experiencing homelessness have been vaccinated with the first COVID-19 vaccine.
2. **Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Update** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR): Key findings include the following:
 - i. on a single night in 2020, roughly 580,000 people were experiencing homelessness in the United States;
 - ii. for the fourth consecutive year, homelessness increased nationwide; and

- iii. the number of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness increased by fifteen percent between 2019 and 2020.
- b. Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point in Time (PIT): The HIC and PIT is due April 30, 2021. 211OC is completing the process and following up with agencies as needed.
- c. Alternative Shelter Placement Update: Letter of Agreements for the provision of Alternative Shelter Placement will continue to be an available resource to CoC Providers. These efforts are currently assisting 64 households.
- d. Homeless Services Programs Update: The OCC is working with providers to launch the three COVID-19 Rapid Rehousing Service contracts as quickly as possible. Friendship Shelter, in partnership with Mercy House, will provide operational support to the Individual Coordinated Entry System (CES) to streamline access to services and improve care coordination for individuals in CES.
- e. Lived Experience Advisory Committee Update: The Lived Experience Advisory Committee was created ensure the perspectives of individuals with current and/or past lived experience of homelessness are included in the decision-making process for CoC activities. The CoC Board and OCC are seeking diverse membership to join the committee. Recruitment will begin in April 2021.
- f. Approved OC United Way Data Request: The CoC Board approved the OC United Way data request during the February 24, 2021, meeting of the CoC Board. OC United Way requested aggregate data from HMIS on households that entered and exited the homelessness system of care during calendar year 2020. The Consent Calendar Item 2 (page 8 and 9) includes a summary report of the requested data.

Board Member Comments:

- Dawn Price asked if comparable data to the OC United Way data request exists for other years. Becks Heyhoe agreed that comparable data year after year would be beneficial. The OCC agreed to follow up with the next steps to provide the requested data.

Public Comments:

- Callie Rutter expressed an interest in joining the Lived Experience Advisory Committee.

3. Approve Project C – COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Funding Recommendations – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. Zulima Lundy shared the background and timeline that led to the COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Funding Recommendations for Project C. Services to be provided include Outreach and Housing Navigation Services by City Net in the North Service Planning Area, Emergency Flexible Funding for Housing by Interval House in the Central Service Planning Area, and the Welcome Home OC Program by OC United Way in the South Service Planning Area.
- b. Motion: Approve the Project C – COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Vendor Recommendations, as recommended by the COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention Response Request For Proposals (RFP)Panel.
 - i. Kingdom Causes, Inc. dba City Net for COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services for the North Service Planning Area for the term of May 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$575,073.

- ii. Interval House for COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services for the Central Service Planning Area, for the term of May 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$176,088.
- iii. Orange County United Way for COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services for the South Service Planning Area, for the term of May 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023, for an amount not to exceed \$998,728.

George Searcy motioned to approve the recommendation. Tim Houchen seconded the motion. Matt Bates, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, and Dawn Price abstained from voting. The motion passed.

4. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee Update - Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager, Maricela Rios-Faust, Vice Chair, and Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County

- a. Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust and Zulima Lundy provided an update on the proposed policy for HMIS access and minimum participation requirements. The next steps from the PPS Committee are to create an Ad Hoc to meet and provide feedback on the proposed draft policy. The PPS Committee will make a policy recommendation to the CoC Board on May 26, 2021, and will allow the opportunity for public comments and stakeholder feedback. Changes in HMIS access will be updated once the proposed policy is approved by the CoC Board.
- b. Motion: Approve the creation of an ad hoc comprised of CoC Board members to work in collaboration with the PPS Committee membership to advise on and develop a policy for HMIS access and agency minimum participation requirements and bring a recommended to the CoC Board in May 2021.

Donald Dermit motioned to approve the recommendation. Tim Houchen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

- c. Board Member Comments:
 - i. Soledad Rivera, Dawn Price, George Searcy, Donald Dermit, Jeanne Awrey, and Natalie Bui volunteered to participate in the ad hoc.
- d. Public Comments:
 - i. Callie Rutter recommended that participants of HMIS programs have access to their own records much like medical records through online portals.
 - ii. Brooke Weitzman suggested that deactivated agencies from HMIS be reactivated until the new policy is approved.
 - iii. Lauren Smith noted that Legal Aid SoCal’s mission is to provide legal aid to people experiencing homelessness and wrap around services. Access into HMIS would allow her to provide additional support for her clients.
 - iv. David Duran expressed his support for legal representative agencies having HMIS User access to assist their clients.

5. System Performance Report Submission Overview – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County

- a. Erin DeRycke shared an overview of the 2020 Orange County CoC System Performance Measures Reports submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HUD System Performance Measures Report measures the performance of a CoC as a whole. The System Performance Measures Report analyzes the performance of street outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing (including permanent supportive housing, rapid-rehousing, and other permanent housing) project types in the Orange County CoC that

participate in HMIS. The System Performance Measures Report can be found on the OCHMIS.org website: <http://ochmis.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Final-SPM-Year-Over-Year-2015-2020-2.pdf>

6. Open Letter to the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. Zulima Lundy shared that on March 2, 2021, the Institute for Urban Initiatives, contacted the OCC, seeking broad support for an open letter to the HCFC asking them to include Trauma-Informed Design and Care under the “Key Principles and Practices” in its draft Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California.
- b. Motion: Approve the Orange County CoC to sign a joint letter to the HCFC to include Trauma-Informed Design and Care in the list of “Key Principles and Practices” within the HCFC Draft Action Plan

Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve the recommendation. Christina Weckerly-Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion passes by unanimous consent.

7. HMIS Data Release Request from Children & Family Futures – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. Zulima Lundy shared that Ms. Larisa Owens from Children & Family Futures requested aggregate data from HMIS on veteran families enrolled in homeless programs, by program from 2018 to 2020. The data request looks at the incidence of mental health, substance use, domestic violence, and child welfare cases in veteran families. Ms. Owens submitted the request as an individual requesting the information for personal use and noted the data will not be published. 211OC has evaluated the requested data points and determined that of the listed data points only items 6 to 9 can be provided based on information collected in HMIS. Ms. Owens was invited to speak and noted that the data would be for personal use and she is seeking a baseline knowledge for veteran families enrolled in homeless programs.
- b. CoC Board Member Comments:
 - i. Becks Heyhoe asked Ms. Owens to clarify how the data would help with public understanding and activities and asked if the data would be shared publicly. Ms. Owens noted that she is seeking to establish a baseline knowledge that is not currently publicly available. Ms. Owens seeks to look at ways to review aggregate data and activities in Orange County and noted that she wants the report for personal use but would also like to make it publicly available.
- c. Motion: Approve Children & Family Futures data release request utilizing HMIS data. Children & Family Futures requests aggregate data from HMIS for all homeless projects from 2018 to 2020 regarding veteran families experiencing homelessness and incidence of mental health, substance use and domestic violence.

Tim Houchen motioned to approve the recommendation. George Searcy seconded the motion. Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez abstained from voting. Soledad Rivera voted YES.

Jeanne Awrey, Matt Bates, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Patti Long, Dawn Price, Albert Ramirez, and Tim Shaw voted NO.

The motion did not pass.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 28, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Consent Calendar
Agenda Item 2

Date: April 28, 2021

Subject: Receive and file comparable data provided to Orange County United Way per Continuum of Care (CoC) Board directive during the meeting on March 24, 2021.

Background:

On March 24, 2021, the CoC Board approved Consent Calendar Item 2 to receive and file the approved data provided to Orange County United Way per prior CoC Board action during the meeting on February 24, 2021. The CoC Board requested data from previous years to compare data trends over time. The Office of Care Coordination worked with 2-1-1 Orange County, that functions as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead to prepare the Data Request Report Summary for the calendar years of 2017 to 2020.

Data Request Report Summary:

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Unique individuals who experienced homelessness	9,525	11,084	12,754	13,252
Unique individuals who became homeless for the first time	6,511	7,416	7,409	6,950
Unique families who experienced homelessness	697	782	1,033	968
Adults in families who experienced homelessness	956	1,040	1,431	1,352
Children in families who experienced homelessness	1,396	1,613	2,118	1,940
Unique seniors (62+) who experienced homelessness	536	739	1,080	1,593
Unique veterans who experienced homelessness	440	498	604	782
Unique Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) who experienced homelessness	451	494	648	616
Unique individuals who exited homelessness into permanent housing	1,441	1,695	2,556	2,336
Unique families who exited homelessness into permanent housing	270	308	452	382
Adults in families who exited homelessness into permanent housing	373	404	618	530
Children in families who exited homelessness into permanent housing	540	628	925	746
Unique seniors who exited homelessness into permanent housing	37	77	119	181
Unique veterans who exited homelessness into permanent housing	24	45	92	114
Unique TAY who exited homelessness into permanent housing	101	107	160	146

This report includes clients active in HMIS during the calendar years of 2017 to 2020 in emergency shelter, transitional housing, street outreach, and coordinated entry projects. Please note that the Family Coordinated Entry System was not participating in HMIS until 2018 and Individual Coordinated Entry System data was added to HMIS at the end of 2020.

Date: April 28, 2021

Subject: Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) Update

- a. Overview of the 2020 Annual Funding Report
- b. Overview of the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS)
- c. Overview of the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness

Background:

a. Overview of the 2020 Annual Funding Report

The HCFC Annual Funding Report provides an update on two grants — the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and Round 1 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP Round 1).

- HEAP, authorized in 2018, is a \$500 million three-year block grant designed to provide direct assistance to cities and Continuums of Care (CoCs) to address the homelessness crisis throughout California.
- HHAP Round 1, authorized in 2019, is a \$650 million five-year block grant provided to cities, counties, and CoCs to support regional coordination and expand local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges, informed by best practices that focus on moving people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing.

The HCFC annual funding report serves as a detailed summary of data collected, from all HEAP and HHAP grantees through September 30, 2020. Grantees of both programs are required to submit data on expenditures and performance metrics by January 1st annually for the duration of the program. The report provides a synopsis of HEAP and HHAP Round 1 expenditures, performance metrics, and narratives around key initiatives in the areas of racial equity and strategic partnerships.

To view the 2020 Annual Funding Report visit:

https://www.bcsd.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/2020_grants_annual_report.pdf

b. Overview of the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS)

HDIS is a statewide data warehouse that compiles data from the 44 Continuums of Care (CoC) in California. The CoC is a regional homelessness service coordination and planning body that provides a full range of services including homelessness prevention services, street outreach services, permanent housing interventions and a range of other strategies aligned with California's Housing First objectives. Each CoC collects data about the people it serves and the services it offers according to common federal standards established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Integration of these data into HDIS establishes California's first statewide repository of common homelessness data and streamlines information and analysis by combining information from 44 separate systems into one single point of access. The data for HDIS is collected on a quarterly basis in from the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Service providers that do not participate in HMIS are omitted from HDIS. HDIS

ensures data privacy via multifactor authentication, secure socket layer encryption during data transfer, and encrypting data on servers.

As state and local governments strive to deepen partnerships and mutual accountability for the vast resources deployed to respond to the homelessness crisis, it is more important than ever to make data-informed decisions about next steps in the process. This centralized repository can assist in identifying statewide patterns of service usage across California’s geographic regions, supporting efforts to identify and address racial and other inequalities among people experiencing homelessness. This information will be used to support technical assistance, planning, funding, and coordination decisions more efficiently. We can more readily determine the remaining work needed to prevent, reduce, and ultimately end homelessness across California.

Homelessness in California



Insights from HDIS:

- Of the 248,130 people local providers reported serving in 2020:
 - 91,626 people (37%) moved into permanent housing
 - 117,109 people (47%) remained actively engaged in services or shelter but were not yet permanently housed, and
 - 39,395 people (16%) disengaged from services and exited back to homelessness or unknown destinations.
- Project Roomkey and other life-saving crisis response efforts taken to address the pandemic are clearly reflected in the data. In 2020, people served through street outreach increased by 13% and people accessing emergency shelter increased by 12% (compared to 2019).
- California has significantly increased homelessness prevention services. In 2020, 32,189 people received homelessness prevention assistance, more than double the number of people served in 2017.
- 96% of people who accessed services while experiencing homelessness did so in only one California jurisdiction – contrary to some theories that individuals experiencing homelessness travel around the state seeking services.
- Among the people experiencing homelessness who accessed services in 2020:

- 41% reported a disabling condition
- 9% were veterans
- 17% reported experiences with domestic violence
- 22% were under the age of 18
- Homelessness in California reflects stark racial inequities and the impacts of systemic racism. These inequities have resulted in disproportionate negative impacts for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) in California. The number of people experiencing homelessness does not mirror the racial makeup of our state. Despite representing 5.6% of California’s total population, Black or African Americans represent 31% of those accessing homelessness services.

To view the HDIS website visit: <https://www.bcsd.ca.gov/hcfc/hdis.html>

c. Overview of the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness

The Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness (Action Plan) was adopted on March 2021 by the HCFC. The Action Plan orients the State’s efforts to drive measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California.

The implementation of the Action Plan is aligned with several key principles and practices, including:

- Pursuing racial equity and justice;
- Creating solutions for the full diversity of people experiencing homelessness;
- Seeking and valuing the expertise of people with lived experiences of homelessness;
- Aligning State activities with Housing First approaches;
- Balancing crisis response and permanent housing solutions; and
- Shared responsibility, accountability, and efficiency across State departments and programs, in close coordination with local communities.

The Action Plan drives progress across five Action Areas, inclusive of the full range of actions necessary to prevent and end homelessness.

[Action Area 1. Strengthening Our Systems to Better Prevent and End Homelessness in California](#)

Includes objectives focused on pursuing racial equity in response to homelessness and housing instability; engagement and partnership with people with lived expertise from experiences of homelessness; supporting interjurisdictional and regional planning; partnerships to strengthen outcomes related to education, employment, income, and assets; disaster preparedness and response; and communications and public awareness.

[Action Area 2. Equitably Addressing the Health, Safety, and Services Needs of Californians Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness](#)

Includes objectives focused on addressing health and safety needs and increasing access to State supported services and programs for people who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

[Action Area 3. Expanding Communities’ Capacity to Provide Safe and Effective Sheltering and Interim Housing](#)

Includes objectives focused on expanding the supply of safe, housing-placement focused sheltering and interim housing models and addressing health and services needs of people staying within such programs.

Action Area 4. Expanding and Ensuring Equitable Access to Permanent Housing in Our Communities

Includes objectives focused on strengthening Housing First approaches and expanding permanent housing opportunities through development strategies, short- and long-term rental assistance, and other rehousing activities.

Action Area 5. Preventing Californians from Experiencing the Crisis of Homelessness

Includes objectives focused on reducing entries into homelessness as people exit and/or receive services through State-funded programs and systems and enhancing communities' capacity to provide targeted homelessness prevention and diversion services and assistance.

Implementation and Performance Measurement

The Action Plan identifies objectives that cover the State's FY 20-21 through FY 22-23 and focuses on the highest-priority strategies and efforts that will have the greatest impact. The Action Plan will be updated to make any modifications to the Plan's objectives and to identify more specific activities to be implemented during FY 22-23.

Implementation progress will be reported to the HCFC on a regular basis. HCFC will use data from HDIS, from the HUD, and from the California Department of Education in order to assess the impact of Federal, State, and local efforts; to document and analyze racial inequities; and to refine this Plan's Objectives and Activities. The Action Plan will be implemented through existing teams and structures, and through the creation of five interagency Working Groups at the State.

To view the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness visit:

https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/action_plan.pdf