

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>

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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]

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

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

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

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

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.

- No public comments.

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 for 2018 and 2019 provided to Orange County United Way per CoC Board directive during the March 24, 2021, meeting.**

Dawn Price motioned to approve the items on the Consent Calendar. Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **Orange County System of Care Update** – Jason Austin, Director, Office of Care Coordination
 - a. **Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program** – The second open application period for the County of Orange’s ERA Program opened April 1, 2021 and will close April 30, 2021. Up to \$10,000 is available per rental household. Eligible households include households with income at or below 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), or households with one or more members currently experiencing unemployment for 90 days or more at the time of application and have an annual income at or below 80% AMI.
 - b. **State Emergency Rental Assistance Program** – The State of California’s ERA Program is referred to as California COVID-19 Rent Relief or Housing is Key. The application period for residents in Orange County will begin on May 1, 2021. For more information visit [HousingIsKey.com](https://www.housingiskey.com) or call (833) 430-2122.
 - c. **Project Roomkey** – The County of Orange (County) continues to operate Project Roomkey for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic. Referrals into the Project Roomkey are made by the Public Health Services, hospitals, shelters, street outreach teams, and law enforcement.
 - d. **COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts** – The second round of vaccine clinics at shelter sites started Monday, April 19, 2021. To date a total of 840 vaccines have been administered at shelter sites. The Office of Care Coordination (OCC) is working with the Public Health Services to develop a plan to vaccinate the unsheltered homeless population.
 - e. **Homekey Program Round 2 Request for Information** – The County is seeking developers that have experience with the acquisition, rehabilitation and use of property for permanent supportive housing and may have identified sites or are willing to work with the County on potential sites for the Homekey Program.
 - f. **The American Rescue Plan Act** – Congress has passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to deliver more aid to those impacted by COVID-19. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provides emergency rental assistance, homeowner assistance fund, emergency housing vouchers, and homelessness assistance and supportive services program.

g. **Public Comments**

- i. Nikki Buckstead requested more information on how the Homekey program can be developed and utilized for families.

2. **Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager**

- a. **Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point In Time (PIT) Update** – The HIC and PIT are due on May 14, 2021, to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A presentation on the submitted HIC and PIT will be shared with the CoC Board during the May 2021 meeting.
- b. **Equal Access Rules for Homelessness Resources** – HUD withdrew the proposed changes in the Equal Access Rule. The Equal Access Rule ensures that all individuals – regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity-have equal access to the homelessness programs, shelters, other buildings and facilities, benefits, services, and accommodations.
- c. **Homeless Services Programs Update** – The Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) service contract renewals have been approved by the Board of Supervisors for Families Forward, City of Laguna Beach, Family Assistance Ministries, City Net, and Mercy House. Project C: COVID-19 Responsive Homelessness Services were approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 27, 2021, for Interval House and Orange County United Way. The Project C Contract for the North Service Planning Area (SPA) did not move forward and a Request for Proposals will be released by the OCC for the North SPA.
- d. **Alternative Shelter Placement Update** – The OCC is utilizing additional state funding sources to continue provision of Alternative Shelter Placement services through June 30, 2021.
- e. **Lived Experience Advisory Committee** – The application period to join the Lived Experience Advisory Committee opened in early April 2021. The OCC and CoC Board are seeking a diverse membership, this includes people experiencing homelessness in North, Central, or South Service Planning Area and subpopulations representation. Based on feedback received one additional seat in the Lived Experience Advisory Committee has been added for seniors (ages 62 and older).
- f. **Coordination Entry System (CES) Update** – CES for Individuals has completed the majority of the data migration into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The goal is to have CES for Individuals fully in HMIS by mid-May 2021.

g. **CoC Board Comments**

- i. Dawn Price commented on the 2021 CoC Notice of Funding Availability Competition and noted that it has been four to five years since there has been an increase in staff funding. Dawn Price recommended a review of the allocation process to see if it is possible to increase project funding to pay for increased staff costs.

3. **Presentation on Community Care Response Team (CCRT) Program: Pathway Home – Albert Ramirez, Grace Stepter, Jorge Cisneros, and Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim**

- a. Chief Police Jorge Cisneros, Interim Community & Economic Director Grace Stepter, Community Preservation & Licensing Manager/Homeless Liaison Sandy Lozeau, and Albert Ramirez, Community and Economic Development Project Manager, presented on the City of Anaheim 's CCRT Team program and Pathway Home. The CCRT is a partnership between the City of Anaheim and City Net. The CCRT Program's goals are to divert non-emergency and non-criminal calls to CCRT; shelter, house

and help more people experiencing homelessness; and regionalize the pilot program countywide. The live hotline is available seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. and the phone number is 714-820-9090. The CCRT is comprised of outreach workers, mental health clinicians, nurse practitioners, and plain-clothes safety officers.

For more information visit the CCRT website at: <https://www.anaheim.net/5808/Community-Care-Response-Team> or see the full presentation on slide 17 to 23 on the OCC Website: <https://www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/hca/files/2021-05/April%2028%202021%20-%20CoC%20Board%20Meeting%20Presentation%20-%20Final%204.29.pdf>

- b. Public Comments
 - i. Terry Reigns shared that the City of Westminster is working on a similar project and looks forward to partnering with the City of Anaheim.
 - ii. Tamara Jimenez is excited to partner with the City of Anaheim and City Net.
 - iii. John Underwood is seeking more information about the qualification of the CCRT Program.

4. Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. **Overview of the 2020 Annual Funding Report** – The 2020 Annual Funding Report provides an update on two grants — HEAP and Round 1 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP). The 2020 Annual Funding Report can be found here: 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 HMIS data from the 44 CoCs in California. HDIS establishes California’s first repository of common homeless data that will assist in identifying statewide patterns of service usage, support efforts to identify and address racial and other inequities among people experiencing homelessness. HDIS Website Link: <https://www.bcsd.ca.gov/hcfc/hdis.html>
- a. **Overview of the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness** – The Action Plan drives progress across five Action Areas, inclusive of the full range of actions necessary to prevent and end homelessness. 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 for Preventing and Ending Homelessness can be found here: https://www.bcsd.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/action_plan.pdf

5. Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Overview – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County

- a. HUD submits an Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to congress. The AHAR is a national-level report that provides information about homeless service providers, people and households experiencing homelessness, and various characteristics of that population. It informs strategic planning for federal, state, and local initiatives designed to prevent and end homelessness.

The Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) report is produced from each CoC’s HMIS and includes Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Other Permanent Housing projects that are participating in HMIS during the reporting period. The reporting period is October 1st through September 30th. All data is for Funding Year (FY) 2020, which is 10/01/19 - 09/30/20, unless otherwise noted. Erin DeRycke provided an overview of the Orange County CoC LSA submitted to HUD. the 2020 LSA can be found on the OC HMIS webpage: <http://ochmis.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/LSA-Report-FY-2020-Final.pdf>

- b. CoC Board Member Comments
 - i. Vice Chair Mariela Rios-Faust noted that the CoC Board will review the document and return with any questions to explore the system analysis.
 - ii. Chair Tim Shaw recommended that the OCC and the CoC Board explore the data to determine how the information can create a system improvement or actionable items.
- c. Public Comments
 - i. David Duran recommended a report card for homeless service providers be created to demonstrate to the public how services are going.

6. CoC Committee Updates

- a. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee – Maricela Rios- Faust, Vice Chair
 - i. The PPS Committee has been reviewing the recruitment strategies for the Lived Experience Advisory Committee and in May 2020. The PPS Committee will be reviewing the policy on HMIS Access.
- b. Housing Opportunities Committee – Judson Brown
 - i. The Housing Opportunities Committee is made up of housing providers, housing authorities and developers in Orange County. The Housing Opportunities Committee has been reviewing the HMIS System Performance Reports and is working on update the Housing Opportunities Charter.
- c. Coordinated Entry System Committee
 - i. Zulima Lundy shared that the CES Chair Patti Long has resigned as Mercy House is supporting the operations of the Individual Component of CES.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:58pm

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