

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
Wednesday, August 25, 2021
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Webinar:
<https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m78381b0705d5cda70df63e3c20e22480>

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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 2:01 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Jocelyn Gaspar, CoC Specialist

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

Absent Excused: Natalie Bui, Becks Heyhoe, and Dawn Price

Judson Brown was excused from the meeting during Business Calendar Agenda Item 2 and did not vote on Business Calendar Agenda Items 2 to 6.

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.

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.

- Pat Davis expressed concern over Mary's Kitchen closing and commented on the removal of homeless encampments by CalTrans near the City of San Clemente.
- Maura Mikulec commented on the removal of homeless encampments by CalTrans near the City of San Clemente and noted that there are limited shelters in the South Service Planning Area in Orange County for those experiencing homelessness.
- Brooke Weitzman noted that the closure of Mary's Kitchen should be a concern for the CoC and that there are no other homeless service programs available to single adults in the City of Orange.
- Billy O'Connell agreed with the previous public comments on the upcoming closure of Mary's Kitchen and expressed his concern over the impact the closure will have on persons experiencing homelessness utilizing the services from Mary's Kitchen.

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 July 28, 2021.

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

BUSINESS CALENDAR

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

a. Ad Hoc and Working Group Updates

- HMIS Policies and Procedures Review Process** – Members for working group have been identified and the next steps are to schedule the initial meeting and develop a review process and timeline.
- HMIS Access Working Group** – Two batches of HMIS Access applications have been reviewed and applications will continue to be reviewed on a rolling basis. An update on approved agencies will be presented to the CoC Board as a consent calendar item during future meetings.
- CoC Nominating Committee** – The CoC Nominating Committee is reviewing the nomination process outlined in the the CoC Governance Charter and membership. The CoC Nominating committee have had robust conversations on determining priorities for CoC Board Member At Large seats.
- CoC Vision Ad Hoc** – The first draft of the CoC Board Vision has been completed. The Vision Ad Hoc will meet to discuss next steps, which will include presenting a final draft to the CoC Board.

- 2021-22 Homeless Youth Emergency Services and Housing (YE) Program Request for Proposal** – CalOES released the 2021-22 Homeless Youth Emergency Services and Housing (YE) Program Request for Proposal (RFP). The deadline to submit is October 18, 2021. The RFP is located on the CalOES website: <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/GrantsManagementSite/Documents/YE21%20RFP.pdf>

- Orange County CoC Membership** – Orange County CoC Membership is open to all organizations and individuals seeking to be involved in the Orange County CoC and support efforts to prevent and

address homelessness in Orange County. To apply or to submit a completed application email CareCoordination@ochca.com.

- d. **U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)** – USICH is in the process of creating a new Federal Strategic Plan and is seeking stakeholder feedback. Comments can be submitted online at usich.gov/fsp.

Chair Tim Shaw recommended a form be created to assist people with lived experience that are unable to provide feedback via online survey due to limited access to internet and/or computers.

2. FY2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager, and CoC NOFO Ad Hoc

- a. Zulima Lundy provided a detailed update on the CoC NOFO, including funding amounts, CoC policy priorities, application review and ranking, Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus funding, CoC Bonus Funding, opportunities and flexibilities for CoC Projects, and updates from the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.

Recommended Action: Release the Joint Agency Administrative Review and Renewal Project Application following the August 25, 2021, approval by the Orange County CoC Board; and combine the Request for Proposals (RFP) and Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process for Reallocation and/or Bonus Projects and release after the establishment of priorities by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.

George Searcy motioned to approve the recommended action. Tim Houchen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Public Comments

- Elizabeth Andrade noted that the homeless service system is more robust than the CoC NOFO Competitive Process from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and recommends including other stakeholders in system evaluations.

3. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee Recommendations – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager, and Maricela Rios-Faust, Vice Chair

- a. The Office of Care Coordination contracted with MDG Associates to support the administrative function related completing a CoC Needs Assessment. The CoC Needs Assessment was equity-focused and informed by a quantitative and qualitative data collected through the process. On August 10, 2021, a presentation was provided to the PPS Committee providing an overview of the methodology, findings and recommendations.
- b. The North Orange County Public Safety Task Force provided an overview of their efforts in the North Service Planning Area around addressing homelessness. The North Orange County Public Safety Task Force provided an overview of Outreach Grid and described how it has supported in coordination of services and making referrals into emergency shelter programs with available beds. A representative from the North Orange County Public Safety Task Force requested the exploration of a data-sharing mechanism between Outreach Grid and the HMIS. The PPS Committee approved the recommendation to create an Ad Hoc comprised of PPS Committee members and CoC Board members to explore the request to establish a data-sharing mechanism between Outreach Grid and HMIS and return with a recommendation to the PPS Committee.

Recommended Action: Approve the creation of an Ad Hoc that evaluates the request to establish a data-sharing mechanism between Outreach Grid and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The Ad Hoc will return with a recommendation to the PPS Committee to assist with next steps.

Donald Dermit motioned to approve the recommended action. Christina Weckerly-Ramirez seconded the motion. Chair Tim Shaw Abstained. The motion passed.

Vice-Chair Maricela Rios-Faust noted that Christina Weckerly-Ramirez volunteered to be a part of the ad hoc.

Public Comments

- David Gillanders expressed his concern over sharing data with law enforcement and suggested the ad hoc be comprised of members with law enforcement experience.
- David Duran agreed with David Gillanders' public comment and warned that an insufficient amount of oversight with data sharing can become a problem.
- Callie Rutter recommended that people in HMIS should have access to their own record and agreed with David Gillanders' public comment.

4. State of California Homelessness Funding Sources – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. Homeless, Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 3
 - i. Zulima Lundy provided a brief overview of the HHAP Round 3 funding and expected timeline. The HHAP Round 3 funding is provided by the State of California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. The following funding allocations for Orange County have been announced:
 1. Orange County CoC – \$10,267,303.85
 2. County of Orange – \$9,582,816.93
 3. Anaheim – \$10,290,351.69
 4. Santa Ana – \$10,290,351.69
- b. 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding
 - i. Zulima Lundy provided a brief overview of the 2021 ESG Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The 2021 ESG funding is provided by the State of California Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the NOFA was released on August 17, 2021. Applications are due on October 19, 2021. The 2021 ESG allocation amount for the Orange County CoC is \$722,320. The Office of Care Coordination functions as the administrative entity for the ESG funding and will be utilizing the funding to renew contracts with Mercy House Living Centers, Pathways of Hope and Friendship Shelter for the provision of emergency shelter operations and rapid rehousing services.

Public Comments

- Steve McNally stated that he would like to see goals outlined for the approximately \$17 billion coming from the State of California.
- David Duran urged the CoC Board to make a strong recommendation to the County of Orange to apply for all funding available for homeless services.

5. Emergency Housing Voucher Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

- a. Zulima Lundy shared an update on the Emergency Housing Voucher program implementation including an update on the target populations, individuals, families, veterans, transitional aged youth, move-on strategy, reentry and exiting facilities, and domestic violence.
- b. The Garden Grove Housing Authority and the Anaheim Housing Authority shared updates on the supportive services being provided to households who are issued an Emergency Housing Voucher.

Public Comments

- Ugochi Nicholson asked for a clarification on the eligibility for persons at-risk of homelessness for Emergency Housing Vouchers and those who may be currently in an institutional setting but would be experiencing homelessness upon exit.

6. Orange County System of Care Update – Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

- a. **Office of Care Coordination Staffing Updates** – Jason Austin accepted a position with the City of Huntington Beach and is no longer with the Office of Care Coordination. Doug Becht will be Acting Director for the Office of Care Coordination until the position is filled. The CoC Administrator position has been filled by Felicia Boehringer.
- b. **Project Roomkey** – The County of Orange continues to operate temporary isolation shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic
- c. **COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts** – The Office of Care Coordination is working with Public Health Services and two Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) on vaccination efforts for those experiencing homelessness. The FQHCs are Families Together of Orange County in Tustin and Share Our Selves in Costa Mesa.

Motion to Adjourn: 3:54 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 29, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.