

# Minutes

## Orange County Continuum of Care | Housing Opportunities Committee

Friday, August 13, 2021 10:00am – 12:00pm

### Location

WebEx:

<https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m62d808867f2d93114497c5cfd0430550>

Meeting Phone Number: +1-213-306-3065

Meeting Number & Access Code: 177 832 6804

Password: Housing (4687464 from video systems)

### Minutes

1. Call to Order (10am)
  - a. Chair Judson Brown called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.
2. Additions / Deletions to Agenda
3. 2021 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care (CoC) Manager
  - a. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires Continuums of Care (CoCs) to submit a HIC annually. The HIC includes an inventory of year-round beds available during the CoC's Point-in-Time homeless count, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, safe haven, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing beds. The 2021 HIC Report can be found on the OCHMIS website: <http://ochmis.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021-HIC-Report.pdf>
4. Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
  - a. The four Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in Orange County have been awarded EHVs by HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing. The allocation per PHA are as follows: Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA) was allocated 557 vouchers, Anaheim Housing Authority (AHA) was allocated 272 vouchers, Garden Grove Housing Authority (GGHA) was allocated 117 vouchers, and Santa Ana Housing Authority (SAHA) was allocated 89 vouchers. Target populations for the EHVs include individuals, families, veterans, transitional aged youth, Move On ready persons, Re-entry, and survivors of domestic violence.

#### Public Comments:

- Ugochi Nicholson asked clarifying questions about the wording in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, and the PHAs.

- Allison Davenport noted that it has been difficult to match individuals experiencing chronically homelessness to a Rapid Rehousing Opportunity when there is no mechanism to refer them to a Permanent Supportive Housing Opportunity, if needed. Allison Davenport recommended the CoC develop a policy to streamline the process.
- Alan Schuman asked clarifying questions about the allocations of the EHV.
- Elizabeth Andrade asked if enough rental units would be available to accept the EHV.

5. Tenant-Based Housing Updates:

- a. Welcome Home OC Update and Information Gathering – Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way
  - i. Welcome Home OC has housed 133 households. Ninety-three percent of referrals from Welcome Home OC have moved into a housing opportunity. Welcome Home OC currently has 74 owners in the property network. United Way OC has contracted with the Office of Care Coordination to support with the identification of rental units for households issued EHV from OCHA and will likely subcontract with other PHAs in Orange County.
- b. Whole Person Care (WPC) Update and Information Gathering – Nichole LeMaire, Whole Person Care
  - i. WPC will be transitioning to CalOptima beginning January 1, 2022. All housing programs and recuperative care programs will transition to CalOptima too. WPC is partnering with the Office of Care Coordination to provide supportive services to households issued EHV from any of the four PHAs.
- c. PHA Special Purpose Vouchers Updates – Kerrin Cardwell, Marie Vu, Judson Brown
  - i. AHA has 60 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) referral vouchers in the pipeline. Currently, the Homeless Set-Aside vouchers are on hold as AHA prepares for the EHV.
  - ii. OCHA has 989 total allocations of VASH. OCHA has an allocation of 325 Family Unification Program vouchers with 85 percent leased up. OCHA has an allocation of 221 Mainstream vouchers with 65 percent leased up. The goal is to have all Mainstream vouchers leased up by December 2021.
  - iii. SAHA has 171 VASH vouchers with 29 leased up. SAHA has 231 mainstream vouchers allocated with 103 leased up. SAHA has 47 vouchers for foster youth with 36 leased up.
  - iv. Judson Brown provided an update on behalf of GGHA. GGHA has an MOU with the Office of Care Coordination to assist with 117 EHV eligible households. To date, GGHA have assisted 9 households.

6. Project-Based Housing Updates:

- a. Project Homekey Update – Julia Bidwell, OC Community Resources
  - i. OC Community Resources (OCCR) anticipates a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Project Homekey to be released in the amount of \$750 million from the State of California. OCCR is communicating with cities about the upcoming opportunity. OCCR anticipates a NOFA will be released this year and next year for the Homekey Program.

- b. OC Housing Finance Trust Update – Adam Eliason, OC Housing Finance Trust
    - i. Adam Eliason shared the OC Housing Financing Trust website and noted that the website is updated periodically to stay up to date on the latest information.
  - c. OC Housing Trust – Helen O’Sullivan, OC Housing Trust
    - i. The OC Housing Trust Board of Directors allocated half a million to long-term funding efforts to assist with gaps in funding. The OC Housing Trust is currently supporting American Family Housing and Jamboree Housing in the development of new projects.
  - d. PHA Project-Based Vouchers Updates and Projections – Kerrin Cardwell, Marie Vu, Judson Brown
    - i. AHA has been working on leasing up Buena Esperanza and are still accepting referrals for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) project-based units. Twenty of the vouchers are for people experiencing homelessness as identified in the Coordinated Entry System (CES).
    - ii. OCHA has 20 units with Buena Esperanza and have received referrals for all of them. OCHA has 20 project-based units for Westminster Crossing. There are four additional projects still under construction in the pipeline.
    - iii. SAHA recently held its grand opening of Casa Querencia and will convert 56 units for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. The Legacy Square is a 93-unit project that just broke ground. The North Harbor Village construction project is anticipated to be completed by October 2022.
    - iv. Judson Brown provided an update on behalf of GGHA. GGHA will be taking a home loan agreement for a 9-unit project developed with American Family Housing to their City Council for approval.
7. County-wide Performance Metrics Updates:
- a. County-wide Performance Metrics – Rebecca Ricketts, CES Manager
    - i. Adults only households in CES: 2,304 with 737 in the Community Queue.
    - ii. Households with minor children in CES: 226 with 38 in the Community Queue.
    - iii. Veteran households in CES: 278 with 68 in the Community Queue.
    - iv. Households housed since July 2020: 1,430.
  - b. Individual Coordinated Entry System – Connor Stephenson, Friendship Shelter
    - i. Connor Stephenson from Friendship Shelter is the new CES Manager. Connor Stephenson presented on the procedural and operational changes with the transition of Individual CES to Friendship Shelter and Mercy House.
  - c. Family Coordinated Entry System – Katherine Rodriguez, Family Solutions Collaborative (FSC)
    - i. As of April 1, 2021, 314 families with minor children are in CES. 79 families are working with a provider for housing. FSC noted the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as some families are concerned with pursuing rapid rehousing with the current uncertainty. Recent housing opportunities are providing longer term rapid rehousing and families are excited for the extra security.



## **Adjournment to:**

Regular Meeting on Friday, October 8, 2021, from 10am – 12pm