Minutes

Orange County Continuum of Care | Housing Opportunities Committee

Friday, February 26, 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 (10 am)**

   a. Chair Judson Brown called the meeting to order at 10:04 am

2. **Additions / Deletions to Agenda**

3. **2020 Year in Review** – Zulima Lundy, Office of Care Coordination

   a. Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care (CoC) Manager, opened the floor for participants to discuss the accomplishments of 2020 and the ongoing work from the Housing Opportunities Committee. The following was noted from the members of the Housing Opportunities Committee:

      i. The CoC Board approved the Housing Opportunities Committee's recommendation to create a housing impact study led by the University of California, Irvine. It was suggested that regular updates be provided to the Housing Opportunities Committee and Orange County CoC Board.

      ii. The CoC Board approved the creation of a housing advocacy strategy and the project has been funded by several members of the Housing Opportunities Committee.

      iii. Enhanced coordination and sharing of housing opportunities has occurred this year between housing developers, housing providers and housing authorities, which has supported with providing a larger picture of available housing opportunities in Orange County.

      iv. The creation of the Orange County Housing Finance Trust (OCHFT).

4. **2021 Goal Setting** – Zulima Lundy, Office of Care Coordination

   a. Zulima Lundy, opened the floor for members to discuss goals for the Housing Opportunities Committee for calendar year 2021. The following goals were suggested:

      i. Ongoing meeting subject rotations, such as a focus on evaluating the Housing Inventory Count or other housing data available.

      ii. OCHFT recently received funding to develop a mapping system of available housing in Orange County and will begin exploring the development of the system this year. Michelle Zdeba noted that the County of Orange maintains a list of new

housing developments and their various stages of funding/development, but it was noted that some CoC funded housing opportunities are missing. It would be ideal to add all the opportunities available and include services provided with vouchers to develop a comprehensive report.

    iii. Discussions on future and current housing resources and expected timelines of future funding or developments.

    iv. Evaluate the goal of 2,700 units of supportive housing and consider updating the goal, if new data is available to support the expansion of the goal.

    v. Conduct a housing analysis to determine which housing projects have worked or not worked and utilize the housing analysis to determine what additional housing type is needed.

    vi. Develop a method of capturing scattered site projects that created housing opportunities in 2020.

    vii. Discussion on supportive services that will or can be connected to new housing opportunities in an effort to promote housing stability.

    viii. Develop a regional allocation of resources and determine a method to get more funding for housing when available. If providers partner together, it may lead to increased funding.

5. **Housing Opportunities Committee Charter** – Zulima Lundy, Office of Care Coordination

    a. Zulima Lundy noted that the Office of Care Coordination is working on developing a Charter for the Housing Opportunities Committee. The charter will note the structure, purpose, responsibilities, and membership for the Committee. The proposed Committee Charter will be presented at the next scheduled meeting for approval.

    b. George Searcy noted that membership should remain open and welcome new participants.

6. **County and City Updates on ESG-CV Funding** – Zulima Lundy, County of Orange; Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana; Grace Stepter, City of Anaheim; Charles Kovac, City of Irvine; and Nate Robbins, City of Garden Grove

    a. **County of Orange:** The County of Orange was allocated approximately $20.6 million in State of California ESG-CV 1 and 2 funding for the Orange County CoC. Of this, approximately $15 million will be contracted for rapid rehousing services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Orange County. The County of Orange was allocated approximately $3.1 million in federal ESG-CV 1 and 2 funding that will be used to support the emergency shelter operations and Project Toolbelt.

    b. **City of Garden Grove:** Zulima Lundy shared the ESG-CV allocation table provided by the City of Garden Grove.

    c. **City of Santa Ana:** The City of Santa was allocated approximately $13.3 million in ESG-CV funding. Of this, $6.2 million will go towards emergency shelter services and $7.1 million will go towards Homeless Prevention, including eviction defense funds.

    d. **City of Irvine:** The City of Irvine was allocated approximately $3.5 million in ESG-CV funding. The funding was split evenly between Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing. The City of Irvine is working with two organizations on emergency rental assistance. CDBG funding will be utilized for rental assistance.

    e. **City of Anaheim:** The City of Anaheim will utilize its $12 million in funding similarly to the City of Santa Ana. $4 million is allocated to the emergency shelter in the City of Anaheim operated in partnership with the Salvation Army. $2 million is allocated to the Community Care Response Team in partnership with City Net to provide strategic street outreach to

reduce law enforcement interaction with people experiencing homelessness. The Community Care Response Team is going to be piloted for one year.

7. **Project-Based Housing Updates:**

   a. **Project Homekey Update** – Julia Bidwell, OC Community Resources

      i. The County of Orange is working with Jamboree Housing to operate two motels as interim housing until they are converted to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). It is anticipated that the State of California will release additional funding for Project Homekey. If additional funding is released, the County of Orange will release a Request for Information to be better positioned during the Notice fo Funding Availability (NOFA).

   b. **OC Housing Finance Trust Update** – Adam Eliason, OC Housing Finance Trust

      i. The first NOFA released by the California Department of Housing and Community Development awarded seven projects. Orange County received the second highest award from the State of California with $4.2 million in awarded funding.

      ii. The OCHFT released the second NOFA on January 2, 2021, for $ 11 million in funding. The deadline for the NOFA application is March 15, 2021 and all housing developers are encouraged to apply.

   c. **MHSA and NPLH Update** – Stephanie Bryson, Health Care Agency

      i. Stephanie Bryson from the Health Care Agency shared an update on behalf of Lisa Row.

      ii. The No Place Like Home Round 3 NOFA closed on January 19, 2021. The awards will be announced in Spring 2021.

      iii. The Casa Querencia development is beginning the lease up process. Currently 23 of 28 MHSA units have been filled and households will begin moving in shortly. Two additional properties with MHSA designated units are expected to open in the near future.

   d. **PHA Project-Based Vouchers Updates and Projections** – Grace Stepter, Anaheim Housing Authority (AHA); Marie Vu, OC Housing Authority (OCHA); and Judson Brown, SAHA

      i. **AHA:** AHA has affordable housing development plans scheduled for the next five years. The El Verano development leased up in November 2020 and provides housing for seniors. The next developments to be leased is a motel conversion followed by Manchester, a development with 102 units for families. The City of Anaheim and AHA hopes to have 700-800 units in next 4-5 years, contingent on developments going as planned.

      ii. **SAHA:** SAHA anticipates leasing up a second motel conversion project soon that will be providing PSH units to families. In the near future, SAHA will a construct new project with 26 PSH units utilizing mainstream vouchers.

      iii. **OCHA:** In 2020, OCHA finalized the construction of the De La Rosa and Placentia Veterans Village developments. The De La Rosa grand opening was held virtually and the Placentia Veterans Village's grand opening was held in-person in accordance to COVID-19 safety standards. OCHA is working on leasing up Salerno which has 15 Veterans Affair Supportive Housing (VASH) Vouchers and 10 regular project-based vouchers in coordination with the Coordinated Entry System. In

2021, OCHA anticipates four more projects will lease up with a total of 105 project-based vouchers.

8. **Tenant-Based Housing Updates:**

   a. **Welcome Home OC Update and Information Gathering** – Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way

      i. This last month, 33 households were housed bringing the total of households served by Welcome Home OC to 222. There are currently, 78 households in the queue to be housed through Welcome Home OC who come from a variety of programs, including Project Roomkey.

   b. **Whole Person Care Update and Information Gathering** – Sharon Boles, Whole Person Care

      i. The Whole Person Care Program is a five-years pilot program; however, the COVID-19 CalAim funding has supported the program with continued operations. Recuperative care and housing navigation services will continue to be provided for calendar year 2021, but there will be no contracts with behavior health services. The Whole Person Care Program will be renamed CalAim and transition to CalOptima providing the services. Although not confirmed, the services are expected to be provided until January 21, 2022.

9. **County-wide Performance Metrics Update** – Rebecca Rickets, Office of Care Coordination

   a. Adult Only Households in Coordinated Entry System (CES): 1,461
   b. Adult Only Households on Community Queue: 958
   c. Households with Minor Children in CES: 232
   d. Households with Minor Children on Community Queue: 31
   e. Veteran Households in CES: 195
   f. Veteran Households on Community Queue: 20
   g. Households housed since February 2020: 960 households

Adjournment to:

Regular Meeting on Friday, April 9, 2021, from 10 am to 12pm