

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 2021
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

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

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

Access Code:
694-403-981

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 2:03 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

Present: Jeanne Awrey, Matt Bates, Judson Brown, Natalie Bui, 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.

Absent Excused: none

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 GoToMeeting 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 December 17, 2020.

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

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Presentation by the Orange County Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Don Barnes, Orange County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Don Barnes presented to the CoC Board on the Orange County Sheriff Department's (OCSD) Behavioral Health Bureau, the department's crisis intervention training, the enhanced homelessness and mental health response efforts, the System of Care Data Integration System and the Orange County jail reforms to address the mental health crisis. Please reference [slides 3-13](#) for further information.

CoC Board member comments:

- Donald Dermit thanked Sheriff Barnes on the presentation and inquired on the COVID-19 vaccination process within the Orange County jail system. Sheriff Barnes commented on the department's current COVID-19 isolation and safety precautions and noted that vaccinations will be offered to the jail facility population once the vaccinations are available.
- Secretary Becks Heyhoe asked about the Homeless Liaison Officer (HLO) trainings. Sheriff Barnes commented on the biannual training that HLOs must go through amounting up to 80 hours annually.
- George Searcy expressed an interest in a greater alignment between the OCSD and the Orange County CoC. Sheriff Barnes offered to host a CoC Board meeting in the future and to continue working with the CoC.

2. Orange County System of Care Update – Jason Austin, Office of Care Coordination Director

- a. Project Roomkey: The County of Orange (County) continues to operate the temporary isolation shelters and congregate shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or positive. Referrals into the program will be made by Public Health Services, hospitals, shelters, street outreach teams and law enforcement.
- b. Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Overview: The ERA was established by the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2021 and provides \$25 billion to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for the administration of the ERA Program. The ERA Program assists renter households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ERA Program funds are to be provided directly to the States, US Territories, local governments with more than 200,000 residents and is based on 2019 U.S. Census Bureau data. The State of California which accounts for 11.95 percent of the Nation's population is expected to receive a maximum allocation of \$2,610,593,356. In

Orange County, the County of Orange, the City of Anaheim, the City of Santa Ana and the City of Irvine are eligible to receive allocations as the population in each jurisdiction is over 200,000. Funding is expected to be dispersed to grantees on January 27, 2021, and funding must be completely expended by December 31, 2021. The County of Orange is currently working on developing an ERA program to assist renter households.

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

- a. CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): The FY 2020 CoC NOFA has been cancelled by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). All grants included in the Orange County CoC's 2020 Grant Inventory Worksheet and expiring in 2021 will be automatically renewed for one 12-month period. Grant renewals will reflect Fair Market Rent adjustments, as applicable. Additional details are expected from HUD soon.
- b. HUD Waivers: On December 31, 2020, HUD released another waiver that extends the temporary flexibilities currently in place for the CoC Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program.
- c. 2021 Sheltered Count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC): 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) leads the annual sheltered Count and HIC. The night of the Sheltered Count and HIC is January 25, 2021. 211OC has emailed agencies with both Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) participating and HMIS non-participating projects to review the Sheltered Count and HIC process. The first deadline in support of the Sheltered County and HIC is on February 1, 2021. For more information please visit 211OC's [2021 HIC & Sheltered PIT knowledge base article](#).
- d. Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Extension Request: 211OC has requested an extension from HUD for the LSA submission. 211OC has been working on the LSA since October 2020. HUD contacted 211OC noting that there were several errors within the data that considered the data "unusable". Guidance is pending from HUD on what errors make the LSA data "unusable". The extension was approved to submit on January 29, 2021, rather than the original deadline of January 15, 2021.
- e. HMIS User License Fees: On December 17, 2020, the CoC Board approved the HMIS User License Fee Policy. On January 8, 2021, 211OC sent emails to HMIS participating agencies that provided background on the CoC Board action and provided an opportunity for HMIS participating agencies to review and confirm the number of HMIS user licenses in use. 211OC issued invoices to HMIS participating agencies and agencies have 60 days from invoice date to submit payment.
- f. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 2: The California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council released the NOFA for HHAP Round 2 on November 13, 2020. The application has since been released and is due January 25, 2021. The OCC will complete the application on behalf of the CoC as the designated Administrative Entity. The HHAP Round 2 allocated to the Orange County CoC will support the Homekey Program Operations per prior approval CoC Board action. The Transitional Aged Youth Set Aside will be programmed at a later date.
- g. Request for Proposals (RFP) Updates: The COVID-19 Homelessness and Prevention Response RFP review is underway. Applicants will be notified when funding recommendations are being considered by the CoC Board. The Coordinated Entry System (CES) for Individuals RFP and the Bridges at Kramer Place RFP have closed, and review is underway.
- h. Commission to End Homelessness Homeless Service Mapping Survey: The survey was developed by the Commission to End Homelessness to better understand the services and resources in

Orange County for those experiencing homelessness. The information collected will support the mapping of the System of Care. An update on the results of the survey is anticipated February 2021.

- i. COVID-19 Homelessness Responses Funding: Expenditures through December 30, 2020, will be paid with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. Letter of Agreements for the provision of Alternative Shelter Placement will continue to be an available resource to the CoC Providers. Approximately 10,533 alternative shelter nights have been provided since program implementation. Currently 54 households at high-risk for severe COVID-19 illness are receiving assistance with alternative shelter.

4. Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Service Contract Renewals – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Maricela Rios-Faust, Vice Chair

- a. Zulima Lundy provided an overview of the current contracts funded through HEAP and CESH grants and detailed the reasoning behind the recommendation. With CESH Round 2 funding recommendations, it is recommended utilizing CESH Round 2 for an additional one-year term for Rental Assistance, Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services, and Operating Support for Emergency Housing Interventions projects. With HHAP Round 1 funding recommendations, it is recommended utilizing \$1 million to renew HEAP service contracts for one year, utilizing \$400,000 to renew the CESH Flexible Housing Subsidy Funds for a one-year term and utilizing remaining \$2,595,312 in funding to support Project C: COVID-19 Homeless Response Programs from the RFP. The Ad Hoc appointed in July 2020 by the CoC Board for the COVID-19 Homeless Response Funding engaged in conversation of whether to consider extending existing CESH and HEAP contracts for a third year. The Ad Hoc members spoke to the importance of funding programs that have a demonstrated concept and expressed a need for clear agreed upon assessment of existing program performance. Although not all components of the recommendation of the passed the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee, the OCC and the PPS Committee Chair Maricela Rios-Faust felt it important that the entirety of the recommendation be presented to the Orange County CoC Board for additional discussion and consideration.
- b. Motion: Approve the renewal of expiring contracts funded by HEAP and CESH for an additional one-year term utilizing CESH Round 2 and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 1 funding as presented to the Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee.

Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve the recommendation. George Searcy seconded the motion. Matt Bates, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long and Dawn Price abstained from voting. The motion passed.

5. Ad Hoc on Homelessness Prevention Assessment Tool Recommendation – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager; Maricela Rios-Faust, Vice Chair; and Judson Brown, Ad Hoc Chair

- a. Zulima Lundy provided an overview of presentations shared to the PPS Committee by the Ad Hoc on Homelessness Prevention Assessment Tool. Karen Williams, from 211OC, presented the Homelessness Prevention Assessment Tool to the CoC Board as developed by the Ad Hoc and presented to the PPS Committee. 211OC has partnered with homeless service provider agencies to centralize calls by household seeking Prevention Assistance through the 211OC's Contact Call Center. 211OC's role as a virtual front door facilitated the triage of households at highest risk of experiencing homelessness to access limited resources and allowed for the eligible household's information to be entered directly into the HMIS.

- b. Albert Ramirez asked how cities can utilize the tool. Karen Williams noted to contact Albert Ramirez for further discussion.
- c. Motion: Adopt the Homeless Prevention Assessment Tool created by the Ad Hoc on Homelessness Prevention to prioritize households at-risk of homelessness for Prevention Assistance as recommended by the PPS Committee.

Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve the recommendation. Tim Houchen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

- 6. CoC Data Dashboard** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Erin DeRycke, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead
- a. Recommended Action: Approve the CoC Data Dashboard developed by 2-1-1 Orange County utilizing HMIS data, Contact Call Center data and Coordinated Entry System Virtual Front Door data as reviewed by the Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee.
 - b. The Item was tabled until the February 24, 2021 CoC Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 3:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 24, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.