

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, July 28, 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 – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

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

Absent Excused: Dawn Price

Judson Brown was excused from the meeting during Business Calendar Agenda Item 1 and did not vote on Business Calendar Agenda Items 3 to 7.

**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.

- Callie Rutter recommended clients in Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) have access to their own information.

### **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 June 23, 2021.**
2. **Approve Continuum of Care Board Special Meeting Minutes from July 15, 2021.**

Tim Houchen 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** – Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination
  - a. **Project Roomkey** – The Office of Care Coordination 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. The total capacity to serve is 150 individuals.
  - b. **COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts** – The Office of Care Coordination is working with the Public Health Services and two Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) on COVID-19 vaccination efforts for people experiencing homelessness. The FQHCs are Families Together of Orange County in Tustin and Share Our Selves in Costa Mesa.
  - c. **State of California Budget Homelessness Funding** – The State of California budget places focus on addressing the housing and homelessness crisis in California making available approximately \$12 billion in new funding over the next two years. The four primary sources of homelessness funding include Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 3, HHAP Program Round 4, Encampment Resolutions Funding Programs, Family Homelessness Challenge Grants and Technical Assistance.

#### Public Comments

- Brooke Weitzman asked what data exists on the outcomes of congregate and non-congregate shelters. Brooke Weitzman also asked how people experiencing homelessness access the system when there are no street outreach providers in their city.
  - Pat Davis asked about encampment resolutions.
  - David Duran agreed with Brooke Weitzman and recommended looking at the workforce that provides street outreach services for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
2. **Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Update** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
    - a. **Alternative Shelter Placement Update** – The Letters of Agreement for the provision of Alternative Shelter Placement ended June 30, 2021. A total of 25,380 alternative shelter nights were provided

through this program to individuals at high-risk of severe COVID-19 illness and unsheltered families since the program was implemented.

- b. **Ad Hoc and Working Group Updates** – The Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Ad Hoc has been temporarily paused given the number ongoing ad hocs in place. The Office of Care Coordination recommends it its best to focus on the ad hocs with pending deadlines and priorities to balance the participation required from the CoC Board members. The Vision Ad Hoc has completed its first draft of the vision for the CoC Board and will present the initial draft to the CoC Board in August or September 2021. The HMIS Access Working Group members are currently reviewing approximately 14 HMIS Access applications and will be making determinations in the coming weeks.
- c. **Outreach Grid and HMIS** – The North Orange County Safety Task Force is currently utilizing Outreach Grid for its street outreach efforts and is interested in exploring a data-sharing mechanism with HMIS. A representative from the North Orange County Safety Task Force will be making a presentation at the upcoming Policy, Procedures and Standards Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.
- d. **Orange County CoC Needs Assessment Findings** – The MDG technical assistance team will present the Orange County CoC needs assessment findings and share recommendations that support improved outcomes for people experiencing homelessness in Orange County. All CoC partners are invited to participate in the meeting on July 30, 2021, and share any feedback on the recommendations provided.

#### Public Comments

- Brooke Weitzman commented on Outreach Grid, noted that it is utilized by law enforcement and highlighted that HMIS does not allow law enforcement. Brooke Weitzman noted that the CoC Board should consider those implications for potential HIPAA violations.
- Callie Rutter shared an experience about a friend that was having difficulty finding shelter placement as the person did not want to have an interaction with law enforcement.

### 3. **Racial Equity Analysis Provider Recommendation** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. The CoC Board directed the Office of Care Coordination to identify a consultant to conduct a racial disparities and equity evaluation of CoC systems and processes. C4 Innovations offers strategic options for the Orange County CoC to increase the knowledge and capacity around racial equity and transform the homeless response system to promote equitable outcomes. The contract will be funded by the state HHAP Round 1 grant funding allocated to the Orange County CoC and the Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (ESG-CV) Grant.

Recommended Action: Approve C4 Innovations as the recommended consultant to conduct a Racial Equity Analysis of the Orange County Continuum of Care.

Chair Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommended action. Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

#### Public Comments

- Brooke Weitzman praised the recommended action and noted that there is already a racial equity mapping analysis within the County of Orange and the CoC Board should consider utilizing that data.

- 4. North Service Planning Area Request for Proposals (RFP) Recommendation – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager**
- a. On March 24, 2021, the CoC Board approved Project C – COVID-19 Response Homeless Service Vendor recommendation for the North, Central and South Service Planning Area. The recommended vendor for Project C – COVID-19 Response Homeless Service for the North Service Planning Area did not end up moving forward in contracting or implementation. Approval of the recommended action will allow the release of the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposal for the North Service Planning Area and make available up to \$500,000 in HHAP Round 1 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC. The Office of Care Coordination is recommending the release the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposals for the North Service Planning Area noting that the selected vendor will coordinate and collaborate with the Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Center being developed by the North Orange County Public Safety Task Force.

Recommended Action: Approve the release of the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposals for the North Service Planning Area.

George Searcy motioned to approve the recommended action. Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. Matt Bates, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Patti Long, Albert Ramirez, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted No. Maricela Rios-Faust and George Searcy voted Yes. Tim Shaw abstained. Jeanne Awrey, Judson Brown and Soledad Rivera did not vote. The motion did not pass.

- 5. FY2021 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager**
- a. The annual CoC NOFO Competition has not been released by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) but is anticipated to be released soon. The Office of Care Coordination will be releasing the Agency Administrative Review and Letter of Intent shortly after the release of the CoC NOFO on BidSync. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc met on July 6 and July 20, 2021, to evaluate project performance, funding priorities, establish policies for reallocation and program priority list. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc and the Office of Care Coordination will be meeting with the CoC Funded Executive Directors to review the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc’s recommendations and gather feedback before presenting the recommendations to the CoC Board.

- 6. CoC Board Nominating Committee – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager**
- a. On May 26, 2021, the CoC Board approved the establishing of a Nominating Committee to review the CoC Board membership and election process. The Nominating Committee is responsible for recruiting candidates, confirming candidate’s willingness to serve and reviewing the qualifications of candidates in collaboration with the Collaborative Applicant. Approval of the recommended action will also support the Orange County CoC in updating its process to be reflective of feedback and lessons learned from the 2020 process, as well as expanding and/or refining membership.

Recommended Action: Appoint Patti Long, Elizabeth Andrade, David Gillanders, LeVal Brewer and Barry Ross to the CoC Board Nominating Committee as recommended by the CoC Board Chair, Tim Shaw.

Becks Heyhoe motioned to approve the recommended action. Natalie Bui seconded the motion. Matt Bates, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Albert Ramirez, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy, Tim Shaw and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted Yes. Jeanne Awrey, Judson Brown and Soledad Rivera did not vote. Patti Long abstained. The motion passed.

- 7. Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding Recommendation – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager**

- a. In April 2020, the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) made available COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness funding. The Orange County CoC received a total allocation of \$1,336,888.52. The Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, was able to maximize other funding sources with shorter expenditure timeframes by covering the costs of the Alternative Shelter Placement Program. This has resulted in a cost-savings of approximately \$700,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding. The recent delays in the approval of the State of California's budget have impacted the ongoing operations of the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) in Orange County. Approval of the recommended action will allow the current HDAP service providers to continue providing services to currently enrolled participants without disrupting the case management and support being provided towards securing long-term benefits and permanent housing.

Recommended Action: Approve the utilization of Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding to provide short-term funding support for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program.

Tim Houchen motioned to approve the recommended action. Vice Chair Maricela Rio-Faust seconded the motion. Natalie Bui, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Albert Ramirez, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy, Tim Shaw and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted Yes. Jeanne Awrey, Donald Dermit, and Soledad Rivera Did not vote. Matt Bates and Patti Long abstained. The motion passed.

#### Public Comments

- Nikki Buckstead noted that the funding for Alternative Shelter Placements Program has ended for families and advocated for additional funding for families.

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

- a. Zulima Lundy shared update of the Emergency Housing Vouchers memorandum of understanding with the four public housing authorities in Orange County. In addition, Doug Becht shared details on the supportive service providers that will be supporting the Orange County Housing Authority with securing permanent housing and providing housing stabilization services. These include Mercy House, People Assisting The Homeless (PATH), Family Solutions Collaborative, Human Options, and Orange County's United Way will provide supportive services to support individuals, families, and victims of domestic violence. The Anaheim Housing Authority and Santa Ana Housing Authority provided a short update about their plan for supportive services.

#### Public Comments

- Callie Rutter recommended that supportive services be provided for a minimum of two years given the continued services needed for clients.
- David Gillanders noted his excitement for the Emergency Housing Voucher program and agreed with Callie Rutter's comments noting that there should be comprehensive supportive services for clients. David Gillanders also recommended there be some level of oversight or monitoring of landlords to prevent landlord discrimination.

### 9. **CoC Board Committee Updates**

- a. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee:
  - i. The PPS Committee Chair, Maricela-Rios Faust, shared an update from the July meeting. The PPS Committee approved the proposed HMIS Policies and Procedures annual review process, including establishing a schedule and review process for the HMIS Policies and Procedures with the proposed composition of the working group. In addition, the PPS Committee

approved Natalie Bui as the Coordinated Entry System Committee representative of the PPS Committee.

b. Lived Experience Advisory Committee:

- i. The Lived Experience Advisory Committee Chair, Tim Houchen noted that the members of the committee have been identified and confirmed. Tim Houchen and the Lived Experience Advisory Committee members are looking forward for the first meeting that will be scheduled in August or September.

c. Housing Opportunities Committee:

- i. The Housing Opportunities Chair, Judson Brown noted that the next Housing Opportunities Committee meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2021, at 10 am. The meeting will review the 2021 Housing Inventory Count, will share updates on the Emergency Housing Vouchers, project-based initiatives, tenant-based initiatives, and county-wide performance metric updates.

**Meeting adjourned:** 4:03 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, August 25, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.