



**Orange County  
Continuum of Care Board  
March 24, 2021**

## **System of Care Update**

Doug Becht, Director of Operations  
Office of Care Coordination

# Business Calendar – Item #1

## Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program

### Overview

- Assists households unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- ERA Program funds to be provided directly to the States, US Territories, local governments with more than 200,000 residents

### Funding Allocation

- County of Orange received an allocation of \$65,576,556 from the U.S. Department of the Treasury
- State of California received \$1,497,605,326.90

### Eligibility

A renter household in which at least one or more individuals meets the following criteria:

- Qualified for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19;
- Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability;
- Has a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income (AMI); and
- Assistance is not duplicative of any other federally funded assistance.

# Business Calendar – Item #1

## County of Orange Emergency Rental Assistance Program



Visit the Website at:  
[www.ERA.211OC.org](http://www.ERA.211OC.org)



**Text ERA to 898211**



**Call 2-1-1**

- **Second open application period will launch April 1, 2021.**
- **Up to \$10,000 maximum per rental household**
- **Eligible Households**
  - Households with income at or below 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), or
  - Households with one or more members currently experiencing unemployment for 90 days or more at the time of application and have an annual income at or below 80% AMI

# Business Calendar – Item #1

## Project Roomkey

- The County of Orange continues to operate:
  - Temporary isolation shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic
  - Congregate shelter site for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 positive
- Total capacity to serve 275 individuals
- Referrals into the program are made by Public Health Services, hospitals, shelters, street outreach teams, and law enforcement

## COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts at Homeless Shelters

- Office of Care Coordination is working with IMT, Public Health Services and Orange County Fire Authority
- The Office of Care Coordination has contacted all shelters in the county
- Vaccine clinics at shelter sites started Friday, March 19, 2021
- To date a total of 290 program participants have been vaccinated at shelter sites.
- Efforts will continue to make vaccines available to all shelter participants

# Continuum of Care (CoC) Updates

Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager

# Business Calendar – Item #2

## Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)

- Report to the U.S. Congress that provides nationwide estimates of homelessness
- 2020 AHAR: Part 1 was released on March 2021
- Key Findings
  - On a single night in 2020, roughly 580,000 people were experiencing homelessness in the United States
  - For the fourth consecutive year, homelessness increased nationwide.
  - The number of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness increased by fifteen percent between 2019 and 2020.

# Business Calendar – Item #2

## HMIS User License Fees Update

- Majority of HMIS participating organizations have submitted payment by the deadline of March 19, 2021
- 2-1-1 Orange County reached out to those organizations with outstanding invoicing
- Thank you to all!

## Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point In Time (PIT) Update

- Due on April 30, 2021
- 211OC is completing the process and following up with agencies needed.
- Thank you for the agencies support with this effort

# Business Calendar – Item #2

## Alternative Shelter Placement Update

- Letter of Agreements for the provision of Alternative Shelter Placement will continue to be an available resource to the Continuum of Care Providers
- Maximizing Funding Available
  - Expenditures through December 30, 2020 paid with CARES Act funding
  - \$1.2 million of \$1.2 million of State COVID-19 Homelessness Responses funding allocated to the CoC has been committed to date
  - Office of Care Coordination utilizing additional State funding source to continue provision of services
- Approximately 19,817 alternative shelter nights have been provided since the program was implemented
- Currently assisting 64 households with alternative shelter
  - 14 families experiencing unsheltered homelessness
  - 50 individuals at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness

## Homeless Services Programs Update

### Project B: COVID-19 Rapid Rehousing Services

- Contracts funded by State ESG-CV Round 1 and 2 funding
- Board of Supervisors approved contracts on March 23, 2021
- Office of Care Coordination working with providers to launch COVID-19 Rapid Rehousing Services as quickly as possible

### Coordinated Entry System (CES) for Individuals

- Friendship Shelter in partnership with Mercy House will provide operational support to CES and facilitate the streamlining of access to services and improving care coordination for individuals in CES
- Friendship Shelter is now managing the CES Prioritization List and Individual CES weekly Match meeting responsibilities

# Business Calendar – Item #2

## Lived Experience Advisory Committee Update

- Purpose: to ensure the perspectives of individuals with current and/or past lived experience are included in the decision-making process
- Seeking diverse membership:
  - Experiencing homelessness in the North, Central or South Service Planning Area
  - Subpopulations – Family, veterans, transitional aged youth, survivors of domestic violence, different disabling conditions, LGBTQ community, BIPOC
- Starting membership recruitment in April 2021
  - Email to be sent with membership application, overview of the Lived Experience Advisory Committee and flyer

# Business Calendar – Item #2

## Approved OC United Way Data Request

- The CoC Board approved the OC United Way data request during the February 24, 2021, meeting
- OC United Way requested aggregate data from HMIS on households that entered and exited the homelessness system of care during the calendar year of 2020, including subpopulation specifics
- The Consent Calendar Item 2 on page 8 and 9 serves as a summary report of the requested data being provided to OC United Way

**COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention  
Response Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

# Business Calendar – Item #3

## Background

- On August 5, 2020, the CoC Board authorized the Office of Care Coordination to release an RFP to solicit proposals for COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention Response
- On September 9, 2020, the Office of Care Coordination issued an RFP to seek qualified providers for COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention Response Services, with three separate projects types: Homeless Prevention Services, Rapid Rehousing Services and COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services.
- On January 19, 2021, the CoC Board approved the use of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 1 funding to support the funding of Project C – COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services

# Business Calendar – Item #3

## Services to be Provided

### **City Net – Outreach and Housing Navigation Services**

- Regional street outreach and housing navigation in the North Service Planning Area. Will also provide COVID-19 education and resources that support access to updated guidelines and safety measures, facial coverings and/or masks, COVID-19 vaccines, COVID-19 testing, and additional services, as necessary.

### **Interval House – Emergency Flexible Funding for Housing**

- Serve individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area who are struggling to become safely and stably housed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Orange County United Way – Welcome Home OC Program**

- Program will provide property owner network, housing navigation and housing stabilization services in the South Service Planning Area for 40 households with federal housing choice vouchers.

# Business Calendar – Item #3

## Project C: COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Recommendations

- To be funded utilizing \$1,749,889 of HHAP Round 1

Agency	Contract Term	Funding Amount	Service Planning Area
City Net	May 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	\$575,073	North
Interval House	May 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	\$176,088	Central
Orange County United Way	May 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023	\$998,728	South

# Business Calendar – Item #3

## Recommended Actions

- Approve the Project C – COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Vendor Recommendations, as recommended by the COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention Response RFP Panel.
  - City Net for COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services for the North Service Planning Area for the term of May 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$575,073
  - Interval House for COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services for the Central Service Planning Area, for the term of May 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$176,088.
  - Orange County United Way for COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services for the South Service Planning Area, for the term of May 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023, for an amount not to exceed \$998,728.

**Policies, Procedures and Standards  
Committee Update**

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Maricela Rios-Faust, Vice Chair

Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee Update

- When the HMIS User License Fee Policy was developed, one of the action items was to also develop Minimum Participation Requirements for HMIS.
- HMIS Access and Agency Minimum Participation Requirements Policy Proposal was presented during the March 2021 meeting of the PPS Committee

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## HMIS Access

- Required to participate due to funding and contractual requirement
  - CoC
  - ESG
  - HOPWA
  - PATH
  - HEAP
  - RHY
  - VA
  - VASH
  - CESH
  - HHAP
- Who else should participate?

## HMIS Minimum

### Participation Requirements

- Continuous data entry on a consistent basis
- Keeping data current
- Comply with HMIS Data Standards
- Comply with local priorities and efforts of the CoC to improve HMIS utilization and functionality

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## HMIS Purpose

- Computerized data collection tool specifically designed to capture client-level information over time on:
  - the characteristics and service needs of those experiencing homelessness
  - the services provided to these clients
- Supports the data collection and reporting efforts of the Continuum of Care as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - Point In Time
  - Housing Inventory Count
  - Longitudinal System Analysis
  - System Performance Measures

## Role of the CoC Board

- Designates a single HMIS and HMIS lead for the CoC
- Ensures that the HMIS is administered in compliance with requirements prescribed by HUD.
- Ensure that the HMIS operates efficiently and effectively

## Role of the HMIS Lead

- Operates the HMIS
- Assist completing needed reporting for the CoC regarding utilization, performance and gaps data and regional resource information to the CoC Board

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## HMIS Policies and Procedures

- HUD has provided:
  - HMIS data standards
  - HMIS data dictionaries
  - HMIS Privacy and Security Standards
  - CoC Program Interim Rule
  - HEARTH Act
  - Proposed Rule for HMIS
- CoC and HMIS Lead have worked to implement these through local policies and requirements.
- CoC Board approved past HMIS Policy and Procedures, including:
  - HMIS Participation Agreement
  - HMIS User Requirements and Agreement
  - Technical Standards
  - Privacy
  - Data Use and Disclosure

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## Proposed Timeline and Next Steps

- Ad Hoc to meet and provide feedback on proposed draft policy
- Updated proposed policy to be presented at the PPS Committee meeting on April 13, 2021; opportunity for public comment.
- Feedback and comment period from April 13 to April 27, 2021; opportunity for public comment via email at [carecoordination@ochca.com](mailto:carecoordination@ochca.com)
- Feedback, comments and final draft policy to be discussed at PPS Committee meeting on May 11, 2021; opportunity for public comment.
- PPS Committee to make policy recommendation to the CoC Board at the meeting of May 26, 2021; opportunity for public comment.
- Changes in HMIS access to be updated once revised policy is approved.

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## Providing Feedback

- Via email at [carecoordination@ochca.com](mailto:carecoordination@ochca.com)
- Via HMIS Help Desk –  
<http://ochmis.211oc.happyfox.com/new>
- Please use the following subject line:  
Feedback on proposed HMIS Policy
- Feedback should provide comments on proposed policy and/or seek clarification on areas that are unclear

# Business Calendar – Item #4

## Recommended Action

- Approve the creation of an ad hoc comprised of members of the CoC Board to work in collaboration with the PPS Committee Membership to advise on and develop a policy for HMIS Access and Agency Minimum Participation Requirements.

**System Performance Measures Report  
Submission Overview**

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County

**Open Letter to the Homeless  
Coordinating and Financing Council  
(HCFC)**

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

# Business Calendar – Item #6

## Background

- On March 2, 2021, the Institute for Urban Initiatives, contacted OCC, seeking broad support for an open letter to the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) asking them to include Trauma-Informed Design and Care under “Key Principles and Practices” in its draft Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California.
- Eight Southern California CoCs have listed their CoC name in support of the letter including Ventura, Riverside, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Glendale, Santa Barbara, Kern and Imperial County

# Business Calendar – Item #6

## Recommended Action

- Approve the Orange County CoC to sign a joint letter to the HCFC to include Trauma-Informed Design and Care in the list of “Key Principles and Practices” within the HCFC Draft Action Plan

**HMIS Data Release Request from  
Children & Family Futures**

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

# Business Calendar – Item #7

## Background

- Larisa Owens from Children & Family Futures requests aggregate data from HMIS on veteran families enrolled in homeless programs, by program from 2018 to 2020.
- The data request looks at the incidence of mental health, substance use, domestic violence and child welfare cases in veteran families.
- Larissa Owens submitted the request as an individual requesting the information for personal use and noted the data will not be published
- 211OC has evaluated the requested data points and determined that of the listed data points only items 6-9 can be provided based on information collected in HMIS.

# Business Calendar – Item #7

## Data Points Requested:

1. Total veteran household with minor children at risk of homelessness
2. Veteran household with minor children with mental health noted as risk of homelessness
3. Veteran household with minor children with domestic violence noted at risk of homelessness
4. Veteran household with minor children with substance abuse noted at risk of homelessness
5. Veteran household with minor children with a Child Welfare Case noted at risk of homelessness
6. Total Veteran household with minor children and homeless
7. Veteran household with minor children with mental health noted and homeless
8. Veteran household with minor children with Domestic Violence noted and homeless
9. Veteran household with minor children with substance abuse noted and homeless
10. Veteran household with minor children with a Child Welfare Case noted and homeless.  
(may be duplicated)

# Business Calendar – Item #7

## Background

- According to the HMIS Policies and Procedures, requests for data must be reviewed and approved by the CoC Board prior to the data being released if the request meets any of the criteria below:

Data Request Criteria	HMIS Participating Agency		Entity Does not Participate in HMIS		CoC Board Sub-Committee	
	Approved	Needs Approval	Approved	Needs Approval	Approved	Needs Approval
Aggregate system level data	X			X	X	
De-identified client level data		X		X	X	
Ongoing data requests	X			X		X
For use as research		X		X	X	
For media release		X		X		X
For other public use		X		X		X

# Business Calendar – Item #7

## Recommended Action

- Approve Children & Family Futures data release request utilizing HMIS data. Children & Family Futures requests aggregate data from HMIS for all homeless projects from 2018 to 2020 regarding veteran families experiencing homelessness and incidence of mental health, substance use and domestic violence.

