

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, September 29, 2021  
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

**Webinar:**  
<https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m70d3235c9094c5b704c7660ca6c0d4f6>

**Dial by Phone:**  
**+1 (213) 306-3065**

**Access Code:**  
**2454 749 5148**

## 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

Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

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

Absent Excused: Jeanne Awrey and George Searcy

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.

- Maura Mikulek shared that she is an advocate in South Orange County and commented on the referral process for housing. Maura Mikulek noted that some clients should not be referred to rapid rehousing opportunities when they have conditions or circumstances that prevent them from being successful in the program.
- Curt Johnson commented on the safe parking program that once existed in the City of Fullerton. Curt Johnson advocated for a similar program or an outdoor camping program.
- Callie Rutter commented on the eviction moratorium and recommended developing a plan to prevent people from losing their homes.

### **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 August 25, 2021.**
2. **Approve Continuum of Care Board Special Meeting Minutes from September 2, 2021.**

Donald Demit motioned to approve the items on the Consent Calendar. Dawn Price seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

### **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

1. **Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Center Presentation** – Soo Kang, North Orange County Safety Task Force, and Kellee Fritzal, City of Fullerton

Soo Kang from the North Orange County Safety Task Force and Kellee Fritzal from the City of Fullerton presented on the history of the North Orange Safety Task Force and the Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Center. The presentation can be found on slides 3 to 13:

<https://www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/hca/files/2021-10/September%202021%20CoC%20Meeting%20Presentation%20-%20final%20consolidated.pdf>

Public Comments:

- Callie Rutter commented on homeless outreach and asked a question about the HOPE Center.
  - Susan Price asked if the HOPE Center is seeking funds from the CoC and noted that the regional coordination of cities is one of the most successful and appropriate initiatives to address homelessness. Susan Price asked the CoC to consider supporting similar types of initiatives in the Central and South Service Planning Areas.
2. **Orange County System of Care Update** – Doug Becht, Acting Director, Office of Care Coordination
    - **Project Roomkey** – The County of Orange continues to operate temporary isolation shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic. Project Roomkey has expanded its capacity to also serve families experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic.
    - **COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts** – The Office of Care Coordination is working with Public Health Services and two Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) on vaccination efforts for those experiencing homelessness. The FQHCs are Families Together of Orange County in Tustin and Share Our Selves in Costa Mesa.

- **State of California's Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program** – The State of California's ERA Program is referred to as CA COVID-19 Rent Relief or Housing is Key. Orange County tenants with rental arrears and/or past due utility bills are encouraged to apply for assistance.
- **Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP)** – On September 13, 2021, the State of California, Department of Social Services (CDSS) released an All-County Welfare Director Letter to notify counties of HDAP funding available for FY 2021-22. The County of Orange will be receiving a noncompetitive allocation amount of \$7,659,238, available for the expenditure period of July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2024. HDAP provides supportive services, assistance with increasing income through disability benefits application assistance and housing opportunities to individuals experiencing homelessness. The County of Orange contracts with three service providers – City Net, Friendship Shelter, and Mercy House Living Centers.

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

- **Ad Hoc and Working Group Update** – Zulima Lundy shared an update on the going work with the HMIS Policies and Procedures Review Working Group, the HMIS Access Working Group, the CoC Nominating Committee, and the CoC Vision Ad Hoc.
- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Eligibility** – Under the HUD VASH Program, veterans can receive a housing choice voucher plus case management and supportive services from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Veterans pay rents that are affordable to their households' income with the local public housing authorities helping to pay the remainder. Eligibility into the program includes those experiencing homelessness, honorable discharge status, general discharge, other than honorable discharge, or bad conduct discharge, meet income qualifications, and participating in mandatory case management and supportive services.
- **Training Opportunity: HUD's Equal Access Rules** – The Office of Care Coordination will be hosting a training on the Equal Access Final Rule and Gender Identity Final Rule established by HUD on September 30, 2021, at 3 p.m.
- **Training Opportunity: Best practices for Serving LGBTQ+ Persons** – The Office of Care Coordination and the Orange County CoC are hosting a training on best practices for serving LGBTQ+ persons on October 15, 2021 at 10 a.m.
- **2021-22 Homeless Youth Emergency Services and Housing (YE) Program Request for Proposal** - The YE Program establishes or expands access to a range of housing options that meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness. It also provides crisis intervention and stabilization services so that the immediate crises these youth face can be resolved, and they can focus on their futures. The RFP can be accessed via the CalOES website:  
<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/GrantsManagementSite/Documents/YE21%20RFP.pdf>
- **U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Federal Strategic Plan** - USICH is in the process of creating a new Federal Strategic Plan and invites feedback from anyone, particularly people who have experienced homelessness; people who serve the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender), BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color), or veteran communities; and people whose work involves the justice system. Please visit the USICH website to complete the survey:  
<https://www.usich.gov/fsp>

- **House America: An All-Hands-on-Deck Effort to Address the Nation’s Homelessness Crisis** - House America is a federal initiative in which HUD and USICH are inviting mayors, city and county leaders, tribal nation leaders, and governors into a national partnership. To learn more about House America, to join the initiative, or to view a list of House America participants, visit: [https://www.hud.gov/house\\_america](https://www.hud.gov/house_america)

**4. FY2021 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager, and CoC NOFO Ad Hoc**

Zulima Lundy shared the background and analysis for the FY2021 Project Performance Measures and Thresholds and FY2021 Rating and Ranking Criteria. Zulima Lundy noted that the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc met to review and discuss the Project Performance Measures and Thresholds and Rating and Ranking Criteria on four occasions, including a feedback gathering session with the Executive Directors of the CoC-funded agencies. These discussions included a review of the recommended performance measures, related thresholds and point values assigned to these measures. During this process, 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) discovered a discrepancy in the data which was corrected and the agencies with renewal projects and CoC NOFO Ad Hoc were notified appropriately. Zulima Lundy shared the FY2021 Rating and Ranking Criteria that provides a detailed overview of scoring criteria, description, calculated measures, and the maximum points available per criteria. The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant will prepopulate the scores from the Agency Administrative Review, Project Performance Measures, and unspent funds. The remainder of the criteria, such as CES participation, housing first/low-barrier implementation and project effectiveness, will be scored by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.

The Orange County CoC and the Office of Care Coordination are seeking proposals from qualified organizations in response to the two Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify new projects for inclusion in the the FY2021 CoC Program NOFO. As such, establishing RFP Review Panels to review and recommend proposals submitted in response to the Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus and CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding RFPs will support the Orange County CoC in submitting applications that could bring additional housing resources to Orange County.

- Recommended Action: Approve the Project Performance Measures and Thresholds for the FY2021 CoC Program NOFO Tim Houchen motioned to approve the recommendation. Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
- Recommended Action: Approve the FY2021 Rating and Ranking Criteria for the FY2021 CoC Program NOFO. Donald Dermit motioned to approve the recommendation. Tim Houchen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
- Recommended Action: Establish Request for Proposal (RFP) Review Panels to review and recommend the DV and CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding RFPs for the FY2021 CoC Program NOFO. Tim Houchen motioned to approve the recommendation. Matt Bates seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

**5. 2022 Point in Time Recommendation – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager**

Zulima Lundy provided an overview of HUD’s recommendation on conducting a Point in Time Count in 2022 and benefits of the Point in Time Count. Zulima Lundy provided an overview of the recommendation to conduct a 2022 Point In Time Count, including methodology, the plan to conduct a Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) focused count, who will be involved, and a timeline of activities.

Recommended Action: Recommend the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, conduct a 2022 Point in Time Count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness in Orange County, and establish a 2022 Point In Time Count Planning Committee in partnership with City Net and Covenant House California.

Becks Heyhoe motioned to approve the recommendation. Donald Dermit seconded the recommendation. Matt Bates abstained. The remainder of the CoC Board Members voted Yes. The motion passed.

Public Comments:

- Tami Di Paolo from Orangewood Foundation shared that she is in favor of a 2022 Point in Time Count. Tami De Paolo also noted that in past counts, the TAY population has been underrepresented and is excited to hear that there will be a focus for the TAY population this year.

**6. Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Update** – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Doug Becht, Acting Director

- a. Zulima Lundy shared that 100 percent of initial matches have been made for the EHV in partnership with the Public Housing Authorities (PHA) and are now working through the referral process.. Albert Ramirez from the Anaheim Housing Authority (AHA) shared that AHA has 278 vouchers and they have 262 households matched to and working through various steps of the application and voucher issuance process. AHA is utilizing their Emergency Solutions Grant-Corona Virus (ESG-CV) funding to provide services to clients. Judson Brown from the Santa Ana Housing Authority thanked the CES team for the referrals and matches. Zulima Lundy on behalf of the Orange County Housing Authority noted that 52 vouchers have been issued to date. The 52 households are being supported with a combination of housing services. The Garden Grove Housing Authority will be invited to speak at the next CoC Board meeting.

**7. Commission to End Homelessness Update** – Matt Bates, Commission to End Homelessness Commission Member

- a. Matt Bates provided an update on the Commission to End Homelessness (Commission). The Commission has created an ad hoc to provide recommendations on changes to the By Laws and structure. The By-Laws have been updated and approved by the Commission. The Commission hopes to invite CoC Board members to share updates about the CoC to the Commission members. The Commission hopes to strengthen the ties between the Commission and the CoC Board.

**8. CoC Committee Updates**

- a. Lived Experience Advisory Committee – Tim Houchen, Committee Chair
  - i. Tim Houchen shared that the committee is meeting monthly and is working to finalize the governance charter.
- b. TAY Committee – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary and Committee Chair
  - i. Becks Heyhoe shared that the last two meetings have been helpful to formally establish ongoing committee meetings. The TAY Committee is working on developing a strategy to apply for HUD’s Youth Homeless Demonstration Program funding and have been doing a lot of information gathering for the grant application process. The TAY Committee looks forward to developing a Youth Action Board comprised of Youth with current or past experience of homelessness or housing instability.
- c. Housing Opportunities Committee – Judson Brown, Committee Chair
  - i. The Housing Opportunities Committee met on August 13, 2021, and discussed the Emergency Housing Voucher, tenant-based housing, project-based housing, and Coordinated Entry updates. The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2021.

- d. Coordinated Entry System Committee – Natalie Bui, Committee Chair
  - i. The Coordinated Entry System Committee reconvened July 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2021. An ad hoc has been established to review governance charter and committee membership.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 27, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.