

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING
Wednesday, September 28, 2022
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location:
County Administration South (CAS) Building
Conference Center
425 West Santa Ana Blvd. Room 104/106
Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599
[Click Here](#) for parking information

MINUTES

Board Members

Matt Bates, City Net [Secretary]
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Nikki Buckstead, Family Solutions Collaborative
Donald Dermit, The Rock Church
Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way [Vice Chair]
Tim Houchen, Hope4Restoration
Patti Long, Mercy House
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter

Eric Richardson, Volunteers of America
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options [Chair]
Soledad Rivera, Families Together of OC
Elida Sanchez, OC Department of Education
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Orangewood Foundation
George Searcy, Jamboree Housing
Tim Shaw, Individual
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

* In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and County Language Access Policy, those requiring accommodation and/or interpreter services for this meeting should notify the Office of Care Coordination 72 hours prior to the meeting at (714) 834-5000 or email CareCoordination@ochca.com. Requests received less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will still receive every effort to reasonably fulfill within the time provided. *

Call to Order – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Felicia Boehringer, Continuum of Care Administrator

Present: Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, Christina Weckerly Ramirez.

Absent Excused: Matt Bates

Absent: Tim Houchen

Soledad Rivera was excused from the meeting during Business Calendar Agenda Item 4 and did not vote on Business Calendar Agenda Items 4 to 6.

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 complete a Request to Address the CoC Board form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to CoC Board staff. Staff will call your name in the order received.

Members of the public may also submit public comment by emailing CareCoordination@ochca.com. All comments submitted via email at least 60 minutes before the start of the CoC Board meeting will be distributed to the CoC Board members for their consideration and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include "CoC Board Meeting Comment" in the email subject line.

- Paul Hyek provided information on first-aid training and certification. Additionally, Paul Hyek reiterated that buses in Orange County need class B commercial drivers.

Board Member Comments: Members of the CoC Board may provide comments on matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the CoC Board.

- Judson Brown inquired if someone could keep track of time to ensure all agenda items were covered during the meeting.

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.

No Consent Calendar Items.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **United State Interagency Council of Homelessness (USICH) Presentation** – Helene Schneider, Senior Regional Advisor, USICH

Helene Schneider, Senior Regional Advisory with USICH, provided a presentation on updates on the federal level as well as provide background on USICH. Helene provided information as to how homelessness is a systemic problem and emphasized on focusing the system elements of barriers such as lack of available affordable housing, poverty, and poor health. Helene noted that although the finalized Point in Time (PIT) count report has not been provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) yet, there are foreseen challenges related to unsheltered homelessness, as there has been an increase in unaccompanied youth and other subpopulations. Helene described how HUD has also partnered with USICH to create an initiative called "House America" with the goals of creating a certain number of Rapid Rehousing (RRH) units to Re-House 100,000 households and to create a certain number of new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units to add 20,000 PSH units into development pipelines. In regard to President

Biden's Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, there is hope that the solutions provided are long-term and sustainable for people who are unhoused.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted that the visual graphic of Homelessness: A System Problem was very informative and suggested that the child welfare should be included.
- Nishtha Mohendra commented on the upstream impact of homelessness prevention and inquired on any insight that can be provided.
- Judson Brown stated that on behalf of the City of Santa Ana and the CoC, he would like to advocate for incentives for Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), to universally mandate the removal of criminal background checks, incentivize PHAs to use more vouchers in the regional level, more technical assistance on how PHAs can coordinate with Medicare for landlord incentives, and to reform the low-income tax credit income program to let states adopt deeper affordable units.
- Tim Shaw emphasized on the need to review the workforce component, including staffing levels and administrative dollars to ensure a livable wage for staff.

2. **FY2022 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

Zulima Lundy provided a brief overview of the FY2022 CoC NOFO, noting that HUD is making approximately \$2.8 billion in competitive funding available, including at least \$52,000,000 available for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus) projects. The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant posted a final version of the Consolidated Application and Project Priority Listing E-Snaps document on the CoC Program NOFO webpage. The Orange County CoC has a goal of submitting by end of day Thursday, September 29, 2022.

3. **CoC Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered Homelessness (CoC Special NOFO)** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

Zulima Lundy provided a brief overview of the CoC Special NOFO, noting that HUD is making approximately \$322 million in funding available. Funding will be utilized to support communities in developing plans to address rural and unsheltered homelessness, particularly in communities with very high levels of unsheltered homelessness. The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant met with the CoC Special NOFO Ad Hoc (Ad Hoc) to discuss the proposals at length, provide feedback on areas for improvement and highlight the unique strengths of each proposal. Based on discussion during the consensus meeting, the Ad Hoc recommended five projects for inclusion in the Orange County CoC Special NOFO Collaborative Application. The Ad Hoc also discussed providing funding for the expansion of key infrastructure support for the Orange County CoC and recommended funding a SSO project expansion for the Coordinated Entry System (CES) and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to ensure there was increased capacity. The recommendation was based on ensuring that the CoC Special NOFO funding would be adequately supported through increased capacity in these two project areas. Zulima Lundy also provide an update on the efforts underway to coordinate and collaborate with PHAs around the Stability Vouchers.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Eric Richardson inquired around the need for Rapid Rehousing (RRH) for the veteran and military connection segment of the family subpopulation and any evidence-based information to support the need.
- George Searcy asked regarding the PHAs and their decisions regarding the Stability Vouchers and inquired if there was anything the CoC Board can do to encourage the PHAs engagement.
- Judson Brown shared that the Office of Care Coordination has been coordinating with the PHAs on behalf of the CoC, and the conversations will continue.
- Nikki Buckstead commented that there has been conversation between Family Solutions Collaborative and the PHAs regarding CES and shared that the Stability Vouchers will be very helpful in continuing efforts to address homelessness.

Recommended Actions:

- a. Approve the selection of the proposals submitted in response to Request for Proposals for Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered Homelessness as recommended by the CoC Special NOFO Ad Hoc for inclusion in the Project Priority listing.
 - i. Friendship Shelter PSH Plus (PSH)
 - ii. Mercy House Westview PSH (PSH)
 - iii. Pathways of Hope PSH for Single Adults and Families (PSH)
 - iv. Illumination Foundation Housing4Health (PSH)
 - v. Families Forward Rapid Rehousing for Veterans and Military Connected Families (RRH)
- b. Recommend the funding of a Coordinated Entry System project expansion in the amount of \$893,107 and Homeless Management Information System project expansion in the amount of \$396,937.
- c. Approve the Ranking Policy as recommended by the CoC Special NOFO Ad Hoc.
- d. Approve the CoC Special NOFO Project Priority Listing as recommended by the CoC Special NOFO Ad Hoc
- e. Approve the draft Letter of Commitment for the Public Housing Authorities submitting a Letter of Interest for the Stability Vouchers.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to move Recommended Actions a.iii. and a.iv. Patti Long seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action a.i. Tim Shaw seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Dawn Price abstained. Motion passed.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action a.ii. Dawn Price seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Patti Long abstained. Motion passed.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action a.v. Eric Richardson seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Nishtha Mohendra and Tim Shaw abstained. Motion passed.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the Recommended Actions 3b, 3c, 3d, and 3e. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Policies, Procedures and Standard (PPS) Committee Recommendations** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination, and Becks Heyhoe, PPS Committee Chair and Vice Chair

On the January 19, 2022, meeting of the CoC Board, the CoC Board approved the redefined recommendation from the PPS Committee regarding the North Orange County Public Safety Collaborative (NOCPS) request. 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) as the HMIS Lead in partnership with the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant worked to draft a Data Integration and Data Breach Policies and created a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) template. Zulima Lundy provided an overview of the draft policies and how the MOU template would be utilized effectively in support of the policies. At the September meeting of the PPS Committee, the PPS Committee voted unanimously to recommend this item to the CoC Board for approval.

Zulima Lundy also provided an overview on the background of the CES Prioritization Policy and Procedures revision recommendations that were approved at the March 8, 2022, meeting of the PPS Committee and the ongoing discussion around discontinuing shelter preference as part of the CES prioritization policy. On March 23, 2022, the CoC Board recommended a working group to examine the CES prioritization policy regarding the shelter preference. Over the past several months, the Shelter Preference Working Group (Working Group) met to discuss the current shelter preference policy and alternative policy recommendations. Ultimately, the Working Group comprised on the policy recommendation to prioritize people experiencing chronic homelessness by length of homelessness then people not experiencing chronic homelessness by length of homelessness, disabling condition and shelter status. At the September meeting of the PPS Committee, the PPS Committee voted unanimously to recommend this item to the CoC Board for approval.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells asked for clarification on the impact for Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) for the CES prioritization.
- Christina Weckerly Ramirez provided clarification on the impact and shared that in the scenarios provided the Working Group with real cases on how the revisions would impact the community queue. Christina Weckerly Ramirez noted that it was shown that there would not be a strong impact on families as most families do not have chronic homelessness element.
- Nikki Buckstead provided more information on the Family CES and the challenges faced by shelters for families. Nikki Buckstead inquired on the justification of keeping the shelter preference for those who are not experiencing chronic homelessness and asked if there was a way to monitor impact overtime.
- Tim Shaw noted that the specific concerns being brought up during the discussion should be documented to be reviewed at the six-month mark and brought back to the CoC Board.
- Judson Brown stated that his support for the recommended action but noted there should be deliberate focus and conversation for the populations of families and TAY. Judson Brown also asked if Tim Shaw's recommendation can be incorporated into a Recommended Action.
- Dawn Price shared that she believed the six-month mark is too short to understand the new policy because there are many factors that determines a housing opportunity and could impact CES.
- Nishtha Mohendra agreed that the six-month mark is too short and stated they would like to amend the recommendation to have review by the PPS to review starting at the six-month mark.

Public Comments:

- Paul Hyek provided the suggestion of a daycare to be able to provide housing and employment. Additionally, Paul Hyek provided the resource of the church that provides meals on Saturdays.

Recommended Action A: Approve the Orange County CoC Data Integration Policy and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Data Breach Policy and updated HMIS Client Consent Form as recommended by the PPS Committee.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the Recommended Action A. Nishtha Mohendra seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Amended Recommended Action B: Approve the changes to the CES Prioritization Policy and related revisions to the CES Policy and Procedures as recommended by the PPS Committee with a review from the PPS Committee starting at the six-month mark.

Dawn Price motioned to approve the Amended Recommended Action B. Christina Weckerly Ramirez seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **HMIS Data Requests** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination; Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County, CalOptima Representative

On September 12, 2022, CalOptima Health submitted a request to 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC), HMIS Lead for the Orange County CoC, for a monthly, recurring data download of all individuals in HMIS to get a better understand the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness within the county really looks like. CalOptima Health will utilize the data to examine homelessness and housing status of members to link them to health and housing-related Community Supports, Enhanced Case Management and other relevant programs.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Christina Weckerly Ramirez inquired whether the data request would be added into a category that would let people know that this data is reoccurring.
- Judson Brown asked if there was an opportunity to amend the motion to include an MOU.

Recommended Action: Approve CalOptima Health’s HMIS data request to support CalOptima Health’s participation in the California Department of Health Care Services Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program

Tim Shaw motioned the recommended action. Donald Dermit seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **CoC Governance Charter and Membership** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination and Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

During the August 24, 2022, meeting, the Orange County CoC Board approved the recommendation to establish a CoC Nominating Committee to support the annual review of the CoC Governance Charter and CoC Board election process for the eight seats expiring December 31, 2022. Following the August 24, 2022, meeting, CoC Board Chair Maricela Rios-Faust worked to identify individuals with a deep knowledge and understanding of the CoC to support with the CoC Board Election process and to assist in reviewing and recommended changes to the CoC Governance Charter. The individuals identified were David Gillanders, Pathways of Hope; Elida Sanchez, OC Department of Education; Jennifer Friend, Project Hope Alliance; and Jack Toan, Illumination Foundation. Zulima Lundy noted an amendment to the recommended action to also include Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe as part of the Nominating Committee.

Amended Recommended Action A: Appoint the following individuals to a Nominating Committee to assist in reviewing and recommended changes to the CoC Governance Charter and facilitating the CoC Board election process for the expiring seats:

- i. Elida Sanchez, Santa Ana Unified School District
- ii. Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter
- iii. Madelynn Hirneise, Families Forward
- iv. Jack Toan, Illumination Foundation
- v. Jennifer Friend, Project Hope Alliance
- vi. Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way

Eric Richardson motioned the amended recommended action. Nikki Buckstead seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Nikki Buckstead, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, Eric Richardson, Maricela Rios-Faust, Elida Sanchez, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Impact of Affordable Housing on Housing and Crime in Orange County Study Results Presentation** – Dr. George Tita, Livable Cities Lab, School of Social Ecology, University of California – Irvine

Dr. George Tita provided an overview on the study of the impact of affordable housing on housing and crime in Orange County that was produced by the Livable Cities Lab at UCI. The Livable Cities Lab researchers collected and analyzed years of data to address the research question of whether affordable housing impacts housing prices after it opens and how affordable housing impact crime and safety in the community.

The results of the study showed that data does not support concern that affordable housing lowers home values and shows that homes located closest to affordable housing have largest gains in value. For the analysis on crime, researchers reviewed crime in six categories: homicide, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny. For the majority of the six categories of crime, the data showed either effectively no difference or a decrease in areas of crime except for motor vehicle thefts.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe thanked Dr. Tita for the work and effort that was put into the study as this study has been in the making for years.

8. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.