

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, July 26, 2023  
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.

## AGENDA

### Board Members

Nichole Gideon, Individual  
Elida Sanchez, OC Department of Education  
Eric Richardson, Volunteers of America  
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward  
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana  
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options  
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Orangewood Foundation  
[Secretary]  
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency  
Jason Phillips, Individual

Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health  
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter [Chair]  
George Searcy, Jamboree Housing  
Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim  
Melanie McQueen, PATH  
Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual  
Ami Rowland, Covenant House California  
Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way [Vice Chair]  
Tim Shaw, Individual

\* 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@ocgov.com](mailto:CareCoordination@ocgov.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 – Dawn Price, Chair

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

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.

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**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.

### **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 CoC Board Meeting Minutes from May 31, 2023**
- 2. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from June 28, 2023**
- 3. Agencies and Jurisdictions Approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Access**
  - a. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access from April 22, 2023, through July 21, 2023

### **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

- 1. 2024 Point in Time** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
  - a. Overview of 2024 Point In Time Count
  - b. Approve the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Collaborative Applicant, conduct a 2024 Point in Time Count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness in Orange County.
  - c. Establish the 2024 Point in Time Count Planning Ad Hoc
- 2. FY2023 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
  - a. Overview of FY2023 CoC Program NOFO released by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - b. Update on the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Local Process
    - i. Evaluation of the prioritization of subpopulations in the CoC Program NOFO competition process.
  - c. CoC Renewal Funding
    - i. Approve scoring and rating strategy for Transition Projects that have not yet completed a full grant term to be evaluated using only the applicable scoring criteria from the approved FY2023 CoC Renewal Scoring and Rating Criteria, as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
  - d. CoC Reallocation Recommendations
    - i. Approve the reallocation of \$579,869 in funding from the Families Forward’s Rapid Re-housing Project during the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO.
    - ii. Approve the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc recommendation to utilize the reallocated funding to solicit new Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing project proposals that serve Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult).

- e. CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding Request for Proposals
    - i. Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a CoC Bonus and Reallocation Request for Proposals to solicit new Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects that primarily serve households with severe service needs or designate a minimum percentage of units to any of the following special populations, including Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult), Transitional Age Youth (ages 18 – 24), Individual (adult only households) experiencing chronic homelessness and Older Adults (ages 62 and older) as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
    - ii. Establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received in response to the issued Request for Proposals.
    - iii. Approve FY2023 CoC Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate proposals as submitted in response to the Request for Proposals.
  - f. Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus Funding
    - i. Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a DV Bonus Request for Proposals to solicit new Rapid Rehousing and Joint Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH) projects as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
    - ii. Establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received in response to the Request for Proposals.
    - iii. Approve the FY2023 DV Bonus Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate proposals as submitted in response to the Request for Proposals.
- 3. CoC Committee Updates – CoC Committee Chairs**
- a. Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee – Becks Heyhoe, Vice Chair
  - b. Housing Opportunities Committee – Judson Brown
  - c. Service Provider Forum – Nishtha Mohendra
  - d. Lived Experience Advisory Committee – Nichole Gideon
  - e. Transitional Age Youth Collaborative Committee – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary
  - f. Veterans Committee – Eric Richardson
  - g. Domestic Violence Committee – Maricela Rios-Faust
- 4. Orange County Homelessness Updates – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination**
- a. System of Care Update
  - b. Continuum of Care Update
- 5. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Wednesday, May 31, 2023  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Location:**  
**County Administration South (CAS) Building**  
**Conference Center**  
**425 West Santa Ana Blvd. Room 104/106**  
**Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599**  
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## MINUTES

### Board Members

Nichole Gideon, Individual  
Elida Sanchez, OC Department of Education  
Eric Richardson, Volunteers of America  
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward  
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana  
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options  
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Orangewood Foundation  
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Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency  
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Tim Shaw, Individual

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**Call to Order** – Dawn Price, Chair

Chair Dawn Price called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

**Board Member Roll Call** – Becks Heyhoe, Vice Chair

Present: Nichole Gideon, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw.

Absent Excused: Elida Sanchez, Eric Richardson, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, and George Searcy.

Nichole Gideon arrived to the meeting following Consent Calendar item 1. Christina Weckerly Ramirez arrived to the meeting following Business Calendar item 1.

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- Carrie Buck introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the Family Solutions Collaborative (FSC) and announced that she is happy to represent the FSC and work with families.

**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 commented on housing choice vouchers and special purpose vouchers and emphasized utilization rates. Judson Brown shared that the Housing Opportunities Committee Meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Judson Brown shared that there are two ways to assist which are 1) to talk about vouchers and utilizing vouchers and 2) show support for Assembly Bill 653 to support voucher acceleration/utilization.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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### **1. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from April 26, 2023**

Sandra Lozeau motioned to approve the item on the Consent Calendar. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

## **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

### **1. Family Unification Program Memorandum of Understanding between the Orange County Housing Authority, OC Social Services Agency, and Orange County Continuum of Care – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination**

At the July 18, 2018, special meeting of the CoC Board, the CoC Board approved the Family Unification Program (FUP) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Statement of Need with the Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA). The purpose of the non-financial MOU was to document the partnership among OCHA, OC Social Services Agency (SSA) and the Orange County CoC. On April 25, 2023, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 FUP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) which

makes \$5 million available to provide new FUP vouchers to eligible households. The FY 2022 FUP NOFO requires an updated MOU with an execution date in calendar year 2023, therefore, OCHA is seeking approval of an updated MOU from the CoC Board.

Recommended Action: Approve the FUP MOU between the OCHA, SSA, and Orange County CoC.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve the recommended action. Nishtha Mohendra seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

## **2. CalOptima Health’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Updated Data Request – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Elizabeth Duong, HMIS Program Manager, 2-1-1 Orange County**

In September 2022, the CoC Board approved a data request to provide recurring monthly data reports of all persons within HMIS to complete member match with CalOptima Health enrollment data. In January 2023, an additional request to include full Social Security Number in each monthly HMIS enrollment report was approved by the CoC Board. As part of the evolving process to develop strategies and sound methodologies, CalOptima Health staff engaged with other Managed Care Plans (MCPs). Through this engagement with other MCPs, new best practices and information emerged which indicated that additional data elements are needed to better identify which members are obtaining housing, remaining housed, exiting back to homelessness, or still experiencing homelessness. Therefore, CalOptima Health is seeking a data request approval to include the data element “Exit Destination” to be added to monthly HMIS reports received from 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC).

### CoC Board Member Comments:

- Nishtha Mohendra inquired if the data request was approved by the Data Committee before being presented to the CoC Board membership.
- Sandra Lozeau asked why the data element was not included in the original data requests and inquired if that process can be assisted with in the future.
- Christina Weckerly Ramirez inquired if there was a plan to have CalOptima Health report out to the CoC Board.

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

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommended action. Robert “Santa Bob” Morse seconded the motion. Nichole Gideon, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw voted yes. Maricela Rios-Faust abstained. The motion passed.

## **3. CoC Vision Ad Hoc – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination**

Sarah Jones provided background on the Orange County CoC Leadership Vision for Calendar Year (CY) 2022 – 2024 and the former CoC Vision Ad Hoc which sunset on January 25, 2023. As a next step for the CoC Vision, the CoC Board leadership is recommending the appointment of a new Ad Hoc membership, which will also be called the CoC Vision Ad Hoc. The new CoC Vision Ad Hoc will identify specific metrics and thresholds that can be tracked to measure progress and discuss strategies and tactics aligned with the CoC Board CY 2023 – 2025 Leadership Vision and Objectives.

Recommended Action A: Appoint Amy Arambulo, Becks Heyhoe, Dawn Price, Nichole Gideon, Nishtha Mohendra and Tim Shaw to the CoC Vision Ad Hoc to identify metrics and thresholds for measuring progress, as well as strategies and tactics aligned with the CoC Board CY 2023 – 25 Leadership Vision and Objectives.

Christina Weckerly-Ramirez motioned the recommended action. Sandra Lozeau seconded the recommended action. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

#### **4. CoC Domestic Violence Committee – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination**

On February 1, 2023, HUD announced new resources to advance housing protections for survivors of domestic violence (DV), dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Recognizing the needs to support survivors of DV, the Orange County CoC Board has approved the prioritization of multiple projects specifically designed to serving survivors of DV as part of the annual CoC Program NOFO released by HUD. As continued funding and resources enter the homeless service system the Orange County CoC, there is a need to further coordinate efforts to prioritize, serve and house survivors of DV, as well as advance implementation of housing protections of survivors under VAWA throughout Orange County.

##### CoC Board Member Comments:

- Sandra Lozeau inquired if there was any consideration of having the DV Committee membership include representation from the disproportionate populations experiencing DV such as LGBTQ+ or Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities. Sandra Lozeau suggested a revision in the recommended Governance Charter to include representation from those subpopulations.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse suggested including optional representation from the Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC).
- Tim Shaw advised that the Governance Charter should be sent to the LEAC for review and should come back to the CoC Board once the revised language is included in the Governance Charter.
- Melanie McQueen suggested that the Governance Charter should be revised to include the phrasing of overrepresented groups in order to address all special populations.
- Judson Brown inquired if the DV Committee Chair would be appointed at this meeting.
- Nishtha Mohendra shared that keeping language open can often be more inclusive at times.
- Christina Weckerly-Ramirez noted a typo in the Governance Charter.

##### Public Comment:

- Wendy Seiden introduced herself as a Professor at Chapman University that teaches Homeless Practicum Policy and is the Chair of the Orange County Family Violence Council's Homelessness-Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Task Force. Wendy Seiden stated that she is happy to see that a DV Committee is being established and is hoping that the DV Committee and the Orange County Family Violence Council's Homelessness-Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Task Force can work together in collaboration and coordination.

Amended Recommended Action: Establish the CoC DV Committee to focus on ending homelessness for survivors of DV, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking, and measuring progress on these efforts and approve the Governance Charter with revisions for racial equity, overrepresented groups, and involvement of the Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC).

Nishtha Mohendra motioned to approve the amended recommended action. Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

## 5. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Updates – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Sarah Jones provided the following NOFO Updates:

- a. On April 14, 2023, HUD announced the release of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) NOFO for Round 7. The Office of Care Coordination is working closely with the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee, youth-specific service providers, and local community partners to receive community feedback and complete the application for YHDP funding. A TAY Ad Hoc comprised of members from the TAY Collaborative Committee is meeting regularly with the Office of Care Coordination to plan for the YHDP NOFO Round 7 application, which is due on June 27, 2023.
- b. On March 28, 2023, HUD announced an award of \$31,453,663 to the Orange County CoC Program for FY2022. For the FY2022 NOFO, the Orange County CoC had a total application score of 157.5 compared to the national median score for all CoCs being 154. The highest score of any CoC was 188.75 and the lowest score for any CoC was 53.5.
- c. The upcoming FY 2023 CoC Program NOFO is anticipated to be released by the HUD in Spring or early Summer 2023. The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant, is planning to release the Agency Administrative Review portion of the CoC Renewal Application to CoC-Funded agencies in early June.

### CoC Board Member Comments:

- Judson Brown inquired if the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers are being taken into consideration for the application and also asked how long the YHDP funding was for.
- Ami Rowland clarified that the funding is typically for one year with the opportunity of renewal for three years.
- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe thanked Dr. Sorrells, Ami Rowland, Elida Sanchez, and other CoC Board members that have been actively working on the process for the YHDP application as there has been tremendous progress within the last year. In regard to the FY2022 CoC NOFO Debrief, Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe asked if there was any feedback from certain sections of the application.

## 6. 2023 Point In Time and Housing Inventory Count – Elizabeth Duong, HMIS Program Manager, 2-1-1 Orange County

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and the Sheltered Point In Time Count (PIT) are submitted to HUD on an annual basis and are completed during a single night during the last ten days of January. The Sheltered PIT was conducted on January 23, 2023, and reflects the number of people staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing projects on the night of the count. The HIC reflects the beds available in Orange County that target people experiencing homelessness. To view the full Sheltered PIT and HIC Count, visit the following links: [2023 Sheltered Point In Time Overview](#) and [2023 Housing Inventory Count Overview](#).

### CoC Board Member Comments:

- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe asked for clarification on Other Permanent Housing metrics and how housing choice vouchers are counted and included in the HIC.
- Chair Dawn Price asked if the bed utilization included beds that are currently not leased and provided clarification that the PIT Count was the sheltered count.
- Sandra Lozeau inquired on the projects in the HIC that are not participating in HMIS and asked if the information can be broken down by city.
- Nishtha Mohendra thanked 211OC for their work and inquired on clarification on chronically homeless families and asked in regard to chronically homeless and the special populations breakdown.

- Judson Brown shared the approximate amount of dollars that amount in the unleased and unused vouchers on the Permanent Supporting Housing (PSH) bed utilization metric and emphasized the need to focus on increasing voucher utilization. Judson Brown stated that the PSH bed utilization metric should be at 100% with a bare minimum of 95% because 91% is not acceptable.
- Tim Shaw stated that they are proud as a community because 10 years ago, these performance metrics were not a thing and in understanding that, it is heartening to see the bed numbers in Orange County increase.
- Melanie McQueen shared that from this system data, there is a gap in the homeless service system and noted that there are gaps in the transitional housing beds.

Public Comment:

- Rebecca Kovacs-Stein stated that they applaud Judson Brown for putting a dollar amount on the underutilization of vouchers . Rebecca Kovacs-Stein shared that they are a volunteer in this work and would like further discussion and inquired if the slides can be sent to them.

**7. Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Douglas Becht, Director, and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

a. System of Care Updates – Douglas Becht provided the following System of Care Updates:

- The County of Orange's Office of Care Coordination is seeking proposals from qualified organizations to provide Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) services for Transitional Age Youth (TAY). The Office of Care Coordination is seeking programs that can be operationalized quickly and leverage the available resources of the Homeless Service System in order to respond to the emergent needs of the community. For more information, visit the following link: [HDAP Services for TAY](#)
- Project Roomkey will sunset effective June 30, 2023. The decision to end the Project Roomkey took into consideration the utilization data for the program, as well as the COVID-19 trends in the community. The Office of Care Coordination and Health Care Agency (HCA) Public Health Services will continue working with homeless service providers to identify strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population.
- The Office of Care Coordination, in collaboration with the Commission to End Homelessness, conducted the 2023 Homelessness Survey for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Orange County with the last day of the survey being May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Twenty percent of the unsheltered homeless population were surveyed to understand the barriers preventing people from accessing services and identify where they are from and their community ties. The results of the Homelessness Survey need to be processed, which will be released publicly in Fall 2023.

b. Continuum of Care Updates – Sarah Jones provided the following Continuum of Care Updates:

- In April 2023, the Administration on Child, Youth, and Families' Family - Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) released four NOFOs to support youth and young adults who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability. The four NOFOS include FY 2023 Basic Center Program (BCP) NOFO, FY 2023 Street Outreach Program (SOP) NOFO, FY 2023 National Communication System (NCS), and FY 2023 Runaway Homeless Youth (RHY) Training, Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Center NOFO.
- On May 15, 2023, HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research announced a new funding opportunity for institutions of higher education or nonprofit entities that train and support institutions of higher education to conduct research applying community-engaged research methods to address homelessness. The research funded under this NOFO will contribute to general knowledge on the topic of homelessness, as well as the programs and interventions

designed to address homelessness in communities, while elevating the perspectives and insights of people with lived experience.

- The Office of Care Coordination is working with contracted service providers to lease-up the remaining Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) as soon as possible to maximize housing stabilization services with the goal of leasing up 100% of the EHVs by September 30, 2023.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Sandra Lozeau inquired if there was a map that showed where the leased vouchers are located because identifying locations may be useful for incentives.
- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe inquired on who set the goal for the deadline of the EHV 100% utilization.
- Judson Brown noted that Santa Ana Housing Authority (SAHA) provided an over issuance of EHVs which was a deliberate strategy to hit the goal of the 100% lease up utilization by September 2023.

Public Comments:

- Heather stated that they are new to the community and are sad to see Project Roomkey ending and inquired where would someone go if they were experiencing illness. Heather asked if similar programs like Project Roomkey can be looked into for wellness.
- Rebecca Kovacs-Stein shared that from their experience, shelters need more couple beds, pet beds, art therapy activities, financial literacy, budgeting, 12 step programs and more. Rebecca Kovacs-Stein noted that when people get vouchers, they go through briefing from the Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) but once the briefing is over, some people do not have the capacity to conduct the housing search. Additionally, Rebecca Kovacs-Stein stated that grievances should have whistleblower policy without retaliation.
- Elizabeth Andrade from Family Assistance Ministries stated that when serving on the Racial Equity Academy, she heard the symptoms of standards of performance and it was highlighted that the cause is who is being hired and the retainment of staff because with higher turnover, the more clients have to retell their story. The performance of the system, the lease up, the housing navigation has an impact and there is not a standard for the housing. Elizabeth Andrade noted that there was one agency that was recently criticized for their staffing compensation plan which is an outcome of how the contracts are structured, and inquired on how the CoC could join efforts for common trainings.
- Jennifer Friend from Project Hope Alliance shared that the Grand Jury issued a report last Thursday which identified 30,000 homeless children in the school system and emphasized the need prevent the children experiencing homelessness from going into the adult homeless service system. Jennifer Friend stated that the current PIT Count is not congruent. Jennifer Friend stated that they look forward to working with everyone to be intentional on the work being done with children. Jennifer Friend encouraged everyone to read the Grand Jury Report.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sandra Lozeau seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

**8. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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## MINUTES

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**Call to Order** – Dawn Price, Chair

Chair Dawn Price called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Board Member Roll Call** – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

Present: Nichole Gideon, Elida Sanchez, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Dawn Price, George Searcy, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw.

George Searcy arrived to the meeting during Board Member Comments.

Elida Sanchez arrived to the meeting during Business Calendar, item 1.

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- Jocelyn Rubio-Melendrez with Alzheimer's Orange County announced the release of the 2023 Report on Aging in Orange County (2023 Report) and encouraged everyone to read the 2023 Report. The report is available at <https://www.ocagingplan.org/>. Jocelyn Rubio-Melendrez also shared that the Housing Committee is reopening and invites anyone that is interested in joining.

**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.

- Tim Shaw provided an update on the Vision Ad Hoc's first meeting and shared the goal of creating a strategic plan for the CoC Board. Tim Shaw noted that outreach regarding working groups of the Vision Ad Hoc.
- Kelly Bruno-Nelson announced the release CalOptima Health's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Round 2 for Capital Projects, additional information is available at the following website: <https://www.caloptima.org/en/About/CurrentInitiatives/CalAIM/FundingOpportunities>. Kelly Bruno-Nelson also shared that CalOptima Health is working on a recuperative care program in the City of Tustin, however, approval is still pending.
- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe announced the Orange County United Way's (OCUW) acquisition of 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) which will be taking place July 1, 2023, and emphasized that there will be no interruption to service and people can continue to dial 2-1-1 for help. OCUW will be hosting listening sessions to hear from stakeholders on improvements. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe also announced that University of California, Irvine (UCI) and OCUW are working on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Policy Development and Research funding opportunity to analyze the use of special purpose vouchers.
- Chair Dawn Price inquired if there was any objection to signing a letter for UCI and OCUW's application and California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) and Families Forward application for the funding opportunity. Chair Dawn Price clarified that the letters will be brought to the CoC Board for retroactive approval in July's meeting of the CoC Board.
- Nishtha Mohendra shared that Families Forward is also submitting a proposal for the funding opportunity and partnering with CSUF. Nishtha Mohendra also shared that earlier this month, University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) released a study regarding homelessness and encouraged everyone to read the report. The study can be read at: [https://homelessness.ucsf.edu/sites/default/files/2023-06/CASPEH\\_Report\\_62023.pdf](https://homelessness.ucsf.edu/sites/default/files/2023-06/CASPEH_Report_62023.pdf)

- Sandra Lozeau shared that the City of Anaheim celebrated the grand opening of Finamore Place, which will provide 101 units of housing, including 20 homeless set-aside units. Sandra Lozeau expressed excitement for the collaboration with partnering agencies and shared that other similar projects will come online.

### **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. FY2023 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination**

The upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 CoC Program NOFO is anticipated to be released HUD in early Summer 2023. On June 16, 2023, the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, released the FY 2023 Agency Administrative Review for CoC-Funded Agencies in preparation for the FY 2023 CoC Program NOFO competition.

The FY2023 CoC NOFO Ad Hoc has met five times to review the CoC Program NOFO application process; draft the proposed project performance measures, point allocations, and thresholds; and discuss feedback received from the CoC-funded agencies on the proposed project performance measures at the CoC NOFO Renewal Meeting held on May 15, 2023. The recommended FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Scoring and Rating Criteria has remained consistent with the FY2022 CoC Program NOFO Scoring and Rating Criteria, as it continues to reflect the local priorities set by the Orange County CoC.

#### Board Member Comments:

- Melanie McQueen inquired on the number and type of renewal projects to gain a better understanding of how many projects are impacted by the renewal process.
- Judson Brown suggested an amendment to the recommended action to provide five additional bonus points to projects that serve families or transitional age youth (TAY). Judson Brown provided clarification that the proposed FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Rating and Scoring Criteria would not change and only five additional points would be added for projects that served the subpopulations.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse expressed support for Judson brown’s recommendation conditional on seniors were added to the list of subpopulations for bonus points.
- Tim Shaw noted his reluctance to incorporate bonus points and asked for clarification on the point distribution for the bonus points.
- Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted that only 0.67% of the beds in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) were designated TAY beds.
- Chair Dawn Price provided additional information on the impact of adding bonus points and stated that it would have an impact when ranking projects.
- George Searcy stated support for the intention has, expressed concerns for the scoring process and proposed to ask staff to evaluate the request and bring back recommendations to the CoC Board on how to best accomplish the intent of the suggestions.
- Eric Richardson shared that there is a need to ensure that the suggested change is equitable across all different groups.

- Maricela Rios-Faust inquired on the impact to the renewal projects and emphasized on the need to understand the impact when staff comes back with a proposal.

Public Comment:

- Madelynn Hirneise, Chief Executive Officer at Families Forward, shared that when considering potential allocations during the NOFO process there is a need for Rapid Rehousing services for families. Madelynn Hirneise described the growing demand in Coordinated Entry System (CES), with limited outflow and how the pandemic has continued to impact the ability to serve the families.

Amended Recommended Action: Approve the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Scoring and Rating Criteria for Renewal Projects, including the project performance measures, thresholds and point allocations and direct staff to evaluate the prioritization of subpopulations (Families, Transitional Aged Youth, Older adults) in the CoC Program NOFO process.

Judson Brown motioned to approve the amended recommended action. George Searcy seconded the motion. Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Dawn Price, George Searcy, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw voted yes. Nichole Gideon and Elida Sanchez abstained. The motion passed.

**2. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the County of Orange, City of Anaheim, City of Irvine, and the City of Santa Ana – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination**

The Office of Care Coordination and Orange County CoC has been proactive around the programming and spending of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funds, with nearly 60 percent of the entire HHAP Round 3 funds already committed, which led to further conversations with local jurisdictions on how to best collaborate and improve regional HHAP goals. The Office of Care Coordination on behalf of the County of Orange and the Orange County CoC has worked with the City of Anaheim, City of Irvine and City of Santa Ana to establish a regional MOU outlining and detailing a commitment to partnership as it relates to HHAP funding. The goal of the MOU is to ensure that all HHAP-funded entities communicate, work collaboratively, and leverage, whenever possible, available resources to maximize impact and serve the greatest number of households experiencing homelessness.

Board Member Comments:

- Nishtha Mohendra asked for clarification on the HHAP CoC-Funded Projects attachment.
- Judson Brown stated that the HHAP CoC-Funded Projects attachment is helpful information to know when considering allocations for funding and suggested that the information be synthesized to better understand where the funds are going when deciding for the remaining allocation for the funds.

Public Comment:

- Peter Warren shared that hospitals are discharging patients who are experiencing homelessness at Amtrak locations and asked that the CoC Board consider looking into that problem. Peter Warren advocated to ensure that shelter providers are discharging participants with medical needs to proper facilities that meets the participants needs.

Recommended Action A: Approve the MOU between the County of Orange, acting as the Eligible Applicant for the County of Orange and the Orange County CoC; the City of Anaheim; the City of Irvine; and the City of Santa Ana.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve the recommended action. Nishtha Mohendra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Funding Recommendation** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

The County of Orange’s Office of Care Coordination functions as the CES Lead for the Orange County CoC and administers the CES grant funded through the CoC Program. The Office of Care Coordination operates two of three components of CES with support from other nonprofit organizations – Friendship Shelter serves as the CES for Individuals Administrator and Family Solutions Collaborative serves as the CES for Families Administrator. During contract negotiation and ongoing meetings with the Office of Care Coordination, the two CES subcontracted providers have requested additional funding to hire additional staff to support with data management, quality improvement and technical assistance.

Board Member Comments:

- Judson Brown inquired if the recommended amount of \$63,000 was sufficient to hire one staff member.
- Nishtha Mohendra shared concerns with the one-year term for hiring a staff member. Nishtha Mohendra asked for clarification regarding Recommended Action A and noted a typo in Recommended Action B.

Public Comments:

- Carrie Buck, Executive Director of Family Solutions Collaborative (FSC), shared her support for the Recommended Actions and provided further detail as to how the funding will support FSC.
- Peter Warner advocated for early shuttle services because many shelters have their first shuttle service at 10 a.m., while shelter participants may have appointments at earlier times.

Recommended Action A: Approve \$63,000 funding award to Friendship Shelter as the CES for Individuals Administrator to support with additional data management and quality control needs for the term July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to be funded through Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 1, 3 and/or 4 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC.

Recommended Action B: Approve \$63,000 funding award to Family Solutions Collaborative as the CES for Families Administrator to support with additional data management and quality control needs for the term July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to be funded through Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 1, 3 and/or 4 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve Recommended Actions A and B. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. Nichole Gideon, Elida Sanchez, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, George Searcy, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw voted yes. Dawn Price abstained. The motion passed.

**4. Youth Homelessness Demonstrate Program (YHDP) Round 7** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, TAY Collaborative Committee Chair

Sarah Jones provided an overview on the YHDP funding opportunity and the application process. The Office of Care Coordination in collaboration with the TAY Collaborative Committee, worked with youth-specific service providers, and local community partners to receive community feedback to complete the YHDP application. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells described the efforts and engagement of the TAY Collaborative Committee, the TAY Ad Hoc, the Youth Action Board (YAB) and the local community partners.

Board Member Comments:

- Tim Shaw thanked the CoC Board members involved in the work and stated it is great to have advocates.
- Elida Sanchez shared that the YAB created a video in support for the YHDP funding application which was a new part of the application requirements.

Public Comment:

- Peter Warren suggested the idea of applying for a block grant to run additional homeless shelters for youth, such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), like what was done in San Diego County.

**5. Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Douglas Becht, Director of Care Coordination, and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

a. System of Care Updates – Doug Becht provided the following System of Care Updates:

- The Commission to End Homelessness met on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, and recommended the appointment of Kristine Ridge, City Manager for Santa Ana, as the Central Service Planning Area Representative to the Orange County Board of Supervisors. The Commission to End Homelessness also approved the launch of recruitment process for the following seats: Chief of Police in an Orange County City, Affordable housing development industry representative, City Manager or elected official in the North Service Planning Area, Faith-Based Community Representative, and an At Large Member.
- Project Roomkey will sunset effective June 30, 2023. Recommended guidance from OC Health Care Agency's Department of Public Health for COVID-19 positive results has been shared through the Office of Care Coordination distribution list.
- Douglas Becht shared that there are bed vacancies at the Yale Navigation Center to serve females experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area (SPA) available through the Shelter Bed Reservation System and encouraged service providers to add eligible female participants onto the Shelter Bed Reservation System community queue to gain access to shelter.

b. CoC Updates – Sarah Jones provided the following CoC Updates:

- On June 8, 2023, HUD announced the launch of a new LGBTQI+ Youth Homelessness Initiative, which will partner with local communities, service providers, and directly affected young people to address barriers to housing and shelter access for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) youth. With this new initiative, HUD will provide technical assistance and regular training for shelter and service providers, new informational resources highlighting innovative methods for supporting LGBTQI+ youth and Know Your Rights tools for direct-affected youth.
- The Office of Care Coordination is working with contracted service providers to lease-up the remaining Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) as soon as possible to maximize housing stabilization services with the goal of leasing up 100% of the EHVs by September 30, 2023.
- On May 10, 2023, HUD published updates to the standards that it will use to assess whether housing meets minimum quality standards and may be assisted with HUD funds. These standards are known as the National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate

(NSPIRE). The minimum standards established in 24 CFR 5.703 of the Final Rule will apply to housing funded with CoC and ESG Program funds beginning on October 1st, 2023.

- The Office of Care Coordination will be hosting a training on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Equal Access Rule established HUD. Through this training, service providers will learn how to effectively implement HUD's Equal Access Rule to ensure fair housing and shelter opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, as well as ensuring the preservation of families accessing housing and shelter.

Board Member Comments:

- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe inquired if there was any assistance that can be provided to support the issuance and lease up of EHV's.
- Judson Brown shared metrics of how many people have been successfully housed in the private rental market with the EHV's and emphasized how the 2,700-unit development goal is being worked towards.
- Chair Dawn Price provided additional information on how the CalAim services have been able to provide ongoing services for vulnerable populations.

Public Comments:

- Paul Hyek suggested that the City of Anaheim's Salvation Army Shelter conduct a pilot program to hire people with current or past lived experience of homelessness to work in the shelter and stated that the CES Administrators should consider someone with lived experience as part of the funding recommendations. Paul Hyek also suggested that the Cold Weather Emergency Shelter have a "walk in, walk out" policy when it is open for next season and emphasized that churches should open fellowship halls as a place for people to sleep during the wet weather.
- Peter Warren advocated for the need to ensure habitability standards are being met in units supported by housing choice vouchers. Peter Warren provided examples of deficiencies he had identified in a unit support by a housing choice voucher.
- Heather Middlemen with Friendship Shelter asked that the Commission to End Homelessness consider a seat for public defenders representation.

Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tim Shaw seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

**6. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 26, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Date:** July 26, 2023

**Subject:** Agencies and Jurisdictions Approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Access

**Recommended Action:**

- a. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access from April 22, 2023, through July 21, 2023

**Background and Analysis**

On June 23, 2021, the Orange County CoC Board approved the recommendation to appoint membership to a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Access Working Group to support the implementation of the updated HMIS Access and Minimum Participation policy. The HMIS Access Working Group meets monthly with 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC), HMIS Lead, and the Office of Care Coordination to review HMIS Access Applications and has continued to refine the process for facilitating equitable review of applications received.

At the May 25, 2022, meeting of the CoC Board, the CoC Board membership requested that the agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access be reported to the CoC Board on a recurring basis. The following agency has been approved for HMIS access by the HMIS Access Working Group for the time period of April 22, 2023, through July 21, 2023:

- Latino Health Access

The Office of Care Coordination, in partnership with 211OC and the HMIS Access Working Group, will continue providing quarterly updates to the CoC Board to report on new agencies approved for HMIS access.

**Date:** July 26, 2023

**Subject:** 2024 Point in Time

**Recommended Action:**

- b. Approve the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Collaborative Applicant, conduct a 2024 Point in Time Count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness in Orange County.
- c. Establish the 2024 Point in Time Count Planning Ad Hoc

**Background and Analysis**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that Continuums of Care (CoC) across the nation complete a biennial unsheltered count and an annual sheltered count of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the community on a single point in time during the last 10 days of January. HUD provides the guidelines on how to conduct the Point In Time (PIT) Count as well as detail the data points to be collected, including but not limited to households' demographic information such as single adults, families, and specific subpopulations, including veterans, victims of domestic violence and youth, as well as the incidence of certain characteristics or conditions among the homeless population such as chronic homelessness and disabling conditions.

At the May 23, 2023, meeting of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, the Board of Supervisors approved to contract with Kingdom Causes, Inc. dba City Net to provide planning, implementation, and reporting services for the 2024 PIT Count and subsequent years. The 2024 PIT Count process will replicate the 2022 PIT Count process with upgraded methodology, based on feedback received during the 2022 PIT Count, and implement a comprehensive PIT with enhanced data collection regarding demographics, needs and geographical locations where people are experiencing homelessness. Further, the results of the 2024 PIT Count will provide current data for those who are experiencing homelessness in Orange County that will be used to help inform the development and coordination of regional resources to assist in addressing homelessness.

The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, is recommending that a 2024 PIT Count Planning Ad Hoc be established. Approval of a 2024 PIT Count Planning Ad Hoc will support the formation and planning of a 2024 PIT Count, including outreach to local providers, stakeholders, and system leaders, to ensure all populations experiencing homelessness are considered in the planning for the count. The Office of Care Coordination plans to involve representatives from the following:

- CoC Board
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Agency
- Agencies primarily serving Transitional Age Youth (TAY), including Covenant House California and Orangewood Foundation
- Orange County Department of Education and/or McKinney Vento Liaisons

- Family Solutions Collaborative
- Local City Representatives
- Veterans Affairs (VA)
- People with Lived Expertise

Furthermore, the Office of Care Coordination will collaborate with the CoC Board leadership to identify additional areas of expertise that should be represented on the 2024 PIT Count Planning Ad Hoc.

**Date:** July 26, 2023

**Subject:** FY2023 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

**Recommended Actions:**

- c. CoC Renewal Funding
  - i. Approve scoring and rating strategy for Transition Projects that have not yet completed a full grant term to be evaluated using only the applicable scoring criteria from the approved FY2023 CoC Renewal Scoring and Rating Criteria, as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
- d. CoC Reallocation Recommendations
  - i. Approve the reallocation of \$579,869 in funding from the Families Forward’s Rapid Re-housing Project during the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO.
  - ii. Approve the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc recommendation to utilize the reallocated funding to solicit new Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing project proposals that serve Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult).
- e. CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding Request for Proposals
  - i. Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a CoC Bonus and Reallocation Request for Proposals to solicit new Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects that primarily serve households with severe service needs or designate a minimum percentage of units to any of the following special populations, including Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult), Transitional Age Youth (ages 18 – 24), Individual (adult only households) experiencing chronic homelessness and Older Adults (ages 62 and older) as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
  - ii. Establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received in response to the issued Request for Proposals.
  - iii. Approve FY2023 CoC Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate proposals as submitted in response to the Request for Proposals.
- f. Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus Funding
  - i. Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a DV Bonus Request for Proposals to solicit new Rapid Rehousing and Joint Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH) projects as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
  - ii. Establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received in response to the Request for Proposals.
  - iii. Approve the FY2023 DV Bonus Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate proposals as submitted in response to the Request for Proposals.

**Background and Analysis**

[FY2023 CoC Program NOFO](#)

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. Approximately \$3.1 billion in competitive funding is available, including at least \$52 million available for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus) projects. The submission deadline for the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO is September 28, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT). The exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC, including CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and CoC Planning, will be made available at a later date with the publishing of HUD's Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) Report. An overview of the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO can be referenced in **Attachment A**.

To support the CoC NOFO local competition process, the Office of Care Coordination, on behalf of the Orange County CoC, has facilitated six meetings of the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc. On July 13, 2023, the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc convened to discuss the CoC Board feedback on the FY2023 CoC Renewal Project Scoring and Rating Criteria approved at the June 28, 2023, CoC Board meeting; determine priorities for the CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation projects; recommend the CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria; and discuss potential funding reallocation.

The CoC Board is being asked to review and take action on the recommended items related to the CoC Renewal Funding, CoC Bonus and Reallocation, and DV Bonus funding available through the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO.

#### *CoC Renewal Funding*

In effort to promote an equitable evaluation of the CoC renewal projects, the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc, in partnership with the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant, discussed the evaluation of Transition Projects. Transition Projects are eligible renewal project(s) that transition their original project component(s) to another eligible project component. The Transition Project provides applicants with an opportunity to create a new project and to use a portion of the project's funds to wind down the reallocated project(s) and ramp up the new project. The Office of Care Coordination met with the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc to discuss a proposed strategy to support the success of Transition Projects and ensure Transition Projects are evaluated fairly against other renewal projects in the local competition, specifically for projects that have not yet completed a full grant term. For the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Scoring and Rating Criteria, this would mean that points allocated to the Project Performance and Unspent Funds criteria would be removed and non-applicable, a portion of Project Effectiveness criteria point allocation would be reduced and non-applicable and the overall maximum amount of points Transition Projects can receive would decrease. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc would then look to the percentage score to assist with the overall rating and ranking of the projects.

For the Orange County CoC, approval of this strategy would impact the Pathways of Hope's Permanent Supportive Housing for Families project, which transitioned from a Rapid Rehousing project component during the FY2022 CoC Program NOFO competition and is still pending implementation based on the grant term with HUD. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc recommends approving the above described scoring and rating strategy for Transition Projects that have not yet completed a full grant term to be evaluated only on applicable scoring criteria from the approved FY2023 CoC Renewal Scoring and Rating Criteria. If approved, the recommendation would be applicable for the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO and amended year after year, reflecting the most updated scoring criteria.

### *CoC Reallocation Recommendations*

Reallocation is a process that CoCs use to shift funds in whole or in part from existing eligible renewal projects to create one or more new projects without affecting the CoC's ARD. HUD incentivizes CoCs to evaluate project performance and gives points in the Consolidated Application to CoCs that either reallocate funding from lower performing projects to create new higher performing projects or have a process to review the performance of existing projects and reallocate funding from lower performing projects to higher performing projects, as detailed on page 93 of the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO released by HUD.

During the August 24, 2022, meeting of the CoC Board, the CoC Board approved the reallocation strategy for reallocating CoC Renewal Projects funding that have a project performance score of less than 60 percent during two CoC NOFO funding cycles for the FY2022 CoC NOFO and ongoing competitions. As such, the impact of this policy will be recognized for the first time during the FY2023 CoC NOFO competition process. The reallocation strategy was created in effort to promote the most effective projects and recommend projects that improve system performance in the CoC Program NOFOs.

An analysis of the project performance measures and thresholds by Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead 2-1-1 Orange County found that Families Forward's Rapid Re-housing renewal project has had a project performance score of less than 60 percent during the last two calendar years. Based on the CoC Board's approved reallocation strategy, the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc is recommending the reallocation \$579,869 in funding from the Families Forward Rapid Re-housing Project. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc does not come to this recommendation lightly and has considered the various components of the FY2023 Rating and Ranking Criteria, specifically the project performance measures and thresholds.

Additionally, the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc recommended that the reallocation funding be utilized to create a new Rapid Rehousing or Permanent Supportive Housing project that serves Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult) that would be solicited through the release of the CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding Request for Proposals. This recommendation will support the Orange County CoC in developing additional capacity to serve families experiencing homelessness with the highest vulnerabilities and create a new higher performing project. Approval to reallocate Families Forward's Renewal Project named Families Forward Rapid Re-Housing as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc will support the Orange County CoC's goal of having high performing projects that best address the needs of families experiencing homelessness.

### *CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding Request for Proposals*

The exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC for CoC Bonus projects will be announced when HUD publishes the Estimated ARD Report. New projects eligible to be created using CoC Bonus and/or Reallocation funding include:

- Permanent Housing – Permanent Supportive Housing projects.
- Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing projects.
- Joint Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH) projects.
- Dedicated HMIS project that can only be carried out by the HMIS Lead, which is the recipient or subrecipient of an HMIS grant and is listed on the HMIS Lead form in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps. Additionally, if the CoC has organizations within its geographic area that are victim service

providers, the HMIS Lead, or subrecipient, may request HMIS funds for a comparable database. Victim service providers may also request HMIS funds in their project application budgets to enter data into a comparable database.

- Supportive Services Only Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The Office of Care Coordination met with the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc to further discuss recommended priorities for the CoC Bonus and Reallocation funding, presenting on potential options based on HUD's priorities outlined in the NOFO process and current needs presented through system data. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc members present at the July 13, 2023, meeting recommended Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult) be prioritized as the eligible population for new projects. However, due to HUD's emphasis on serving households with the highest need in the CoC, including households with severe service needs, the Office of Care Coordination recommended the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc consider including additional populations to be served through CoC Bonus and Reallocation projects. Upon further review, members of the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc recommended including all households with severe service needs as eligible populations to be served, with an incentive for new CoC Bonus and Reallocation projects to consider designated units for Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult), Transitional Age Youth (ages 18 – 24), Individual (adult only households) experiencing chronic homelessness and Older Adults (ages 62 and older). The Office of Care Coordination supports the widening of eligible populations to be served as it will allow for a more competitive application for the Orange County CoC.

The CoC Board is being asked to approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and release a Request For Proposals to solicit new Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects, with a focus on serving households with severe service needs and/or designating a minimum percentage of units to any of the following special populations, including Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult), Transitional Age Youth (ages 18 – 24), Individual (adult only households) experiencing chronic homelessness and Older Adults (ages 62 and older). Approval of the creation and issuance of the CoC Bonus and Reallocation Request for Proposals will allow the solicitation of new projects into the Orange County CoC.

Additionally, with the release of a CoC Bonus and Reallocation Request for Proposals, there is a need to establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received. Establishing a Review Panel to review and recommend proposals submitted in response to the CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding Request for Proposals for the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO will support the Orange County CoC in submitting applications that could bring additional housing resources to Orange County. The Office of Care Coordination will outreach to the CoC General Membership and local stakeholders, being intentional with involving members who are representative of those population within the homeless service system.

### *Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus Funding*

The exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC for DV Bonus projects will be announced when HUD publishes the Estimated ARD Report. The DV Bonus can be utilized to create new Rapid Rehousing and Joint TH-RRH component projects as well as SSO – CE projects. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc is recommending that both Rapid Rehousing and Joint TH-RRH component projects be solicited as part of the local competition process. HUD evaluates Rapid Rehousing and Joint TH-RRH component projects on several criteria, including the CoC's collaboration with victim service providers, need for the project, quality of the project applicant's experience, demonstration of inclusion of victim-centered practices and demonstration of plan to include survivors with lived expertise.

To support the solicitation of new DV Bonus Projects, the CoC Board is being asked to approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a DV Bonus Request for Proposal. Approval of the creation and issuance of the DV Bonus Request for Proposal will allow the solicitation of new projects into the Orange County CoC. Additionally, with the release of a DV Bonus Request for Proposals, there is a need to establish an additional non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received. Establishing a Review Panel to review and recommend proposals submitted in response to the DV Bonus Request for Proposals for the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO will support the Orange County CoC in submitting applications that could bring additional housing resources to Orange County that serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Office of Care Coordination will outreach to the CoC General Membership and local stakeholders, being intentional with involving members who are representative of those population within the homeless service system, specifically those with expertise in working with survivors.

### *Scoring and Rating Criteria for the CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and/or Reallocation projects*

The FY2023 CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria is to be utilized to determine the evaluation, tiering and Project Priority Listing for CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and/or Reallocation projects as part of the annual CoC Program grant application. Each year, HUD highlights homeless policy priorities and specific application components that are highlighted in the scoring criteria within the published NOFO. Utilizing the FY 2022 CoC Program NOFO CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and/or Reallocation projects Scoring and Rating Criteria and the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Overview as a starting point, the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc and the Office of Care Coordination developed the FY2023 CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and/or Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate new project applications received. As detailed above, the CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria includes criteria informed by HUD's emphasis on serving households with the highest need in the CoC, including households with severe service needs. Additionally, because HUD is requiring the leveraging of housing and healthcare resources for new Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects to be funded through CoC Bonus and Reallocation funding, the proposed Scoring and Rating Criteria includes an allocation of 20 points for the leveraging of resources – a change from last year's CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria.

**Attachment B** provides a detailed overview of scoring criteria, description, and the maximum points available per criterion. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc provided concurrence on the scoring and rating criteria detailed in Attachment B.

### **Attachments**

Attachment A - FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Overview

Attachment B - FY 2023 CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria

## FY2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Overview

### Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is awarding \$3,134,000,000 in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), including up to \$52,000,000 available for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus) projects. The NOFO for the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition is available on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and the [Funding Opportunities](#) page on HUD's website. The submission deadline for the FY 2023 CoC Program NOFO is September 28, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. PDT.

### Timeline:

- **Wednesday, July 5, 2023** – Funding opportunity announcement released by HUD.
- **Tuesday, August 29, 2023** – Project Applications are required to be submitted to the CoC no later than 30 days before the application deadline.
- **Wednesday, September 13, 2023** – CoCs are required to notify all project applicants who submitted their project applications to the CoC by the CoC-established deadline whether their project application(s) will be accepted and ranked on the CoC Priority Listing, rejected, or reduced by the CoC no later than 15 days before the FY 2023 CoC Program application submission deadline.
- **Monday, September 25, 2023** – Post the Consolidated Application for community review, including the CoC application, attachments, priority listings and community notifications. CoCs are required to post Consolidated Application for the CoC no later than two days before the application submission deadline.
- **Thursday, September 28, 2023** – Application submission deadline

### Available Funds:

- Approximately \$3,134,000,000 nationwide
  - \$52,000,000 for DV Bonus projects
  - \$147,000,000, available for the competitive renewal and replacement of expiring Round Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Grants and the non-competitive renewal and replacement of expiring grants YHDP grants initially funded in FY 2017 (Round 2) or later
  - A portion of funds will be available for CoC Renewal Projects. CoC Renewal Projects applications must be submitted by the same recipient that signed the executed grant agreement for the grant being renewed, or entity that became the recipient through a grant agreement transfer amendment.
  - A portion of funds will be available for CoC Bonus Projects. The CoC Bonus allows CoCs to use up to 7 percent of their Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) to create one or more new project applications.
- Orange County CoC
  - Exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC, including CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and CoC Planning, will be made available with the publishing of HUD's Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) Report

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### Application Process:

- CoC Application completed and submitted by Collaborative Applicant
  - HUD will select projects based on CoC score, beginning with the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC.
- Project Applications
  - Must describe population and subpopulations to be served
  - Must describe the type of housing and services to be provided
  - Must include budget activities that are being requested
- CoC Priority Listings
  - Ranks all project applications in order of priority, including CoC project applications for Round 1 YHDP Renewal or replacement projects, and identify any project applications rejected by the CoC

### Eligible Applicants:

- Collaborative Applicants – County of Orange’s Office of Care Coordination
- Eligible Project Applicants – include nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE).

### HUD’s Homeless Policy Priorities

- *Ending homelessness for all persons.* In 2022, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) presented All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness to the President and Congress. The plan is built around six pillars: three foundations—equity, data and evidence, and collaboration—and three solutions—housing and supports, crisis response, and prevention. The work funded through this NOFO will support the actions and strategies proposed within the pillars. To end homelessness, CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that consider the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area (e.g., veterans, youth, families, those experiencing chronic homelessness, and people with disabilities, including those living with HIV/AIDS). CoCs should partner with housing, health care, and supportive services providers to expand housing options, such as permanent supportive housing, housing subsidies, and rapid rehousing. Additionally, CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.
- *Use a Housing First approach.* Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions. CoC Program funded projects should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing, and CoCs should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners to identify housing units available for rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing participants, remove barriers to entry, and adopt client-centered service methods. HUD encourages CoCs to assess how well Housing First approaches are being implemented in their communities.

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- *Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness.* In recent years, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness has risen significantly, including a rising number of encampments in many communities across the country. People living unsheltered have extremely high rates of physical and mental illness and substance use disorders. CoCs should explore all available resources, including CoC and ESG funded assistance, housing subsidies, and supportive services to provide permanent housing options for people who are unsheltered. CoCs should work with law enforcement and their state and local governments to eliminate policies and practices that criminalize homelessness.
- *Improving System Performance.* CoCs should be using system performance measures (e.g., average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, rates of exit to permanent housing destinations) to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should use their Coordinated Entry process to promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing, and services to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent. CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2023 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness, including cost-effectiveness. CoCs should also look for opportunities to implement continuous quality improvement and other process improvement strategies.
- *Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies.* Using cost performance and outcome data, CoCs should improve how all available resources are utilized to end homelessness. This is especially important as the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan have provided significant new resources to help end homelessness. HUD encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources when serving persons experiencing homelessness and should:
  - Work closely with public and private healthcare organizations and assist program participants to receive primary care, receive housing related services, and obtain medical insurance to address healthcare needs. This includes developing close partnerships with public health agencies to analyze data and design approaches that reduce homelessness, improve the health of people experiencing homelessness, and prevent and address disease outbreaks, including HIV/AIDS.
  - Partner closely with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and state and local housing organizations to utilize coordinated entry, develop housing units, and provide housing subsidies to people experiencing homelessness. These partnerships can also help CoC Program participants exit permanent supportive housing through Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) and other available housing options. CoCs and PHAs should especially work together to implement targeted programs such as Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV), HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), Mainstream Vouchers, Family Unification Program (FUP) Vouchers, and other housing voucher programs targeted to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. CoCs should coordinate with state and local housing agencies on the utilization of new program resources provided through the Homelessness Assistance and Supportive Services Program (HOME-ARP) that was created through the American Rescue Plan.
  - Partner with local workforce development centers to improve employment opportunities.

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- Work with Tribal organizations to ensure that Tribal members can access CoC funded assistance when a CoC's geographic area borders a Tribal area.
- *Racial Equity*. In nearly every community, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are substantially over-represented in the homeless population. HUD is emphasizing system and program changes to address racial equity within CoCs. Responses to preventing and ending homelessness should address racial inequities to ensure successful outcomes for all persons experiencing homelessness using proven approaches, such as: developing a coordinated community response created in partnership with a racially diverse set of stakeholders and people experiencing homelessness and partnering with organizations with experience serving underserved populations. CoCs should review local policies, procedures, and processes with attention to identifying barriers that result in racial disparities and taking steps to eliminate barriers to improve racial equity and to address disparities.
- *Improving Assistance to LGBTQIA+ Individuals*. Discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation manifests differently for different individuals and often overlaps with other forms of prohibited discrimination. CoCs should address the needs of LGBTQIA+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary individuals, and families in their planning processes. Additionally, when considering which projects to select in their local competition to be included in their application to HUD, CoCs should ensure privacy, respect, safety, and access regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation in projects. CoCs should also consider partnering with organizations with expertise in serving LGBTQIA+ populations.
- *Persons with Lived Experience*. The people who know best what solutions will effectively end homelessness are those who have or are experiencing homelessness (lived experience). HUD expects CoCs to include people with lived experience in their local planning and decision-making process. People with lived experience should determine how local policies may need to be revised and updated to improve the effectiveness of homelessness assistance programs, including participating in planning and oversight activities, and developing local competition processes. CoC leaders and stakeholders should prioritize hiring people who have lived experience in areas where their expertise is needed.
- *Increasing Affordable Housing Supply*. The lack of affordable housing is the main driver of homelessness. CoCs play a critical role in educating local leaders and stakeholders about the importance of increasing the supply of affordable housing and the specific consequences of the continued lack of affordable housing. CoCs should be communicating with jurisdiction leaders, including for the development of Consolidated Plans, about the harmful effects of the lack of affordable housing, and they should engage local leaders about steps such as zoning and land use reform that would increase the supply of affordable housing. This FY2023 CoC NOFO awards points to CoCs that take steps to engage local leaders about increasing affordable housing supply.

### Changes from Previous Notice of Funding Opportunities:

- **Round 1 YHDP Grants**. HUD will competitively renew or replace projects that HUD initially funded in the FY 2016 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Competition (Round 1). These Round 1 YHDP projects may be reallocated by CoCs to create new CoC grants. If a Round 1 YHDP grant is reallocated to create a new CoC grant, the reallocated funds are no longer eligible to be used for YHDP Special Activities. If significant changes to a renewing Round 1 YHDP project are needed, a Round 1 YHDP project may continue to replace its current project with a new Round 1 YHDP

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Replacement project, that may wholly or in part include activities ineligible under the CoC Program while still serving youth ages 24 and younger experiencing homelessness.

- **YHDP Special Activities.** The CoC Program NOFO permits YHDP project applicants to integrate YHDP Special Activities into the project design through the selection of these activities in YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement project applications. YHDP renewal applicants may continue to select previously approved Special YHDP Activities in their project application; however, YHDP Renewal applicants may also request to add new Special YHDP Activities through their renewal application.
- **CoC Planning Increase.** HUD is establishing an alternative maximum amount for CoC Planning grant applications under this NOFO. Specifically, the maximum grant amount for CoC planning activities will be the greater of \$50,000 or five (5) percent of the applicable FPRN, provided that the total grant amount for CoC planning activities does not exceed \$1,500,000. This new maximum replaces the 3 percent cap for purposes of awards under this NOFO.
- **New Eligible Continuum of Care Activities.** These following new budget line items (BLIs) will be built into the CoC Program Competition Application process. Applicants wishing to utilize these new BLIs can request a budget modification during the competition to add funds to these line items from an existing line item. Applicants may also request to expand existing renewal grants to add new funding to these BLIs.
  - Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Costs Budget Line Item.
  - Rural Costs Budget Line Item.
- **Federal Relay Service’s Text Telephone (TTY) service.** The Federal Relay Service contract expired in February 2022 and is no longer available. The NOFO is updated to include the use of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) relay services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech or communication disabilities.
- **Amendment to criteria for qualifying as “homeless”.** For purposes of the CoC Program and other HUD programs authorized by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, section 605 of VAWA 2022 amended section 103(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to require HUD to consider as homeless: any individual or family who—
  - is experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to, or fleeing or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous, traumatic, or life-threatening conditions related to the violence against the individual or a family member in the individual's or family's current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized
  - has no other safe residence; and
  - lacks the resources to obtain other safe permanent housing

### HUD Funding Process – Application Review and Ranking Process:

- Project applications submitted to the CoC will be reviewed and either accepted and ranked, approved, or rejected by the CoC.
- HUD will continue the Tier 1 and 2 funding selection process. Higher ranked projects will be assigned to Tier 1 and lower ranked projects will be assigned to Tier 2. The purpose of this two-tiered approach is for CoCs to notify HUD which projects are prioritized for funding based on local needs and gaps.

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- HUD will establish each CoC's Tier 1 and Tier 2 amounts based on the total amount of funds requested by eligible renewal project applications on the Renewal Project Listing combined with the eligible renewal project amount(s) that were reallocated as listed on the reallocation forms in the CoC Priority Listing.
- Exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC for Tier 1 and Tier 2 will be announced when HUD publishes the Estimated ARD Report.
- Tier 1
  - Tier 1 is equal to 93 percent of the CoC's ARD
  - Project applications in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC, provided the project applications pass both project eligibility and project quality threshold review, and if applicable, project renewal threshold. Any type of new or renewal project application can be placed in Tier 1.
- Tier 2
  - Tier 2 is equal to the seven (7) percent of the ARD and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation, and CoC Bonus funds.
  - Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation, Round 1 YHDP Renewal, and CoC Bonus funds that a CoC can apply, CoC Planning projects, or projects selected with DV Bonus funds.
  - HUD will award a point value to each new, renewal, YHDP Renewal and YHDP Replacement project application that is in Tier 2 using a 100-point scale:
    - **CoC Score.** Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Application
    - **CoC Project Ranking.** Up to 40 points for the CoC's ranking of the project application(s). To consider the CoCs ranking of projects, HUD will assign point values directly related to the CoCs' ranking of project applications. The calculation of point values will be 40 times the quantity  $(1-x)$  where  $x$  is the ratio of the cumulative funding requests for all projects or portions of projects ranked higher by the CoC in Tier 2 plus one half of the funding of the project of interest to the total amount of funding available in Tier 2 for the CoC.
    - **Commitment to Housing First.** Up to 10 points based on the project application's
    - **Commitment to follow a Housing First approach.** Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for centralized or coordinated assessment system (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 10 points.
- Straddling Tiers
  - If a project application straddles the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding line, HUD will conditionally select the project up to the amount of funding that falls within Tier 1. Using the 100-point scale value described above, HUD may fund the Tier 2 portion of the project. If HUD does not fund the Tier 2 portion of the project, HUD may award the project at the reduced amount based on the amount of funding that falls within Tier 1, provided the project is still feasible with the reduced funding.

### Opportunities for New Funding:

- **CoC Bonus**

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- Funding available: Exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC for CoC Bonus projects will be announced when HUD publishes the Estimated ARD Report.
  - New projects created through reallocation or CoC Bonus processes include:
    - ❖ Permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects.
    - ❖ Rapid rehousing (RRH) projects.
    - ❖ Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH) component projects.
    - ❖ Dedicated HMIS project that can only be carried out by the HMIS Lead, which is the recipient or subrecipient of an HMIS grant and is listed on the HMIS Lead form in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps. Additionally, if the CoC has organizations within its geographic area that are victim service providers, the HMIS Lead, or subrecipient, may request HMIS funds for a comparable database. Victim service providers may also request HMIS funds in their project application budgets to enter data into a comparable database.
    - ❖ Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system.
- **DV Bonus**
  - Funding available: Exact funding allocation available to the Orange County CoC for DV Bonus projects will be announced when HUD publishes the Estimated Annual Renewal Demand Report.
  - HUD will award a point value to each project application using a combination of the CoC Application score, and responses to the domestic violence bonus specific questions in the CoC Application using the following 100-point scale:
    - Rapid Rehousing and Joint Transitional Housing and Permanent Housing- Rapid Rehousing (Joint THRRH) component projects:
      - ❖ **CoC Score.** Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Application.
      - ❖ **CoC Collaboration with Victim Service Providers.** Up to 10 points in direct proportion to the score received in the CoC Application.
      - ❖ **Need for the Project.** Up to 10 points based on the extent the CoC quantifies the need for the project in its portfolio, the extent of need, and how the project will fill that gap.
      - ❖ **Quality of the Project Applicant Experience.** Up to 15 points based on the previous performance of the applicant in serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and their ability to house survivors and meet safety outcomes.
      - ❖ **Demonstration of inclusion of victim-centered practices.** Up to 8 points based on the quality of the project’s plan to address the housing and safety needs of survivors by adopting victim-centered practices (e.g., Housing First, Trauma-Informed Care, Confidentiality) in operating their project. Full points will be awarded to project applicants that can demonstrate they are already adopting victim-centered practices.
      - ❖ **Demonstration of plan to include survivors with lived expertise.** Up to 7 points based on the project’s ability to demonstrate its plan to involve survivors in policy and program development throughout the project’s operation.
      - ❖ Must follow a housing-first approach.

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- SSO-CE to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness who are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (e.g., to implement policies and procedures that are trauma-informed, client-centered or to better coordinate referrals between the CoC's coordinated entry and the victim service providers coordinated entry system where they are different):
  - ❖ **CoC Score.** Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Application.
  - ❖ **CoC Collaboration with Victim Service Providers.** Up to 10 points in direct proportion to the score received in the CoC Application.
  - ❖ **Need for the Project.** Up to 25 points based on the extent to which the CoC demonstrates the need for a coordinated entry system that better meets the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and how the project will fill this need.
  - ❖ **Demonstration of plan to include survivors with lived expertise.** Up to 15 points based on the project's ability to demonstrate its plan to involve survivors in policy and program development throughout the project's operation.
- Each CoC may only submit one SSO-CE project; however, there is no limit on the number of PH-RRH and Joint TH/PH-RRH projects CoCs may submit, provided that each application is for at least \$50,000.
- A project applicant may also apply to expand an existing renewal project, including one that was previously awarded with DV Bonus funding, however, only the new project application for the expansion will be considered for DV Bonus funds through this process.
- DV Bonus funding may be used to expand an existing renewal project that is not dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who meet the definition of homeless of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, so long as the DV Bonus funds for expansion are solely for additional units, beds, or services dedicated to persons eligible to be served with DV Bonus funding.

### Opportunities and Flexibilities for Projects:

- Expansion Projects:
  - HUD will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project through reallocation, CoC Bonus, and DV Bonus processes to expand existing projects that will increase the number of units, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-CE projects.
  - If the new expansion project will expand an existing eligible CoC Program renewal project, HUD will not fund capital costs (i.e., new constructions, rehabilitation, or acquisition) and will only allow 1-year funding requests.
- Consolidation Project:
  - Applicants intending to use the consolidation process to combine two or more eligible renewal projects, but no more than 10 projects, may do so through the renewal project application, including renewing YHDP projects, and must ensure:
    - BLIs for the consolidated project application submitted exactly match the sum of the BLIs for each of the individual projects as they appear on the Grant Inventory

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- Worksheet (GIW) located on HUD's website, or grant agreement or grant agreement as amended;
  - Inclusion of the expiring grant numbers with period of performance and budget period start and end dates for the projects that are consolidating;
  - Current period of performance and budget period end dates must end in Calendar Year (CY) 2024;
  - Are in good standing with HUD; and
  - The projects have the same recipient and are for the same component.
- Transition Grant:
    - A grant to fund a new CoC project to transition an eligible renewal project being eliminated through reallocation from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period. The new transition project must meet the following requirements:
      - To be eligible to receive a transition grant, the current recipient must have the consent of its CoC,
      - Transition grants in this Competition are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new component,
      - The new project application must meet project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD.

### e-Snaps Application Guidance

- Project applications must be completed by new and renewal project applicants to include the population(s) and subpopulation(s) they will serve, the type of housing and services that will be provided, and the budget activities that are being requested.
  - Returning project applicants: can choose to import the FY 2022 renewal project application responses; however, this must be requested during your registration of the Renewal Funding Opportunity in e-snaps and is only available if you submitted a renewal project application in the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition. For further information please see FY 2023 CoC Renewal Project Application Detailed Instructions (hud.gov) which will be uploaded by HUD in the near future.
  - First-time renewal projects: must complete the entire renewal project application, including any first-time renewal projects awarded funds under the FY 2022 CoC Program Noncompetitive Funding Notice. For further information please see FY 2023 CoC Renewal Project Application Detailed Instructions (hud.gov) which will be uploaded by HUD in the near future.
  - New project applications: must be completed in full and in accordance with the new project application components permitted in this year's Competition.

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### FY 2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Bonus, Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria

All projects will be scored on a 140-point scale using the following criteria:

	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Description of Basis for Assigning Points</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>CoC Participation</b>	Up to 10 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant has demonstrated participation and involvement in the Orange County CoC and core activities of the CoC, such as Point In Time Count and Housing Inventory Count.</li> <li>• Applicant participates in the local HMIS and completes timely and curate data submissions, as requested.</li> <li>• Applicant participates in the local CES.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Capacity of Applicant and Partner</b>	Up to 10 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past and current relevant experience in providing housing and services related to those in this solicitation, including evaluation of current and similar project types</li> <li>• Past and current relevant experience in effectively utilizing federal funds and performing the activities proposed in the application, including, administrative, financial, and programmatic components</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Applicant Service Experience and Approach</b>	Up to 20 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant has demonstrated experience in working with target population to quickly secure housing, make connections to supportive services, and promote housing stability.</li> <li>• Applicant described service delivery approach for serving people with severe service needs.</li> <li>• Applicant described service delivery approach to serving undeserved communities.</li> <li>• Applicant described data driven approach to service delivery.</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<b>Involving Persons with Lived Experience</b>	Up to 20 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant has a member on Board of Director's with current and/or past experience of homelessness.</li> <li>• Applicant ensures perspectives of people with lived experience of homelessness are meaningfully and intentionally integrated into the decision-making process.</li> <li>• Applicant practices meaningful involvement of people with lived experience in program design, delivery of services and program evaluation.</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<b>Proposed Project-Service Plan and Supportive Services</b>	Up to 30 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed project, including service plan and supportive services, is appropriate for the household type and/or subpopulation.</li> <li>• Proposed project includes strategies to assist participants to obtain and remain in</li> </ul>

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			<p>permanent housing, increase their employment and/or income and maximum their ability to live independently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed project will implement a Housing first, client-centered approach; plan to address the housing and safety needs of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault by adopting victim-centered practices; and other evidence-based practices in program operations. To receive full points, applicants must clearly describe the evidence-informed practices that the project will use in policies, procedures, and operations.</li> <li>Proposed project will have tailored approach to serve people with severe service needs<sup>1</sup> and undeserved communities.</li> </ul>
6	<b>Outcomes</b>	Up to 10 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed performance outcomes (not outputs) that will be achieved by the project and how data will be used to measure those outcomes and determine success.</li> <li>Proposed performance outcomes should focus on participants housing placement and permanent housing retention, as well as improved quality of life, rather than measuring the amount or types of services provided (not outputs).</li> </ul>
7	<b>Project Readiness</b>	Up to 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimated schedule for the proposed project to begin operations, including housing services and supportive services activities. Full points will be given to projects that can begin soon after grant is awarded.</li> </ul>
8	<b>Budget and Match</b>	Up to 10 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget is reasonable for type of project proposed, total number of households and participants to be served and clearly articulated.</li> <li>Applicant can provide the required match of at least 25% is included and documented.</li> <li>Applicant can demonstrate how leverage housing resources and/or health care resources contribute to the overall budget of the project proposed.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Severe Service Needs means any combination of the following factors: facing significant challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental or behavioral health disabilities regardless of the type of disability, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing (this factor focuses on the level of support needed and is not based on disability type); high utilization of crisis or emergency services to meet basic needs, including but not limited to emergency rooms, jails, and psychiatric facilities; currently living in an unsheltered situation or having a history of living in an unsheltered situation; experiencing a vulnerability to illness or death; having a risk of continued or repeated homelessness; and having a vulnerability to victimization, including physical assault, trafficking or sex work.

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<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Leveraging of Resources<sup>2</sup></b></p>	<p>Up to 20 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage Housing Resources – Project demonstrates that it will provide housing subsidies or subsidizing housing units not currently funded through the CoC or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program for at least 25 percent of the program participants anticipated to be served by the project. Full points will be given to projects that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (i) in the case of a permanent supportive housing project, provide at least 25 percent of the units included in the project; or</li> <li>○ (ii) in the case of a rapid re-housing project, serve at least 25 percent of the program participants anticipated to be served by the project.</li> <li>○ (iii) Attach letters of commitment, contracts, or other formal written documents that demonstrate the number of subsidies or units being provided to support the project.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Leveraging Healthcare Resources – Project demonstrates the use of healthcare resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Full points will be given to projects that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (i) in the case of a substance abuse treatment or recovery provider, it will provide access to treatment or recovery services for all program participants who quality and choose those services; or</li> <li>○ (ii) the value of assistance being provided is at least an amount that is equivalent to 25 percent of the funding being requested for the project, which will be covered by the healthcare organization.</li> <li>○ (iii) Provide formal written agreements that include the value of the commitment and dates the healthcare resources will be provided.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Populations to be Served<sup>3</sup></b></p>	<p>Up to 5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed project primarily serves (75% or more) households with severe service needs; or</li> <li>• Proposed Permanent Supportive House project type has minimum of 5 to 10% of units a designated to serve any of the following</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Leveraging of Resources only applies to Rapid Rehousing (RRH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) project types. Any Joint Transitional Housing – Permanent Housing: Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH) project types will not be scored on the Leveraging of Resources.

<sup>3</sup> Criteria only applies to CoC Bonus and Reallocation projects.

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			<p>special populations, including Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult), Transitional Age Youth (ages 18 – 24), Individual (adult only households) experiencing chronic homelessness and Older Adults (ages 62 and older).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Rapid Rehousing project type has a minimum of 25% of units designed to serve any of the following special populations, including Families (households with at least one minor child and one adult), Transitional Age Youth (ages 18 – 24), Individual (adult only households) experiencing chronic homelessness and Older Adults (ages 62 and older).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Total Points</b></p>		<p>140 Maximum Points Possible</p>	

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