

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
Wednesday, June 28, 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.

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
[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. 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

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.

Public Comments: Members of the public may address the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board on items listed within this agenda or matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the CoC Board. Members of the public may address the CoC Board with public comments on agenda items in the business calendar after the CoC Board member discussion. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

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

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

- 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

- 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.