

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC)
TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH (TAY) COLLABORATIVE COMMITTEE**

Friday, July 14, 2023

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Location: Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 224 731 959 791
Passcode: 2YBHM7**

Committee Chair: Dr. Shauntina Sorrells

Purpose: The TAY Collaborative Committee will function as an advisory group to the CoC Board and will support the CoC Board in recommending policy, establishing best practices, and providing feedback to create a youth homeless response system to prevent and end youth homelessness. The TAY Collaborative Committee will ensure housing interventions for Orange County's youth address stable housing, permanent connections, education, employment, and well-being so Orange County's most vulnerable youth and young adults can enjoy a healthy transition to adulthood.

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Chair

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the TAY Collaborative Committee 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 TAY Collaborative Committee. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes. In order to address the TAY Collaborative Committee, members of the public are to enter their name and agenda item number in the chat box to be placed in a queue. Staff will call your name in the order listed in the chat box.

1. **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Chair, and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
 - a. Recap of YHDP Process
 - Those that were able to participate and provide information during the feedback sessions were thanked for their support.
 - There has been an increase in new partnerships and many more members of the TAY committee because of the TAY Ad Hoc members' direct outreach.
 - Andrew Palomo, with National Network for Youth, was thanked for all the support and technical assistance that they provided during this process.
 - If awarded an ad-hoc committee would be established to support the planning and implementation of a Community Plan to detail how the funds would be used.
 - Orangewood Foundation in partnership with NN4Y established a Youth Action Board (YAB). The YAB has created a set of voting standards, by-laws and are regularly meeting every Monday from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 pm.
 - NN4Y was compensating the YAB members for their work, and recently Orangewood Foundation partnered with the Orange County United Way to supplement funding for the YAB, through the end of the year.
 - b. Identified Strengths and Barriers
 - Strengths
 - There was presence across multiple systems (Juvenile Justice Systems, Public Housing Authorities, Healthcare Organizations, Advocacy Groups, etc.)

- Increased engagement with a lot of new partners, adding to the TAY Committee membership
- Desire for additional knowledge of TAY specific needs and resources
- Barriers
 - There was a lack of system collaboration within organizations
 - There is a need for more resources for youth that do not fit into HUD's homeless definition
 - There are low vacancy rates, in a competitive housing market with low wages across the county
 - There was also a lack of information regarding the different databases organizations are using since many TAY providers do not enter data in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

2. TAY Collaborative Committee Planning

- a. TAY Collaborative Committee Mission
- b. Vice Chair assignment
 - There was a commitment from the TAY Committee to fill the Vice chair seat with a YAB member.
 - There was no opposition to this suggestion, this suggestion will be carried forward.
 - The YAB members will discuss this item and will nominated a fellow member to this seat.

3. CoC Updates – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

- a. 2024 Point in Time (PIT) Count Planning
 - City Net has recently signed a multi-year contract to serve as the PIT provider.
 - At the June 28th, 2023, meeting of the CoC Board the Office of Care Coordination was approved to form a PIT Ad-Hoc.
 - Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been encouraging communities to do annual PIT counts, so due to this recommendation the contract is for multiple years.
 - This contract was enhanced to require different engagement techniques for youth and strong collaboration with TAY Providers.
- b. Questions/Discussion
 - During the California Convening it was mentioned that there were some communities that were conducting telephonic surveys, which have proven to be more successful for TAY. Is there a possibility for our community to allow this?
 - It was noted that the family system has does something similar, but this can be discussed farther with the ad-hoc. HUD does not say you are not able to provide this as an option, but HUD's preferred method is in-person surveys.
- c. 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Updates
 - On July 5, 2023, the NOFO was released and will be due September 28, 2023.
 - Preparation for the NOFO started in March 2023, and many things have been accomplished with the NOFO Ad-hoc such as the, scoring and rating, performance measures, Bonus, DV Bound and reallocation scoring and rating, and CoC Agency administrative review which was due to be submitted back to the Office of Care Coordination on July 10, 2023.
- d. General CoC Updates
 - New Actions to Protect LGBTQI+ Communities
 - 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.
 - HUD will encourage communities to develop collaborative solutions to address the specific needs of LGBTQI+ youth experiencing homelessness and housing instability.

- 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 LGBTQ+ youth and Know Your Rights tools for direct-affected youth.
- NSPIRE Implementation for CoCs
 - On May 10th, 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.
 - CoC and ESG recipients should be aware that they will have to use the NSPIRE standards as of October 1st, 2023. HUD is working on additional guidance to assist CoC and ESG recipients in this transition, and in the meantime, CoC and ESG recipients may review the resources listed below.
 - [NSPIRE Final Rule](#)
 - [NSPIRE website](#)
 - The Office of Care Coordination will be hosting a NSPIRE training, details will be shared through the CoC Distribution list email.

4. **TAY Dashboard** – Mayra Vargas, Coordinated Entry System Staff Specialist, Office of Care Coordination

- a. As of the first week of July 2023:
 - There is a total of 237 TAY active in CES, across both ICES and FCES:
 - Community Queue: 127
 - Not on Queue: 78
 - Enrolled in Housing Project: 19
 - Matched to Housing Opportunity: 13
 - To date there have been 61 TAY households that have been housed, composed of 111 participants.
 - Self-identified information indicated that there was 18 TAY that were classified as chronically homeless, however, when looking at verification documents only 4 TAY maintained that chronic homeless status.
 - TAY on the Queue have expressed the following interest in housing opportunities:
 - 121: Housing Choice Voucher
 - 69: Rapid Rehousing
 - 51: Permanent Supportive Housing
 - 2023 has shown higher inflow rates, compared to the last three years, as well as trending toward the highest days active in the CES projects.

5. **Data Discussion** – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Chair

- a. One of the factors that were highlighted during the YHDP process, was the lack of a centralized database that contained a comprehensive picture of youth homelessness throughout Orange County.
- b. Since 211OC is now being transitioned under United Way, there is an opportunity to share some concerns as a committee.
- c. Discussion/Questions
 - Committee members were asked, why does your organization not currently participate in the HMIS? Is your organization collecting TAY information, how is this currently being stored?
 - There was no feedback given by any committee members.
 - Lourdes Chaves shared that the Independent Living Program (ILP) Foster Youth vouchers have now expanded their eligibility to anyone who has aged out of foster care. This program is no longer limited to those that aged out while living in

Orange County, they are able to come from anywhere or they must have an open foster case in another county. If anyone comes across a youth that meets this eligibility, please contact Lourdes.

Next Meeting: Friday, September 8, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.