

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.

MINUTES

Board Members

Nichole Gideon, Individual
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 2:03 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

Present: Nichole Gideon, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Sandra Lozeau, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw.

Absent Excused: Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, and Melanie McQueen.

Absent: George Searcy

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

To address the CoC Board, members of the public are to 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.

- No public comments.

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 the importance of housing choice vouchers along with the utilization rates and noted that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) published Notice PIH 2023-13 which addresses collaboration of Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) and CoCs and provides updated guidance on the screening policies regarding criminal activity, substance use, and eligibility. Judson Brown stated that the CoC Board should be addressing these topics and having presentations on these topics.
- Jason Phillips emphasized that in doing this work, especially when making decisions that impact people, one should always remember the reason why one started in the work. Jason Phillips read the 33 names of the people who have died "Without a Fixed Abode" in June 2023.
- Robert "Santa Bob" Morse shared that the County of Orange approved the Travel Lodge Project Homekey conversion which will add 72 more Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units.
- Chair Dawn Price thanked everyone in advance for their attention and thanked Elida Sanchez for her service as a CoC Board member.

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

Robert "Santa Bob" Morse motioned to approve the items on the Consent Calendar. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. 2024 Point in Time – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

HUD requires that CoC's across the nation complete a biennial unsheltered count and an annual sheltered count of all people experiencing homelessness in the community at a single point in time during the last 10 days of January. HUD provides the guidelines on how to conduct the Point In Time 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.

CoC Board Members Comments:

- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe inquired on the CalOptima Health funding for the Point In Time Count and on the plan for the subpopulations.
- Maricela Rios-Faust asked that survivors of domestic violence be considered as subpopulation and to consider the Domestic Violence Committee for the 2024 Point In Time Count Planning Ad Hoc.

Public Comment:

- Paul Hyek encouraged everyone to attend Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) board meetings and shared that Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor (LOSSAN) would like to relocate homeless individuals living on the railroad tracks. Paul Hyek also shared interest on the Move On position and expressed that Mercy House Bridges at Kraemer Place is involved in unlawful activity.

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.

Recommended Action C: Establish the 2024 Point in Time Count Planning Ad Hoc

Nishtha Mohendra motioned to approve Recommended Actions B and C. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

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

Sarah Jones provided an overview of the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO, noting that the HUD is making approximately \$3.1 billion in competitive funding 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 Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant 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 funding reallocation.

CoC Board Members Comments:

- Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells inquired if the CoC Program NOFO required letter from people with lived experience would come from the Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC). Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted the LEAC currently does not have Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) representation and emphasized that there should TAY representation as part of the letter to be signed.
- Judson Brown inquired on the Families Forward's Rapid Rehousing (RRH) project being recommended for reallocation and whether there was consideration to transition the project from RRH to PSH. Judson Brown also requested clarification on the action item for the Request for Proposals (RFP) review panel.
- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe inquired if the reallocated funding would be utilized to create a project serving families in general.
- Tim Shaw asked if the Families Forward's RRH project being recommended for reallocation was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Nishtha Mohendra commented on the review panel for DV Bonus RFPs and pondered on the level of context and understanding that is provided to the review panel regarding serving survivors of domestic violence as part of the onboarding.

Public Comments:

- David Gillanders, Executive Director at Pathways of Hope, shared background on Pathways of Hope's renewal project and hopes that the recommended scoring and rating strategy for Transition Projects allows more renewal projects to come forward and be comfortable with transitioning project types as it is opportunity to pivot in the response to homelessness. David Gillanders noted that when considering projects for the DV Bonus funding there should be an option to provide services for women experiencing unsheltered chronic homelessness who are under the daily threat of sexual violence as many CoCs have a paradigm of a stereotypical DV situation, and there are many other factors and vulnerabilities that need to be considered.
- Madelynn Hirneise, Chief Executive Officer at Families Forward, shared background on the Families Forward's RRH project and provided an update on how families have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Madelynn Hirneise advocated for the need to support families experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness. Madelynn Hirneise also stated that Families Forward looks to reapply for CoC Program funding, as there is a need for resources such as Rapid Rehousing and homelessness prevention for families.
- Denise stated that she has experienced chronic homelessness for over five (5) years and has not been able to receive assistance. Denise requested assistance from the CoC Board.
- Peter Warren shared a resource for free meals and suggested that some of the CoC Program projects should convert a hotel into a PSH project that serves families. Peter Warren noted the City of Anaheim's Tampico project and suggested that part of the CoC Program NOFO funding is used for shelters.
- Jordan Hoiberg, Director of Housing Services at Illumination Foundation, commended the CoC Board for the subpopulation approach and suggested that the Older Adults age range for the CoC Bonus and Reallocation Funding RFP be changed from 62 to 55 because according to data, people experiencing homelessness experience accelerated aging.

Recommended Action 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.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve Recommended Action C. Eric Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Recommended Actions D: CoC Reallocation Recommendations

- i. Approve the reallocation of \$579,869 in funding from the Families Forward’s Rapid Rehousing 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).

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action D. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. Eric Richardson, Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Sandra Lozeau, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, and Becks Heyhoe voted yes. Nichole Gideon, Nishtha Mohendra and Tim Shaw abstained. Motion passed.

Recommended Actions 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.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve Recommended Action E. Sandra Lozeau seconded the motion. The motioned passed with unanimous consent.

Recommended Actions 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.

Nishtha Mohendra motioned to approve Recommended Action F. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

3. CoC Committee Updates – CoC Committee Chairs

- a. **Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee** – Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe stated that the last PPS Committee Meeting took place in June 2023 and the PPS Committee discussed HMIS Minimum Participation Requirements for PHAs, as well as the need to standardize the appointment of new

members to the HMIS Access Working Group. Lastly, the PPS Committee received an update from the CoC Nominating and Selection Process Review Ad Hoc.

- b. **Housing Opportunities Committee** – Judson Brown stated that the Housing Opportunities Committee continues to consolidate information on efforts to provide housing opportunities in the CoC. This includes sharing information Project Homekey updates, Federal and State updates, and other information. At the last meeting, CalOptima Health provided an update on the Notice of Funding Opportunity Round 2 for Capital Projects.
 - c. **Service Provider Forum** – Nishtha Mohendra stated that the Service Provider Forum has been meeting once a quarter. During the last Service Provider Forum hosted in Tustin, approximately 80 to 90 people attended the meeting and joined breakout sessions to discuss the TAY population, review TAY data, and share challenges.
 - d. **Lived Experience Advisory Committee** – Nichole Gideon shared that during the last meeting, the LEAC received a Coordinated Entry System (CES) training to provide a better understanding of CES. The goal is to have the LEAC members become actively involved in other CoC committees.
 - e. **Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee** – Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells shared that the TAY Collaborative Committee continues to meet every other month and in the most recent meeting, a Vice Chair was voted into the role. The Youth Action Board (YAB) members created a flyer to recruit more youth and the youth will begin joining other CoC Committee meetings.
 - f. **Veterans Committee** – Eric Richardson shared that the Veterans Committee has been working on two main actions: 1. review the Veteran Registry and 2. to provide targeted outreach to veterans of older age and veterans with more than 10 years of homelessness. Eric Richardson stated that coordination with providers to provide targeted outreach to veterans has begun.
 - g. **Domestic Violence Committee** – Maricela Rios-Faust stated that work has taken place to develop an interest form for the DV Committee and revise the Governance Charter to include feedback received from the CoC Board. There is a goal to have the interest form and Governance Charter finalized soon, as the first meeting for the DV Committee will be in September 2023 or at the latest October 2023 during DV Awareness month.
4. **Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination; Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations; and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination
- a. **System of Care Updates** – Doug Becht and Zulima Lundy provided the following System of Care Updates:
 - Doug Becht provided updates for the upcoming Commission to End Homelessness meeting on August 16, 2023. The Commission to End Homelessness meeting will have a presentation from guest speaker Tianna Moore regarding University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)’s recently released study titled “The California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness”. Additionally, Doug Becht shared context regarding the 2023 Homelessness Survey and stated that the results from the survey will be released in Fall 2023.
 - Zulima Lundy shared that the Office of Care Coordination and Advance OC would like to partner with stakeholders to host a virtual focus group to gain a deeper understanding of the unique needs of older adults experiencing homelessness in Orange County, including those sheltered and unsheltered. Each participant will receive a gift card for their time and participation and the results of the survey will be used to support the development of Orange County’s Master Plan for Aging.
 - b. **CoC Updates** – Felicia Boehringer provided the following CoC Updates:
 - California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) is drafting state guidelines for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), which will replace the current ESG State

Regulations. HCD is seeking input via a survey and state-wide listening sessions. Your feedback and input into the development of the new ESG guidelines is requested. To access a short survey, please click [here](#).

- The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) has announced recruitment for Cal ICH’s Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB). The Cal ICH LEAB will begin to meet monthly via Zoom in September 2023 and members will be compensated for their participation. To apply, please click [here](#).
- Assembly Bill 1733 established the “DMV Free ID Policy”, a fee waiver for people experiencing homelessness that need to obtain a certified copy of their birth record from the Department of Public Health or a state identification card from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Recent changes to the DMV Free ID Policy require CoCs to confirm CoC member agencies that are eligible to receive ID vouchers. Orange County CoC agencies providing direct services to people experiencing homelessness are encouraged to submit CoC general member applications to also gain access to this resource.
- 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.
- The Office of Care Coordination will be hosting a Trauma Informed Care training on Thursday, August 10, 2023, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Through this training, service providers will learn the basics of trauma and how it impacts the delivery of homeless services, understand the principles of trauma informed care, and identify ways to incorporate principles into service delivery practices.

Board Member Comments:

- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse shared that if someone is over the age of 62, they can obtain a free state identification regardless of living situation status.
- Judson Brown provided clarification on the process of property inspection and stated that PHAs take action when concerns arise.

Public Comments:

- Paul Hyek stated that all persons experiencing homelessness and senior citizen are able to obtain free state identifications (IDs) and stated a reduced fee or free ID card voucher are not needed.
- 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 and asked for support in addressing these.

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

5. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 23, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.