

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, September 11, 2023
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.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 – Becks Heyhoe, Vice Chair

Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

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

Absent Excused: Dawn Price

Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Kelly Bruno Nelson, and Melanie McQueen arrived at the meeting after the Board Member Roll Call was completed and before Public Comments concluded.

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.

- Peter Warner shared that hospitals are discharging patients who are experiencing homelessness at Amtrak locations and asked that the CoC Board should consider looking into that problem.

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.

- Eric Richardson shared that he has been asked to present at the Veterans Affairs (VA) Conference in November 2023 and will emphasize two elements in his presentation, the first being that the Orange County CoC has a veteran representative on the CoC Board and the second being the collaborative approach of targeted outreach for veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Agency Appointment – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination; Susan B. Parks, President and CEO of Orange County's United Way and Karen Williams, President and CEO of 2-1-1 Orange County

On July 1, 2023, Orange County's United Way dba Orange County United Way (United Way) acquired People for Irvine Community Health dba 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC). 211OC will function as a department within United Way and continues to oversee the Orange County CoC's HMIS. United Way and 211OC have been in contact with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) since May 2023 regarding the transfer of the HMIS grant agreement given the acquisition. On August 29, 2023, HUD provided guidance to United Way to apply for the HMIS grant during the FY2023 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), as such the Orange County CoC is being asked to take action to designate United Way as the HMIS Lead for the Orange County CoC.

Public Comments:

- Peter Warner stated that when the contract is finalized, that contracts should have operators with proper licensing.
- Paul Hyek shared that many individuals who are experiencing homelessness do not have telephones to call 211 and when they do, they get put on hold. Paul Hyek suggested that people with lived experience of homelessness should have opportunities to work in the 211-call center.

CoC Board Comments:

- Sandra Lozeau inquired on the fees that cities experience when exporting data from 211 and asked for clarification.
- Nishtha Mohendra thanked the presenters for coming and explaining the acquisition process. Nishtha Mohendra stated that she was excited for the transition and for the forces to be doubled.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse inquired on whether United Way would be ready for the updated 2024 HMIS Standards by October 1, 2023.

Recommended Action b: Appoint Orange County United Way as the HMIS Lead Agency for the Orange County CoC.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action b. Robert “Santa Bob” Morse seconded the motion. Nichole Gideon, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, and Ami Rowland voted yes. Judson Brown, George Searcy, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw recused themselves during discussion and abstained from voting. The motion passed.

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

The Orange County CoC is eligible to apply for an estimated amount of \$2,138,876 in CoC Bonus Funding and an estimated \$2,076,061 in Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus funding. Renewal project applications for the CoC NOFO were due on August 16, 2023, and proposals in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Funding were due on August 24, 2023. Renewal projects were reviewed by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc, while the CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation project proposals were reviewed by the Review Panels comprised of non-conflicted members.

The CoC Bonus and Reallocation Review Panel recommended Families Forward’s rapid rehousing project proposal called Rapid Rehousing for Families in the amount of \$579,869 for the reallocation funding and Friendship Shelter’s permanent supportive housing project proposal called Henderson House Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion in the amount of \$ 2,138,876 for the CoC Bonus funding for inclusion in the Orange County CoC Program NOFO Application.

The members of the DV Bonus Review Panel reviewed two proposals based on the scoring criteria as outlined in the RFP and approved by the CoC Board. The DV Bonus Review Panel recommended Interval House’s joint transitional housing and permanent housing – rapid rehousing project proposal called Domestic Violence Transitional Housing – Rapid Rehousing Expansion Program in the amount of \$2,076,061 for the DV Bonus funding and inclusion in the Orange County CoC Program NOFO Application.

At the same time, the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc and the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Collaborative Applicant, developed an updated FY2023 CoC Project Ranking and Tiering Policy. By utilizing this project ranking and tiering policy, all renewal, transition, and new projects were able to be scored and ranked, as noted in the agenda attachments.

Public Comment:

- Peter Warner stated that favorable operators must be selected for shelter operations and inquired when the next CoC Board meeting would be.

CoC Board Discussion:

- Judson Brown shared that for next year’s NOFO process, Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA) should be involved in the discussion in the Tiering process. Judson Brown emphasized unused funds criteria and stated that when those conversations take place can ensure that projects that will fully utilize funds are being prioritized.

Recommended Actions:

- a. Approve the selection of proposals submitted in response to the FY2023 CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation RFP as recommended by the two RFP Review Panels – one for CoC Bonus and Reallocation proposals and one for DV Bonus proposals – for inclusion in the FY2023 Orange County CoC Program NOFO Application.
 - i. Friendship Shelter, Inc’s. permanent supportive housing project proposal called Henderson House Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion in the amount of \$2,138,876 as part of the CoC Bonus.
 - ii. Families Forward’s rapid rehousing project proposal called Rapid Rehousing for Families in the amount of \$579,869 as part of the reallocation funding.
 - iii. Interval House’s joint transitional housing and permanent housing – rapid rehousing project proposal called Domestic Violence Transitional Housing – Rapid Rehousing Expansion Program in the amount of \$2,076,061 as part of the DV Bonus.
- b. Approve the CoC Project Ranking and Tiering Policy as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
- c. Approve the CoC Project Priority Listing, including all renewal and new projects, to be included in the Orange County CoC’s FY2023 CoC Program NOFO Application as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.

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

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

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

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve recommended actions b and c. Eric Richardson seconded the motion. Nichole Gideon, Eric Richardson, Judson Brown, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, George Searcy, Sandra Lozeau, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Ami Rowland, and Tim Shaw voted yes. Nishtha Mohendra, Maricela Rios-Faust, Melanie McQueen, and Becks Heyhoe recused themselves during discussion and abstained from voting. The motion passed.

3. CoC Board Meeting Code of Conduct Ad Hoc – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination; Becks Heyhoe, Vice Chair and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

In accordance with the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act requirements prescribed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Orange County CoC Governance Charter includes a code of conduct and recusal process for the CoC Board, its chair(s) and any person acting on behalf of the CoC Board. Currently, the CoC Governance Charter does not include a code of conduct for members of the public participating in public meetings of the CoC, as such, a need has been presented to develop a CoC Board Meeting Code of Conduct.

Public Comment:

- Peter Warner stated that the CoC Board should consider allowing people from the public to provide presentations, similar to other meetings that follow Robert Rules of Orders and the Brown Act.

CoC Board Discussion:

- Tim Shaw inquired on the approaches that other communities have taken as a model for public participation because the CoC Board as opposed to other bodies, has funding authority and it is one of the few places that the public can come and learn. Tim Shaw stated that he hopes that the CoC Board would have a process that encourages more public participation.
- Maricela Rios-Faust inquired if there was an option for the public to listen into the meetings virtually and suggested virtual platforms for consideration.

Recommended Action a: Establish an ad hoc to develop and recommend code of conduct for the Orange County CoC Board meetings, considering the Brown Act and other local policies.

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

4. 2023 CoC Nominating Committee – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination; Becks Heyhoe, Vice Chair and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

As outlined in the Orange County CoC Governance Charter, the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC is recommending establishing a CoC Nominating Committee to support the annual review of the CoC Governance Charter and CoC Board election process for the seats expiring December 31, 2023.

Public Comments:

- Peter Warner shared a list of names for consideration for the CoC Nominating Committee.
- Paul Hyek suggested that the CoC Board has representation from the Orange County Transportation Authority and the Board of Supervisors. Paul Hyek shared a list of suggestions for the CoC Board such as bringing people with lived experience.

CoC Board Discussion:

- Tim Shaw inquired as to how many members should comprise the CoC Nominating Committee and the mixture of non-board members and board members. Tim Shaw stated that it is important to have a mix to gain outside perspective.
- Sandra Lozeau asked if the CoC Nominating Committee would be shifting some of the current seats.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse suggested representation from people with lived experience.
- Nicole Gideon inquired on the seats that will be filled during the upcoming election process.

Recommended Action a: Establish the 2023 CoC Nominating Committee to support Nomination and Election for the CoC Board, including the review of the CoC Board composition, qualifications and nomination and election process detailed within the CoC Board Governance Charter.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommended action item. Christina Weckerly Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Dr. Sorrells motioned to adjourn the meeting. George Searcy seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.