

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE  
VETERANS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, November 16, 2023  
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.



**Committee Chair:** Eric Richardson, Volunteers of America

**Committee Members:**

Audel Gonzalez, Individual  
Becks Heyhoe, Orange County United Way  
Melanie Martins, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Sarah Nance, CalOptima Health  
Jeffery Pagano, Orange County Veterans and Military Families Collaborative  
Michael Ruiz, Volunteers of America  
Jade Smith, Tierney Center for Veteran Services

**AGENDA**

**Welcome and Introductions** – Eric Richardson, Chair

**Public Comments** – Members of the public may address the Veterans 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 Veterans Committee. Members of the public may address the Veterans Committee with public comments on agenda items after the agenda item presentation. 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 Veterans Committee, members of the public are to complete a Speaker Request Form prior to the beginning of each agenda item. Staff will call your name in the order received.

**BUSINESS CALENDAR**

1. **Targeted Outreach for Veterans** – Eric Richardson, Chair
  - a. Update of targeted street outreach efforts towards three Veteran populations:
    - i. Older Adult Veterans (ages 62 and older);
    - ii. Veterans whose length of homelessness has been longer than ten (10) years;
    - iii. Veteran Families with minor children; and
    - iv. Individual Adult Veterans who are chronically homeless

- b. Update on progress thus far coordinating the Veterans Affairs (VA), Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) and Care Coordination teams
- 2. **Orange County 2024 Point In Time Count Update** – Sarah Jones, Continuum of Care (CoC) Manager and Molly Schaner, Census Supervisor, City Net
- 3. **Veterans Affairs (VA) National Housing Conference** – Eric Richardson, Chair and Amanda Brear, Regional Program Manager, Volunteers of America
  - a. Update on Veterans Affairs (VA) National Housing Conference
- 4. **United to End Homelessness State of Veterans Homelessness Event Update** – Becks Heyhoe, Executive Director, United to End Homelessness, Orange County United Way
- 5. **Orange County Veterans Service Office** – Eric Ensley, Orange County Veterans Service Officer and Veterans Employment Program Manager
  - a. Presentation on the Orange County Veterans Service Office, including employment services provided.
- 6. **VA Community Plan for Engaging Unhoused Veterans** – Melanie Martins, LCSW, Coordinated Entry System and Homeless Outreach, Tibor Rubin VA Medical Center
  - a. Update on the VA Community Plan focused on engaging with sheltered and unsheltered Veterans.
- 7. **Provider Feedback** – Eric Richardson, Chair
  - a. Providers and members of the public are invited to share announcements, feedback and public comments related to Veteran homelessness.

**Next Meeting:** To be determined (*pending 2024 CoC Board and Committee Meeting calendar approval*)