

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 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.

## AGENDA

### Board Members

James Bacon, Lutheran Social Services  
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana  
LaVal Brewer, South County Outreach  
Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health  
Andrew Crowe, Scholarship Prep  
Nichole Gideon, Individual  
Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way [Vice Chair]  
Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim  
Frank Luna, Individual  
Melanie McQueen, PATH  
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual  
Talesha Payne, Jamboree Housing  
Jason Phillips, Individual  
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter [Chair]  
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options  
Ami Rowland, Covenant House California  
George Searcy, City of Irvine  
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Individual [Secretary]  
Tim Shaw, Individual  
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

\* 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](mailto: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. \*

Supporting documentation is available for review by the public at least 72 hours prior to regular meetings and at least 24 hours prior to special meetings of the CoC Board. Those wishing to review supporting documentation can visit the CoC Webpage [Here](#) or the lobby of the CAS Building, located 601 N. Ross Street., Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599, and request a copy of the meeting materials from the Office of Care Coordination during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

**Call to Order** – Dawn Price, Chair

**Board Member Roll Call** – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

**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 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.

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.

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**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.

### **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 December 20, 2023**
2. **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 October 21, 2023, through January 12, 2024.

### **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

1. **2024 CoC Board Appointments** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
  - a. Election Elect CoC Board Officers for the upcoming term:
    - i. Appoint the Chair
    - ii. Appoint the Vice Chair
    - iii. Appoint the Secretary
  - b. Appoint CoC Committee Chairs to fill current vacancies:
    - i. Reappoint Nishtha Mohendra to Chair the Service Provider Forum
    - ii. Appoint CoC Board Vice Chair to Chair the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee
    - iii. Appoint a CoC Board Member to Chair the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Steering Committee
    - iv. Appoint a CoC Board Member to Chair the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee
    - v. Appoint a CoC Board Member to Chair the Veterans Committee
2. **OC Health Care Agency Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Presentation** – Annette Murgditchian, Director of Operations and Anthony Padilla, Planning and Grants Manager, Behavioral Health Services, OC Health Care Agency
3. **HMIS Lead Update** – Elizabeth Andrade, Executive Director and Erin DeRycke, Director of Data Analytics, 2-1-1 Orange County, Orange County United Way

4. **Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Updates and Recommendations** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
  - a. Update on HHAP Round 5 application process and HHAP funding recommendations.
  - b. Approve Shelter Providers of Orange County, Inc. dba HomeAid Orange County for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families for the term of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to be funded by HHAP-CoC Round 3 and State of California Emergency Solutions Grant (State ESG).
  - c. Approve Friendship Shelter, Inc. as the CES for Individuals Administrator to support with ongoing operations for the term July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$63,000 to be funded through HHAP Round 1, 3 and/or 4 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC.
5. **Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update and Recommendation** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Becks Heyhoe, CoC Board Vice Chair and Executive Director of United to End Homelessness, Orange County United Way
  - a. Approve the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, to apply for the YHSI NOFO with Orange County's United Way dba Orange County United Way as a subrecipient.
6. **2024 Orange County Point In Time Count Update** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
7. **Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
  - a. System of Care
  - b. Continuum of Care
8. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 28, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, December 20, 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, Individual [Secretary]  
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency  
Jason Phillips, Individual  
Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health

Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter [Chair]  
George Searcy, City of Irvine  
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

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**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: 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, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw.

Absent Excused: Nichole Gideon, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra and Ami Rowland.

**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 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.

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Members of the public may also submit public comment by emailing [CareCoordination@ocgov.com](mailto: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.

- Diana V. provided public comment via email in advance of the CoC Board meeting. Diana V. stated that they want to support their friend who is having health and housing issues due to stalking. Diana V. shared personal experiences that their friend has endured and emphasized confidentiality practices that service providers must follow. Diana V. asked that the CoC Board find a way to keep their friend safe.
- Stefania Ianno provided public comment via email in advance of the CoC Board meeting. As an advocate of victims of stalking, Stefania Ianno connected with an individual who shared their personal story and has experienced stalking, doxing, and is also a sex trafficking survivor. The individual expressed that they continue to be stalked and harassed; and are traumatized and concerned for their safety. The individual has moved multiple times due to their situation. Stefania Ianno thanked the CoC Board for hearing the statements.

**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.

- Jason Phillips shared that throughout 2023, more than 400 people experiencing homelessness have passed away. Jason Phillips read the names of the people who have died “Without a Fixed Abode” in October 2023.
- Maricela Rios-Faust provided an update on behalf of the Code of Conduct Ad Hoc and emphasized the focus on how to best proceed as a CoC. Maricela Rios-Faust shared that one of the approaches has been reviewing the Racial Equity Analysis completed by C4 Innovations and incorporate recommendations into the CoC Code of Conduct.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse thanked the Nominating Ad Hoc and the Office of Care Coordination for all the work done during the CoC Board nomination and election. Robert “Santa Bob” Morse shared an update on the Commission to End Homelessness and the nomination of Kelly Bruno-Nelson.
- Christina Weckerly Ramirez shared that the Street Outreach Committee, which is currently not part of the CoC, has been convening to discuss, network, and meet as a group. The Street Outreach Committee is curious on how to use information that has been shared and are happy to share some of the experiences and information.
- Nishtha Mohendra provided Board Member Comment via email in advance of the CoC Board meeting. Nishtha Mohendra stated that she is deeply honored by the CoC Board election recommendation and consideration for the upcoming term for the CoC Board. Nishtha Mohendra

wanted to express her gratitude for the experience so far as it has been an enriching experience, both personally and professionally. The collective commitment to preventing and ending homelessness in Orange County has been both inspiring and impactful. Nishtha Mohendra stated that if she is granted the opportunity to continue, she is eager to contribute further to the shared mission and looks forward to the possibility of another term dedicated to making a lasting difference.

- Chair Dawn Price stated that by putting inclusion and equity as a priority, it is a step forward. Chair Dawn Price stated that she appreciates the effort and intention, and recognize that this year, great strides toward inclusion and equity were made. The CoC Vision document was used to reference and create actionable steps throughout the years. Chair Dawn Price stated that she appreciates the work of the Office of Care Coordination and thanked all the CoC Board members and said it has been an honor to serve alongside each other.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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1. **Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2023**
2. **Approve the 2024 CoC Board Meeting Calendar, including the extension of CoC Board meetings to three (3) hours to be scheduled from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.**

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve items 1 and 2 on the Consent Calendar. Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Jason Phillips, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Dawn Price, George Searcy, Sandra Lozeau, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw voted yes. Melanie McQueen abstained. Motion passed.

**BUSINESS CALENDAR**

1. **2024 CoC Board Recommendations** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and CoC Nominating Ad Hoc Membership

Sarah Jones provided an overview of the CoC Board nomination and election process, including CoC Board seats to be filled, and the timeline of activities from September 2023 to present. The Orange County CoC and the Nominating Ad Hoc has identified eleven (11) candidates to serve on the CoC Board.

Recommended Action a: Confirm removal of seat designations for the following CoC Board members whose terms expire on December 31, 2024, to be consistent with the approved changes to the CoC Governance Charter.

- i. Judson Brown
- ii. Kelly Bruno-Nelson
- iii. Sandra Lozeau
- iv. Melanie McQueen
- v. Robert Morse
- vi. Jason Phillips
- vii. Maricela Rios-Faust
- viii. Ami Rowland
- ix. Christina Weckerly-Ramirez

Sandra Lozeau motioned to approve Recommended Action a. Robert “Santa Bob” Morse seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommended Action b: Ratify the results from the CoC Board election to appoint the following candidates to the CoC Board.

- i. James Bacon
- ii. LaVal Brewer
- iii. Andrew Crowe
- iv. Becks Heyhoe
- v. Frank Luna
- vi. Nishtha Mohendra
- vii. Talesha Payne
- viii. Dawn Price
- ix. George Searcy
- x. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells
- xi. Tim Shaw

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action b. Jason Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Tim Shaw shared that during the Meet and Greet they were amazed by the quality of candidates. Tim Shaw shared kudos to the Nominating Ad Hoc and the Office of Care Coordination as the CoC Board will have different perspectives that it has never had before, as well as having non-conflicted members with lots of experience.
- Chair Dawn Price emphasized that there was a resource in the process which was technical assistance from the State of California that was paid by someone else. Chair Dawn Price shared that accomplishments as a CoC Board may need investments of an extra hand or resource.

**2. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee Recommendation – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Becks Heyhoe, PPS Committee Chair**

Sarah Jones provided background on the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Policies and Procedures review and updating process. On October 25, 2023, proposed changes to the CES Policies and Procedures were presented to the CoC Board. The CoC Board received public comment related to the recommended action and voted to continue the agenda item regarding approval of the draft CES Policies and Procedures to allow time for the Office of Care Coordination to engage with Victim Service Providers (VSPs) on additional feedback. Following the additional feedback provided by the VSPs, the Office of Care Coordination met with the VSPs to receive further feedback and edits to the draft CES Policies and Procedures. The Office of Care Coordination worked to integrate the feedback and update the revised CES Policies and Procedures accordingly through each stage of the review and feedback process.

As approved by the CES Steering Committee, the Office of Care Coordination also convened a Survivor Assessment Tool Ad Hoc for three meetings in November to recommended revisions to the Survivor Assessment Tool. The Domestic Violence (DV) Committee reviewed and approved the changes to the CES Policies and Procedures, specifically the inclusion of CES for Survivors and the Survivor Assessment Tool on November 28, 2023. At the December 12, 2023, meeting of the PPS Committee, the draft of the CES Policies and Procedures detailing the recommended changes was presented and recommended to the CoC Board for review and final approval.

Recommended Action a: Approve the recommended changes to the CES Policies and Procedures including CES for Survivors, assessment updates, a disaster prioritization policy and clarifying language, as recommended by the CES Steering Committee, DV Committee and PPS Committee.

Melanie McQueen motioned to approve Recommended Action a. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. CoC Strategic Investment Planning Tool** – Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

As part of the strategic vision for the Orange County CoC, the CoC Vision Ad Hoc and CoC Board membership have elevated the need for fiscal and/or resource mapping as a way to better understand what resources are present in the homeless response system and how to strategically invest in housing resources through future funding opportunities. CoC Board officers and members expressed that Rehousing and Coordinated Investment Planning Tool (RCIPT) appears to be fitting for the need to assess current system performance and resources available within the Orange County CoC.

Recommended Action a: Approve the implementation of the Rehousing and Coordinated Investment Planning Tool – Capital (RCIPT-C) to support the Orange County CoC’s strategic planning for current and future investment of resources.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve Recommended Action a. George Searcy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Tim Shaw stated that there has been a discussion regarding fiscal and resource mapping for more than five years and they are glad to see the recommended action. Tim Shaw stated that the CoC and Office of Care Coordination should come back to the CoC Board with a plan as to how RCIPT-C will be utilized, as well as an outline of the comprehensive strategy.

**4. CalOptima Health’s Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Update** – Danielle Cameron, Director of Program Development, CalAIM, CalOptima Health

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) established the HHIP to improve health outcomes and access to whole person care services by addressing housing insecurity and instability as a social determinant of health for the Medi-Cal population. CalOptima Health provided a detailed presentation on HHIP and additional investments made by CalOptima Health’s Board of Directors to address homelessness in Orange County. In December 2022, the CalOptima Health invested in a partnership with the County of Orange’s Office of Care Coordination, as the administrative entity and collaborative applicant for the CoC Board, to fund critical activities. On January 16, 2024, CalOptima Health will be releasing Round 3 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) with a possibility of Round 4 in Summer 2024.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- George Searcy expressed that CalOptima Health has been how transformational in the investments made and in the ways of asking for community feedback and listening to the community. George Searcy shared a huge applause for CalOptima Health’s efforts, the results, and the services being provided to the people the CoC is committed to serve.
- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe expressed gratitude on behalf of United to End Homelessness and the CoC. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe stated that the CalOptima Health has been incredible to work with and have had the ability to be creative, think outside the box, and the number of investments has been transformational.
- Tim Shaw shared the experience of grant writing and the dynamics that come with grantee and grantors and stated that CalOptima Health has an approach of reaching out and listening to the community. Tim Shaw stated that they appreciate the focus on innovation as the community in resource constrained. Tim Shaw also asked for clarification on the allocation to transitional housing.

- Kelly Bruno-Nelson clarified that the allocation to transitional housing is an effort of the CalOptima Health Board listening to the community as the previous NOFO rounds received applications that could not be funded due to being an ineligible project type.
- Chair Dawn Price stated that others should take a note in CalOptima Health's process of the ease of applying for a NOFO.

**5. Orange County 2024 Point In Time Count Update** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

The Point In Time Count is a count and survey of people experiencing homelessness on a given night during the last ten days in January. The count provides vital information that helps the County of Orange and the Orange County CoC better understand homelessness in the community and guides the response to homelessness in Orange County. Opportunities to register to volunteer for the 2024 Point In Time count within your Service Planning Area (SPA) are now open. As of Monday, December 18, 2023, a total of 191 volunteers have signed up for the 2024 Point In Time count. To volunteer, please click [here](#) to sign up.

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Kelly Bruno-Nelson shared that due to HHIP, CalOptima Health has gone great lengths in measuring the number of individuals who are unhoused and CalOptima Health has noted that the Point In Time count numbers is vastly different from what CalOptima Health's algorithm is showing. Kelly Bruno-Nelson explained that the number of individuals who are unhoused is very different as the Point In Time count is a single snapshot on one night. Kelly Bruno-Nelson encouraged the CoC Board to put a storyboard together that has the Point in Time count numbers, as well as the numbers currently being seen in the community.
- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe shared that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the 2023 Point In Time count report that noted an increase of homelessness nationally. Vice Chair Becks noted that for a storyboard, an ad hoc should be created to provide guidance on how the CoC shares that story. Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe stated that United to End Homelessness hosts community chats and continues to put the message out to the community that the Point in Time Count is one type of data set, but not the only data set.
- Melanie McQueen reflected on the things that are not being counted such as the individuals and families at risk of homelessness and shared that having those numbers would be able to support more funding allocation into homelessness prevention.
- Chair Dawn Price agreed with the comments and shared that the data is only as good as everyone who goes out there and does the work. Chair Dawn Price noted that the Point In Time count drives some of the funding in the homeless response system and emphasized its importance.

**6. Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Doug Becht, Director and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

- a. System of Care Updates – Doug Becht provided the following System of Care Update:
  - The Commission to End Homelessness met on December 13, 2023, and recommended the appointment of the following membership to serve on the Commission to End Homelessness to the Board of Supervisors for approval: James Vanderpool, City Manager for Anaheim, as the North SPA Representative for a two-year term; Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Executive Director, CalOptima Health, as the Medi-Cal Managed Health Plan Representative for a two-year term; and Lisa Kim, City Manager for Garden Grove, as the Central SPA Representative for the balance of the two-year term ending August 8, 2024.
  - At the December 13, 2023, meeting, the Commission to End Homelessness received and filed the Homelessness Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program as proposed by Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento. The item will go before the Board of Supervisors for approval on January 9, 2024.

- Following the discussion on the Cold Weather Emergency Shelter at the Commission to End Homelessness meeting on August 16, 2023, the Office of Care Coordination reached out to all 34 cities through a letter to explore options for a Cold Weather Emergency Shelter program in each city. The Office of Care Coordination is currently working with a few cities on potential models that could serve the people experiencing homelessness in their community. The Office of Care Coordination is also working on a plan to ensure expanded access to year-round shelters during inclement weather.
  - The Office of Care Coordination is working closely with the County Procurement Office to ensure continued oversight of contracts and respective funding. Using expenditure and revenue reporting tools, the Office of Care Coordination will be conducting a detailed review to identify current spend down of funding as well as projected expenditures.
  - The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) announced the availability of Round 3 of the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Program. Applications for the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be accepted on a rolling basis until June 30, 2024, or until funds are depleted, whichever occurs first. The Office of Care Coordination is working an application and aims to submit in the first quarter of 2024.
- b. Continuum of Care Updates – Sarah Jones provided the following Continuum of Care Updates:
- On September 29, 2023, Cal ICH announced the release of HHAP Round 5 funding. The application is due on March 27, 2024. The Office of Care Coordination as the Administrative Entity for the Orange County CoC will complete the HHAP Round 5 grant application on behalf of the CoC.
  - HUD published a proposed rule in the Federal Register, which, if finalized, would require public housing agencies to provide tenants with written notification at least 30 days before filing in court for eviction due to nonpayment of rent. The proposed rule would affect an estimated 3.9 million people in 2.2 million households – 1.7 million people in 840,000 households in public housing and 2.2 million people in 1.4 million households in Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) programs.
  - HUD published the Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grant NOFO and is incentivizing collaborative applications that cover large geographic areas (i.e. statewide and across multiple CoCs) and encourages applications that cover multiple funding activities with leveraged partnerships. More information, including a recorded webinar that introduces YHSI, can be found on the YHSI website: [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/yhsi](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/yhsi)
  - The Housing Inventory County (HIC) is a point in time inventory of housing programs within a CoC that provide beds and units dedicated to serve people experiencing homelessness (or for permanent housing projects, were experiencing homelessness at entry). To prepare for the HIC, the HMIS Lead sent all agencies that participated in the HIC in 2022 their program descriptor, funding source, and bed inventory data. Agencies should review this data and submit a ticket to the HMIS Help Desk if any data needs to be updated.
  - The City of Garden Grove’s Economic Development and Housing Department issued the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program Operator Request for Proposals (RFP) for case management and housing providers to operate the Rental Assistance Program. Proposers are required to submit five hard copies of their proposals before this deadline, as well as an electronic submission.
  - The City of Garden Grove is accepting proposals from qualified firms (developers/proposers) to develop affordable housing and permanent supportive housing units within the city. Proposed developments can be new construction or acquisition and rehabilitation of existing multi-family rental units and be designed to serve low-income or at-risk populations within Garden Grove. The City of Garden Grove is accepting proposals from qualified providers and

the submission deadline is Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. PST. Proposers are required to submit five hard copies of their proposals before this deadline, as well as an electronic submission at the following location: <https://ggcity.org/neighborhood-improvement/affordable-housing-and-permanent-supportive-housing-development-rfp>

- On December 15, 2023, HUD released the 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR): Part 1 which compiles data from Point in Time counts conducted nationally in January 2023. The 2023 AHAR Part 1 can be referenced [here](#).

CoC Board Member Comments:

- Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe inquired on the timeframe of opening a Cold Weather Emergency Shelter and asked if there is anything that the CoC Board can do to help support ramping up a shelter earlier.

Sandra Lozeau motioned to adjourn the meeting. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

**7. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Date:** January 17, 2024

**Subject:** Agencies and Jurisdictions Approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Access

**Recommended Action:**

- a. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access from October 21, 2023, through January 12, 2024.

**Background and Analysis**

On June 23, 2021, the Orange County CoC Board approved the recommendation to appoint membership to a HMIS Access Working Group to support the implementation of the updated HMIS Access and Minimum Participation Policy. The HMIS Access Working Group meets monthly with the HMIS Lead and the Office of Care Coordination to review HMIS Access Applications and has continued to refine the process for facilitating equitable review of applications received.

At the May 25, 2022, meeting of the CoC Board, the CoC Board membership requested that the agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access be reported to the CoC Board on a recurring basis. The following agencies and jurisdictions have been approved for HMIS access by the HMIS Access Working Group during the time period of October 21, 2023, through January 12, 2024:

- Encompass Housing
- City of Irvine
- Korean Community Services, Inc.
- Independent Living Systems, LLC
- Nurturing Care LLC
- City of Westminster (updated HMIS access from data entry only to data sharing)

The Office of Care Coordination, in partnership with the HMIS Lead and the HMIS Access Working Group, will continue providing quarterly updates to the CoC Board to report on new agencies approved for HMIS access.

**Date:** January 17, 2024

**Subject:** 2024 Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Appointments

**Recommended Actions:**

- a. Elect CoC Board Officers for the upcoming term:
  - i. Appoint the Chair
  - ii. Appoint the Vice Chair
  - iii. Appoint the Secretary
- b. Appoint CoC Committee Chairs to fill current vacancies:
  - i. Reappoint Nishtha Mohendra to Chair the Service Provider Forum
  - ii. Appoint CoC Board Vice Chair to Chair the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee
  - iii. Appoint a CoC Board Member to Chair the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Steering Committee
  - iv. Appoint a CoC Board Member to Chair the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee
  - v. Appoint a CoC Board Member to Chair the Veterans Committee

**Background and Analysis**

The Orange County CoC Board and its committees are chaired by designated representatives, primarily CoC Board members, to ensure the sustained vision and support of CoC Board initiatives. At the first CoC Board meeting of each calendar year, the CoC Board elects the Board Officers – Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary – to serve one-year terms. As stated in the CoC Governance Charter, CoC Board members may serve for more than one term as an Officer, as there is no term limit. During the CoC Board meeting, nominations and election of Officers will occur amongst CoC Board membership via roll call vote. The CoC Board Officers are expected to attend a monthly planning meeting with the Office of Care Coordination, as well as commit to responsibilities outlined in Attachment A.

Current CoC Committee Chair vacancies are also to be filled to ensure continuity of established committees. The committee governance charters, adopted by the CoC Board on January 25, 2023, identify the Chair and Vice Chair appointment requirements for each committee, including committee chairing responsibilities for CoC Board members elected to serve in seats designated for expertise on homeless services of TAY, veterans, survivors of domestic violence and individuals with lived experience of homelessness. The current CoC Governance Charter approved by the CoC Board on October 25, 2023, includes revisions to remove CoC Board seat designations from the CoC Board composition. Thus, for the purposes of the TAY and Veterans Committee Chair appointments, Chair vacancies are to be filled by any nominated and elected CoC Board member. Additionally, the PPS Committee Governance Charter designates the Vice Chair of the CoC Board to chair the PPS Committee. The Office of Care Coordination has historically formalized the appointment of the PPS Chair for each term when a change within the Vice Chair exists.

Current CoC Committee Chair vacancies include the following:

- Service Provider Forum Chair
- PPS Committee Vice Chair
- CES Committee Chair
- TAY Collaborative Committee Chair
- Veterans Committee Chair

The roles and committee descriptions included in Attachment A are provided to assist the CoC Board membership in making informed decisions in the nomination and election process of Committee Chairs.

### **Attachments**

Attachment A – CoC Board Officer and Chair Descriptions

## Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Officer Role Descriptions

### CoC Board Chair

- Facilitates the work of the Orange County CoC, as determined by the Orange County CoC Governance Charter
- Leads the monthly CoC Board meetings, including calling the meeting to order, managing the agenda, facilitating voting and adjourning meetings
- Meets monthly with Vice Chair, Secretary and Office of Care Coordination to discuss the work of the CoC and plan for upcoming meetings of the CoC. This includes:
  - Matters referred to the CoC Board by the CoC Committees to be placed on calendar for consideration and action by the CoC Board or CoC General Membership
  - If there is an issue of importance to the CoC Board, the Chair will work with the Vice Chair and Secretary to coordinate with Office of Care Coordination staff prior to placing the item on the calendar
- Signs documents on behalf of the CoC Board

### CoC Board Vice Chair

- Chairs CoC Board meetings in the absence of Chair or when Chair must recuse themselves
- Chairs the Policy, Procedures and Standards Committee meetings
- Meets monthly with Chair, Secretary and Office of Care Coordination to discuss the work of the CoC and plan for upcoming meetings of the CoC. This includes:
  - Matters referred to the CoC Board by the CoC Committees to be placed on calendar for consideration and action by the CoC Board or CoC General Membership
  - If there is an issue of importance to the CoC Board, the Vice Chair will work with the Chair and Secretary to coordinate with Office of Care Coordination staff prior to placing the item on the calendar

### CoC Board Secretary

- Calls roll and tracks attendance at CoC Board meetings
- Calls roll and tracks motions and votes during CoC Board meetings when action items are being considered
- Reviews draft CoC Board meeting minutes recorded by the Office of Care Coordination
- Chairs CoC Board meetings in the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair, or when Chair and Vice Chair must recuse themselves
- Meets monthly with Chair, Secretary and Office of Care Coordination to discuss the work of the CoC and plan for upcoming meetings of the CoC. This includes:
  - Matters referred to the CoC Board by the CoC Committees to be placed on calendar for consideration and action by the CoC Board or CoC General Membership
  - If there is an issue of importance to the CoC Board, the Secretary will work with the Chair and Vice Chair to coordinate with Office of Care Coordination staff prior to placing the item on the calendar

## Committee Chair Descriptions

Please note, CoC Committee Chair responsibilities are further detailed in each committee governance charter. In addition to specified committee functions, all CoC committees are responsible for committing to advancing equity in the Orange County CoC, specifically addressing populations who have been most disproportionately impacted by homelessness, to ensure all people in Orange County experiencing homelessness and those at-risk will have equitable access to navigation, housing, and supportive services in ways that ensure equitable outcomes including overall well-being and long-term housing stability.

### Service Provider Forum Chair

- The Service Provider Forum will be chaired by a member of the CoC Board who will serve for the duration of their term on the Board.
- The Service Provider Forum chair will meet every other month for a planning meeting with the Office of Care Coordination.
- In addition to facilitating the committee meeting, the Service Provider Forum Chair will support in bringing committee recommendations or presentations to CoC Committees and the CoC Board, as appropriate.
- The Service Provider Forum is responsible for the following functions:
  - Convening the CoC General Membership, local service providers, and community partners
  - Sharing updates on efforts of the Orange County CoC, CoC Board and Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Collaborative Applicant
  - Providing trainings that support organizations and community partners in being knowledgeable on evidence-based practices, as well as trainings required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

### Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee Chair

- The PPS Committee will be chaired by the CoC Board's Vice Chair who will serve for the duration of their term as Vice Chair.
- The Chair may appoint a Vice Chair to assist in the planning of the PPS Committee functions and assist with planning, facilitation, and coordination of the PPS Committee meetings.
- The PPS Committee Chair will meet for a monthly PPS Committee Planning Meeting with the Office of Care Coordination.
- In addition to facilitating the committee meeting, the PPS Committee Chair will support in bringing committee recommendations or presentations to the CoC Board, as appropriate.
- The PPS Committee is responsible for the following functions:
  - Recommending any committees, workgroups, and ad hoc groups necessary for the proper and efficient functioning of the Orange County CoC and recommending dissolving any committees, workgroups, and ad hoc groups, if they are determined to be unnecessary for the proper and efficient functioning of the Orange County CoC.
  - Vetting all proposed policies arising from committees/workgroups to ensure adherence to the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Notices and regulations, and evidence-based practices. The PPS Committee will then determine whether proposed policies and standards will be referred for additional input, recommended to the CoC Board for adoption through a consent item, or head for further conversation and vote by the full CoC Board.

## Item 1. Attachment A

- Establishing a clear standard for the level of care that agencies should provide by program type. This level of care and service delivery will support a minimum threshold and consistent practices across the CoC.
- Working with the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant to update the CoC Board Governance Charter annually, which will include all procedures and policies needed to comply with HUD mandates and HEARTH Act regulations.

### Coordinated Entry System (CES) Steering Committee Chair

- The CES Committee will be chaired by a member of the CoC Board who will serve for the duration of their term on the Board.
- The Chair may appoint a Vice Chair to assist in the planning of the CES Committee functions and assist with planning, facilitation, and coordination of the CES Committee meetings.
- The CES Committee Chair will meet every other month for a planning meeting with the Office of Care Coordination.
- In addition to facilitating the committee meeting, the CES Committee Chair will support in bringing committee recommendations or presentations to CoC Committees and the CoC Board, as appropriate.
- The CES Committee is responsible for the following functions:
  - Creating any workgroups necessary for the proper and efficient functioning of the CES and dissolving workgroups, if they are determined to be unnecessary for the proper and efficient functioning of the CES.
  - Vetting all proposed policies arising from workgroups to ensure adherence to the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Notices and regulations, and evidence-based practices. The CES Committee will then determine whether proposed policies and standards will be referred for additional input and recommendation to the PPS Committee.
  - Identify opportunities and develop recommendations to strengthen and improve the CES core elements of access, assessment, prioritization and referral.
  - Identify opportunities and develop recommendations to align HMIS functionality with CES policies and procedures.
  - Working with the CES Lead Agency (County of Orange) to update the CES Policies and Procedures at minimum every five years, which will include all procedures and policies needed to comply with HUD mandates and HEARTH Act regulations.

### Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee Chair

- The TAY Collaborative Committee will be chaired by a member of the CoC Board who will serve for the duration of their term on the Board.
- The Chair may appoint a Vice Chair to assist in the planning of the TAY Collaborative Committee functions and assist with planning, facilitation, and coordination of the TAY Collaborative Committee meetings.
- The TAY Collaborative Committee Chair will meet every other month for a planning meeting with the Office of Care Coordination.
- In addition to facilitating the committee meeting, the TAY Collaborative Committee Chair will support in bringing committee recommendations or presentations to CoC Committees and the CoC Board, as appropriate.
- The TAY Collaborative Committee is responsible for the following functions:

## Item 1. Attachment A

- Recommend best practices and policy related to preventing and ending youth homelessness
- Utilize data to evaluate gaps in youth homelessness response system to support the development of new policy
- Develop a shared understanding of evidence-informed practices to address youth homelessness, current Orange County and national resources, and what interventions increase positive outcomes
- Support system mapping efforts to better integrate services targeted to youth to create an effective youth homelessness response system in Orange County
- Develop a method to effectively coordinate services and enhance collaboration among youth service providers
- Ensuring housing interventions for youth address stable housing, permanent connections, education, employment, and well-being.
- Supporting the planning and implementation efforts of the Point in Time Count, especially TAY-focused efforts
- Support the creation and ongoing work of the Youth Action Board.

## Veterans Committee Chair

- The Veterans Committee will be chaired by a member of the CoC Board who will serve for the duration of their term on the Board.
- The Chair may appoint a Vice Chair to assist in the planning of the Veterans Committee functions and assist with planning, facilitation, and coordination of the Veterans Committee meetings.
- The Veterans Committee Chair will meet every other month for a planning meeting with the Office of Care Coordination.
- In addition to facilitating the committee meeting, the Veterans Committee Chair will support in bringing committee recommendations or presentations to CoC Committees and the CoC Board, as appropriate.
- The Veterans Committee is responsible for the following functions:
  - Support the CoC in identifying all veterans experiencing homelessness and connecting them to the Veteran Registry.
  - Coordinate efforts of the CoC's measuring progress towards ending veteran homelessness through the analysis of data and information sharing.
  - Coordinate the delivery of services to support veterans at risk of homelessness become achieve housing stability and veterans experiencing homelessness quickly secure housing.
  - Convening local, state, federal and regional stakeholders working to address veteran homelessness together to share information on events, funding opportunities, and troubleshoot problems.
  - Educate and inform the CoC on the needs and issues of veterans and veteran homelessness.
  - Commit to advancing equity in the Orange County CoC, specifically addressing veteran populations who have been most disproportionately impacted by homelessness, to ensure all people in Orange County experiencing homelessness and those at-risk will have equitable access to navigation, housing, and supportive services in ways that ensure equitable outcomes including overall well-being and long-term housing stability

**Date:** January 17, 2024

**Subject:** Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Updates and Recommendations

**Recommended Actions:**

- b. Approve Shelter Providers of Orange County, Inc., dba HomeAid Orange County for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families for the term of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to be funded by HHAP-CoC Round 3 and State of California Emergency Solutions Grant (State ESG).
- c. Approve Friendship Shelter, Inc. as the Coordinated Entry System (CES) for Individuals Administrator to support with ongoing operations for the term July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, for an amount not to exceed of \$63,000 to be funded through HHAP Round 1, 3 and/or 4 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC.

**Background and Analysis**

**HHAP Round 5**

The HHAP Program is a grant administered by the State’s Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) through the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH). The HHAP Program provides local jurisdictions with funds to support regional coordination to expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges as well as prevent and end to homelessness in their communities, including but not limited to projects related to rental assistance and rapid rehousing, operating subsidies, landlord incentives, outreach and coordination, prevention and shelter diversion into permanent housing and capital improves for the development of new navigation centers and emergency shelters.

Eligible applicants for HHAP Program include counties, cities and Continuums of Care (CoC). The Office of Care Coordination serves as the Administrative Entity for HHAP Program funding for the Orange County CoC and the County of Orange (County). Additionally, the Cities of Anaheim and Santa Ana are eligible applicants and have received funding through the first three rounds of HHAP funding. The City of Irvine became an eligible applicant for the first time during the Round 4 of HHAP Program funding.

The HHAP Round 5 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was made available in September 2023. The application is due on March 27, 2024. The HHAP Round 5 Eligible Use Categories will have two changes:

- 1) Splitting the “Operating Subsidies” category into two separate categories (“Operating Subsidies-Permanent Housing” and “Operating Subsidies Interim Housing”) and
- 2) Authorizing up to an additional one percent of the HHAP-5 allocation to cover expenses associated with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to be transferred directly to the HMIS lead entity to support the functioning, maintenance, and operation of the local HMIS.

The Office of Care Coordination as the Administrative Entity will complete the HHAP Round 5 grant application on behalf of the CoC and County, will work alongside the cities of Anaheim, Irvine, and Santa Ana.

### Funding Recommendation for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services

On August 24, 2022, the Orange County CoC Board approved the Emergency Shelter Operations and Services recommendations to provide funding to designated service providers to provide Emergency Shelter Operations and Services utilizing HHAP Round 1 and/or Round 3 funding. The primary goal of Emergency Shelter Operations and Services project is to help persons experiencing homelessness in Orange County, including individuals, families, transitional aged youth (TAY), and survivors of domestic violence (DV). The Emergency Shelter Operations and Services projects will focus on shelter stabilization and provide robust support services that will assist participants in obtaining permanent housing and increased income.

On October 25, 2023, the Orange County CoC Board approved additional funding to designated service providers for the ongoing provision of Emergency Shelter Operations and Services. Following that approval, the Office of Care Coordination learned that Shelter Providers of Orange County, Inc., dba HomeAid Orange County who is the owner of the HomeAid Family CareCenter will be issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify an operator. As such, the previously approved recommendation to provide \$250,000 in HHAP-CoC Round 3 and State ESG to Mercy House for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families which would fund the operations of the HomeAid Family CareCenter no longer feels appropriate as it is unknown whether or not Mercy House will continue to be the operator following the RFP. As such, the Office of Care Coordination is recommending the reallocation of the previously committed funding for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families to go towards HomeAid Orange County to support the ongoing operations of the HomeAid Family CareCenter. The Family CareCenter supports families experiencing homelessness countywide access available emergency shelter programs that focus on shelter stabilization and robust supportive services to assist participants in obtaining permanent housing and increased income. The Family Care Center provides safe, temporary shelter services for families experiencing homelessness with a focus on ensuring a household's experience of homelessness is as brief as possible.

Approval of Recommended Action b by the Orange County CoC Board for the Emergency Shelter Operations and Services funding recommendations will allow the continuation of operations and services of HomeAid FamilyCareCenter. The Emergency Shelter Operations and Services funding will assist families experiencing homelessness in accessing the most appropriate services and resources across the Orange County System of Care, including behavioral health, healthcare, benefits and mainstream services, housing and navigation services for program application and enrollment processes.

### Funding Recommendation for CES for Individuals

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 one of three components of CES with support from Friendship Shelter which serves as the CES for Individuals Administrator.

The primary goal of CES for Individuals is to facilitate a participant-centered process that streamlines access to the most appropriate services and housing interventions for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness in Orange County while implementing a regional coordination approach. Friendship Shelter has been successful in accomplishing the functions of CES; however, there has been an identified need to support with ongoing operations.

To support the ongoing expansion and need for increased capacity to operate CES for Individuals, the Office of Care Coordination is recommending the CoC Board approve utilization of HHAP Round 1, 3 and/or 4 CoC funding needed for CES, in the amount of \$63,000 for the FY 2024-25. Approval by the Orange County CoC Board for the CES funding recommendation will allow for improved collaboration with the Office of Care Coordination, CES Administrators, and CES stakeholders to ensure that CES for Individuals is consistently implemented in the Orange County CoC.

### **Attachments**

Attachment A – Overview of HHAP CoC-Funded Projects

## HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM (HHAP) CoC Projects

Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	HHAP Round	Eligible Use Category	Project Term
C4 Innovations	Racial Equity Assessment and Implementation Support	C4 Innovations is working with the Orange County CoC and the County of Orange in identifying, analyzing and transforming policies and procedures to increase knowledge and capacity around racial equity and supports the implementation of strategies to promote equitable outcomes. A series of level-setting trainings, assessments of quantitative and qualitative data, action planning strategies and implementation support will be presented and applied to the community to create a sustainable framework for equitable services and outcomes.	\$ 50,000.00	R1	Strategic Planning	10/2021 - 12/2022
City of Costa Mesa	Capital Improvement Project for Homeless Service Program	This project supports the development of a new emergency shelter in the City of Costa Mesa. The emergency shelter features a total of 72 beds, 69 beds for individuals experiencing homelessness and three beds available for quarantine and isolation during COVID-19. The emergency shelter prioritizes referrals from the Central Service Planning Area, including County agencies and contracted service providers.	\$ 2,529,126.00	R1	New Navigation Centers/Emergency Shelters	12/2020 - 06/2021
City Net	Central Service Planning Area Regional Street Outreach	This project provides street outreach and case management services to individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area with connections to appropriate services and level of care such as treatment, emergency shelter, and permanent supportive housing through a progressive engagement approach.	\$ 183,750.00	R1	Outreach and Coordination	05/2021 - 04/2022
City Net	2022 Point in Time Count	HHAP-1 administration funds will support Kingdom Causes dba City Net in organizing and operating the 2022 Point In Time Count in partnership with the County of Orange and the Orange County CoC. The 2022 Point In Time (PIT) count will be conducted to obtain updated and comprehensive data of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Orange County that will be used to help inform the development and coordination of regional resources to assist in addressing homelessness. The 2022 PIT will also provide important data to understand the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on those experiencing homelessness.	\$ 200,000.00	R1	Administration	10/2021 - 06/2022
City of Laguna Beach	Alternative Sleeping Location (ASL) Emergency Shelter Operations	This project allows for the continued operation of an expanded service model, hours of operations and support shelter operations at the Alternative Sleeping Location in the South Service Planning Area. Services and operations include ADA compliant services, accommodations for participants with physical and mental disabilities, and a pilot drop-in day program. The Alternative Sleeping Location program is focused on supporting participants transition to permanent housing.	\$ 191,625.00	R1	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	05/2021 - 04/2022
Covenant House California	2022 Transitional Aged Youth Point in Time Count	Covenant House California (CHC) is conducting the 2022 Point In Time (PIT) Count specific to the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) subpopulation who are experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. CHC will organize, collaborate and facilitate the necessary phases to implement the count and provide a final data and narrative report to inform results to the County of Orange, Orange County CoC and other stakeholders. This effort will also encouraged the participation and involvement of TAY with current or past lived experience of homelessness.	\$ 50,000.00	R1	Strategic Planning	10/2020 - 06/2021
Covenant House California	Rapid Rehousing for Transitional Aged Youth	This project provides Rapid Rehousing Services to Transitional Aged Youth (ages 18 to 24 at program intake) experiencing homelessness in Orange County. CHC will provide up to 12-months of assistance to TAY and will have a large focus on promoting housing stability and exploring long-term housing options that the TAY can sustain after assistance ends. CHC will make these housing opportunities available through the Coordinatned Entry System.	\$ 121,269.00	R1	Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing	09/2022 - 06/2024

Item 4. Attachment A

Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	HHAP Round	Eligible Use Category	Project Term
Covenant House California	Capital Improvements for Emergency Shelter - Youth Set-Aside	This project expands on the Orange County System of Care capacity to meet the needs of the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) through youth-specific programming provided by their Safe Haven Program, a new emergency shelter being established. The emergency shelter will have provide 25 beds and assist 150 TAY experiencing homelessness annually with case management and essential services to help them achieve permanent and stable housing.	\$ 650,000.00	R1	New Navigation Centers/Emergency Shelters - Youth Set-Aside	10/2019 - 04/2021
Families Forward	Homeless Prevention - HEAP Rental Assistance and Services	Families Forward, as the fiscal backbone of the Family Solutions Collaborative (FSC) is providing homelessness prevention and diversion assistance to families, households with at least one minor child, who are at-risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness and provide services countywide. The homelessness prevention assistance and diversion activities, include creative solutions and tenant-based rental assistance or subsidies, flexible subsidy funds, and eviction prevention strategies for families. The goal of these services is to address housing instability and provide the appropriate resources to ensure housing retention and stability, thus reducing the number of families experiencing homelessness. Services include providing case management, developing a housing plan and identifying strategies that promote housing stability, and eviction prevention strategies for families. These services are paired with the Homelessness Prevention Program to deliver a comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of the families.	\$ 262,500.00	R1	Prevention and Shelter Diversion	05/2019 - 04/2022
Families Forward	Rapid Rehousing for Families	This project provides Rapid Rehousing Services to Families (hosueholds with at least one minor children) experiencing homelessness in Orange County. Families Forward will provide up to 12-months of assistance to families and will have a large focus on promoting housing stability and increasing housheold income. Families Forward will make these housing opportunities available through the Coordinated Entry System.	\$ 879,153.00	R1 and R3	Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing	09/2022 - 06/2024
Families Forward	Flexible Housing Subsidies Services	This project is a flexible housing subsidies program that serves families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness with housing subsidies and supportive services that promote housing stability. The program provides housing stability case management services to eligible families and flexible housing subsidies to secure permanent housing, increased stability and connections to community resources and mainstream benefits through the program.	\$ 150,000.00	R1	Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing	07/2021- 06/2023
Families Forward	Family Coordinated Entry System Services	Families Forward serves as the fiscal backbone of the Family Solutions Collaborative (FSC) which functions as the Coordinated Entry System (CES) administrator for the Families CES component. The FSC helps facilitate access to the most appropriate services and housing interventions for families experiencing homelessness or housing instability. CES connects participants with the most appropriate housing and service interventions to meet individualized needs, with the goal of participants returning to stable housing. CES increases coordination among homeless service providers and facilitates the systematic targeting and prioritization of housing resources that meet the preferences and needs of these families.	\$ 100,000.00	R1	Infrastructure Development/ Coordinated Entry System or HMIS	07/2020 - 06/2022
Family Assistance Ministries	Homelessness Prevention - HEAP Services	This project allows for the continuation of a homeward bound diversion program implemented through HEAP, to reconnect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to their families and support systems outside of Orange County and become permanently housed.	\$ 15,750.00	R1	Prevention and Shelter Diversion	05/2019 - 05/2022
Interval House	Project C - COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services	This project provides COVID-19 Responsive Homeless services in the Central Service Planning Area to support domestic violence survivor households experiencing homelessness who are struggling to become safely and stably housed with emergency flexible funding during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program supports eligible households by providing critical interventions that prevent the exacerbation of financial debt and credit management to support permanent housing and economic stability.	\$ 176,088.00	R1	Prevention and Shelter Diversion	05/2021 - 06/2022

Item 4. Attachment A

Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	HHAP Round	Eligible Use Category	Project Term
Mercy House	South Service Planning Area Regional Rental Assistance	Mercy House works to connect those experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the South Service Planning Area who are encountered through street outreach efforts to appropriate shelter and housing services. A portion of this program has dedicated rental assistance funds to support Mercy House in securing rental housing and reduce barriers to permanent housing placements.	\$ 64,272.00	R1	Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing	05/2019 - 06/2022
Mercy House	South Service Planning Area Regional Street Outreach	Mercy House has been partnering with cities in the South Service Planning Area for the implementation and ongoing efforts of a regional, coordinated approach to homeless outreach services. Mercy House works to connect those experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the South Service Planning Area to appropriate shelter and housing services, including treatment, emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, and rental assistance.	\$ 271,193.00	R1	Outreach and Coordination	05/2019 - 06/2022
OC United Way	Project C - South Service Planning Area COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Funding	This project provides a COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services program to respond to the emergent needs of the community due to COVID-19 and increase equitable service access across Orange County regardless of where a person is experiencing homelessness. A part of this program includes landlord incentives for households experiencing homelessness in the South Service Planning Areas in Orange County who have been issued a housing choice voucher but are struggling to become safely and stably housed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program focuses on assisting eligible households with securing long-term stable housing along with case management services aimed at promoting housing stability, and engages property owners to increase the availability of rental units for federal housing choice voucher holders thereby reducing the time involved searching for housing by participants.	\$ 998,728.00	R1	Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing, Landlord Incentives, Outreach and Coordination	05/2021 - 06/2023
VOALA	Project C - North Service Planning Area COVID-19 Responsive Homeless Services Funding	This project provides regional street outreach in the North Service Planning Area in response to the changing landscape and available resources following the COVID-19 pandemic. VOALA supports individuals experiencing homelessness in connecting to emergency shelter, housing opportunities, the Coordinated Entry System and more. VOALA also coordinate with other street outreach and homeless services teams in the area to maximize impact.	\$ 500,000.00	R1	Outreach and Coordination	07/2022 - 06/2023
American Family Housing	Emergency Shelter - Huntington Beach Oasis Homekey Program	Huntington Beach Oasis Homekey project is a contract with American Family Housing and provides operations support for 62 Project Homekey units during the interim housing phase in the Central Service Planning Area within Orange County. The interim housing will operate for a period of up to five years and will ultimately be converted into Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for low-income residents. The program serves literally homeless, chronically homeless and fleeing domestic violence homeless individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area in Orange County.	\$ 1,250,000.00	R2	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	07/2022 - 06/2027
City of Anaheim	Emergency Shelter - Studio 6 Motel North Harbor Homekey Program	Studio 6 Motel North Harbor Homekey Project is an MOU with the City of Anaheim and provides operations support for 87 Project Homekey units during the interim housing phase in the North Service Planning Area within Orange County. The program serves literally homeless, chronically homeless and fleeing domestic violence homeless individuals experiencing homelessness in the North Service Planning Area in Orange County.	\$ 2,000,138.00	R2	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	12/2022 - 12/2026
Covenant House California	Emergency Shelter Operation Services	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) experiencing homelessness. The facility offers 25 congregate beds and is located in Anaheim, California. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 305,895.36	R2	Operating Subsidies - Youth Set-Aside	09/2022 - 06/2024

Item 4. Attachment A

Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	HHAP Round	Eligible Use Category	Project Term
Homebase	OC Homeless Action Plan and HHAP Funding Technical Assistance	HHAP-2 administration funds will support Homebase in offering technical assistance and consulting services to the County of Orange and the Orange County CoC to assist in the preparation of a Homeless Action Plan (HAP) as required by the HHAP Round 3 requirements. The work will be split into 3 phases and will be organized into four pillars being reviewed by the Commission to End Homelessness: Prevention, Outreach & Supportive Services, Shelter, and Housing. It will seek to streamline access to services and resources and align efforts of the CoC and Commission to End Homelessness, and their care coordination efforts.	\$ 35,000.00	R2	Administration	02/2022 - 12/2022
Covenant House California	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Transitional Aged Youth	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) experiencing homelessness. The facility offers 25 congregate beds and is located in Anaheim, California. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 567,115.75	R3	Operating Subsidies - Youth Set-Aside	10/2022 - 06/2024
Family Assistance Ministries	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families in the South Service Planning Area	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to families experiencing homelessness in the South Service Planning Area. The facility is a non-congregate shared space consisting 2, fourplex apartment units, with a total of 11 bedrooms with 36 beds and is located in San Clemente, California. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 355,605.00	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024
Friendship Shelter	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Individuals in the South Service Planning Area	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to individuals experiencing homelessness in the South Service Planning Area. The facility offers 30 congregate beds and is located in Laguna Beach, California. Priority is given to individuals with ties to the City of Laguna Beach. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 294,094.25	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024
Illumination Foundation	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families - Bob Murphy House and Plumeria House	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to families experiencing homelessness in the North and Central Service Planning Areas. The Family Shelter Program is comprised of 3 individual homes that operate as a non-congregate shelter, with private rooms and shared restrooms and common areas. The Theriault Family Emergency Shelter is located in Stanton, California and has 9 bedrooms and 38 beds. Bob Murphy House Family Emergency Shelter is located in Anaheim, California and has 7 rooms and 28 beds. Plumeria House Family Emergency Shelter is located in Anaheim, California and has 6 bedrooms and 19 beds. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 405,605.00	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024

Item 4. Attachment A

Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	HHAP Round	Eligible Use Category	Project Term
Interval House	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services for survivors of domestic violence in Orange County. Because many participants are in crisis situations, the project accepts most homeless, domestic violence victims without restrictions for entry when capacity permits. The facility is located in a safe residential area with convenient access to public transportation and community services. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 205,605.00	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024
Mercy House	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Individuals in the North Service Planning Area - Buena Park Navigation Center	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to individuals experiencing homelessness in the North Service Planning Area. The facility offers 175 congregate beds and is located in Buena Park, California. Referrals are coordinated from the North Orange County Public Safety Collaborative referral partners. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 255,606.00	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024
Mercy House	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families - Family Care Center	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to families experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area. The facility offers 56 congregate beds that can accommodate 14-16 families and is located in Orange, California. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 455,606.00	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024
PATH	Rapid Rehousing Services for Individuals	This project provides Rapid Rehousing Services to individuals experiencing homelessness in Orange County. PATH will provide up to 12-months of assistance to families and will have a large focus on promoting housing stability and increasing household income. PATH will make these housing opportunities available through the Coordinated Entry System.	\$ 2,114,435.00	R3	Rapid Rehousing	09/2022 - 06/2024
Pathways of Hope	Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families	This project provides emergency shelter operations and services to families experiencing homelessness in Orange County. The facility is a non-congregate site and consists of 17 units, with a maximum of 96 beds and is located in Anaheim, California and Fullerton, California. Services offered include a safe sleeping area, meals, showers, and other essential services, housing-focused case management, and housing navigation services. The project also promotes connections to other service providers and programs that address the needs of program participants, increased access to benefits and employment resources as needed.	\$ 405,606.00	R3	Operating Subsidies - Emergency Shelter	10/2022 - 06/2024
Family Solutions Collaborative	Coordinated Entry System for Families	Family Solutions Collaborative serves as the Coordinated Entry System for Families Administrator. The primary goal of Coordinated Entry System for Families is to facilitate a participant-centered process that streamlines access to the most appropriate services and housing interventions for families experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness in Orange County while implementing a regional coordination approach. This funding is utilized to hire additional staff to support with data management, quality improvement and technical assistance.	\$ 63,000.00	R3	Infrastructure Development/ Coordinated Entry System or HMIS	07/2023-06/2024

Item 4. Attachment A

Agency	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	HHAP Round	Eligible Use Category	Project Term
Friendship Shelter	Coordinated Entry System for Individuals	Friendship Shelter serves as the Coordinated Entry System for Individuals Administrator. The primary goal of Coordinated Entry System for Individuals is to facilitate a participant-centered process that streamlines access to the most appropriate services and housing interventions for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness in Orange County while implementing a regional coordination approach. This funding is utilized to hire additional staff to support with data management, quality improvement and technical assistance.	\$ 63,000.00	R3	Infrastructure Development/ Coordinated Entry System or HMIS	07/2023-06/2024

**Date:** January 17, 2024

**Subject:** Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update

**Recommended Actions:**

- a. Approve the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC), to apply for the YHSI NOFO with Orange County's United Way dba Orange County United Way as a subrecipient.

**Background and Analysis**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is making approximately \$50 million in funding available through the YHSI NOFO. Funding will be utilized to support communities in improving an existing response system for youth homelessness or establishing and implementing a new youth homelessness response system. The YHSI application is for a 30-month grant term and the application is due on February 15, 2024.

The YHSI grants will focus on systemic change to either improve or create response systems for youth homelessness by funding projects that create and build capacity for Youth Action Boards (YABs); collect and use data on at-risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness; develop strong leaders within a community; and improve the coordination, communication, operation, and administration of homeless assistance projects to better serve youth, including prevention and diversion strategies. Communities may either establish or improve existing response systems for youth homelessness through the following objectives:

- Improve the capacity of youth in the community by developing peer support models, including training, project design, and implementation; creating YAB training, including government rules, leadership, and other skills; community training and outreach on how to work with youth and integrate youth leadership in an authentic way.
- Establish partnerships by bringing together system partners who also work with youth who are living in unstable housing. This could include partnerships with Tribes and cultural organizations in the community, K-12 schools, higher education, juvenile justice, child welfare, employment services, etc.
- Improve the centralized or coordinated assessment system also known as the Coordinated Entry Systems (CES).
- Improve data collection and use between systems that work with youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Assess, address, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems.

The YHSI grants cannot be used to provide housing or services to youth, but will instead make and improve connections, coordination, and information sharing within and between systems that serve at-risk youth, including education, child welfare, and juvenile justice. Funding through the YHSI grants is available in the following categories:

Funding Category	Maximum Award
Planning and Partnerships	\$400,000
Data	\$300,000
Coordinated Entry	\$200,000
Racial and Gender Equity	\$200,000

Each project can receive a maximum award amount of \$1,000,000. The maximum award amounts will be doubled (up to \$2,000,000) for applications that cover geographic areas in two (2) or more CoCs or if the CoC covers the entire geography of the state. Eligible applicants for the YHSI grants include State governments, County governments, City or township governments, Special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized) Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments, non-profit organizations and others listed in the NOFO.

The Orange County CoC Governance Charter designates the County of Orange as the Collaborative Applicant and also the administrative and fiscal entity for homelessness program funding that designated the CoC as the eligible applicant. As such, the County of Orange’s Office of Care Coordination identified the YHSI funding opportunity as important to establishing and implementing a YAB to further develop a youth homelessness response system. To submit a competitive and collaborative application, the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, is seeking to partner with Orange County United Way to be a subrecipient of YHSI funding. As a local partner and stakeholder of the Orange County CoC, Orange County United Way has provided services for youth through key initiatives such as but not limited to United for Student Success and is positioned to support with identifying leveraged partnerships needed to sustain youth-focused homeless service system improvement in Orange County.

Through the application process, the Office of Care Coordination and Orange County United Way will identify local stakeholders who interact with and provide supportive services for youth and are willing to carry out key proposed activities. Listening sessions will be made available to the public throughout the month of January to receive community feedback on proposed activity and funding categories for which to apply. Currently, there are plans to apply for funding in all the listed categories and have a community-wide response to addressing youth homelessness from a system level. Further, the success of proposed activities is determined by the level that youth with lived expertise are engaged, leading and designing proposed project activities. The Office of Care Coordination will work with Orange County United Way and local youth service providers to engage youth within the planning and application design process.

The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant is seeking support from the Orange County CoC Board membership to apply for the opportunity, in collaboration with Orange County United Way as a subrecipient. The approval from the Orange County CoC Board will support the Orange County CoC in submitting a competitive application that could bring additional support in resources for youth experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness in Orange County.