



**Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Domestic Violence (DV) Committee
February 20, 2024**

Meeting Agenda

1. Coordinated Entry System (CES) For Survivors Update – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
2. University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative (BHII) intimate partner violence (IPV) and homelessness findings – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair
 - a. Discussion related to highlights of the findings and beneficial information for the Orange County CoC
3. Brown Act Update – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar

Recommended Actions

1. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2023.
2. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from November 28, 2023.

Business Calendar

CES for Survivors Update

Sarah Jones, CoC Manager,
Office of Care Coordination

Business Calendar – Item #1

Timeline

Review and Approval Process

- The Office of Care Coordination worked closely with Homebase, a national technical assistance provider in the field of housing and homelessness, to facilitate a DV Survivor Stakeholder ad hoc and listening sessions with survivors to draft CES policies and procedures for DV survivors.
- After a public feedback period and an extensive review process, the CoC Board approved the updated CES Policies and Procedures on **December 20, 2023**.
- The Office of Care Coordination as the CES Lead began implementing changes on January 1, 2024, including CES Partner training.

Business Calendar – Item #1

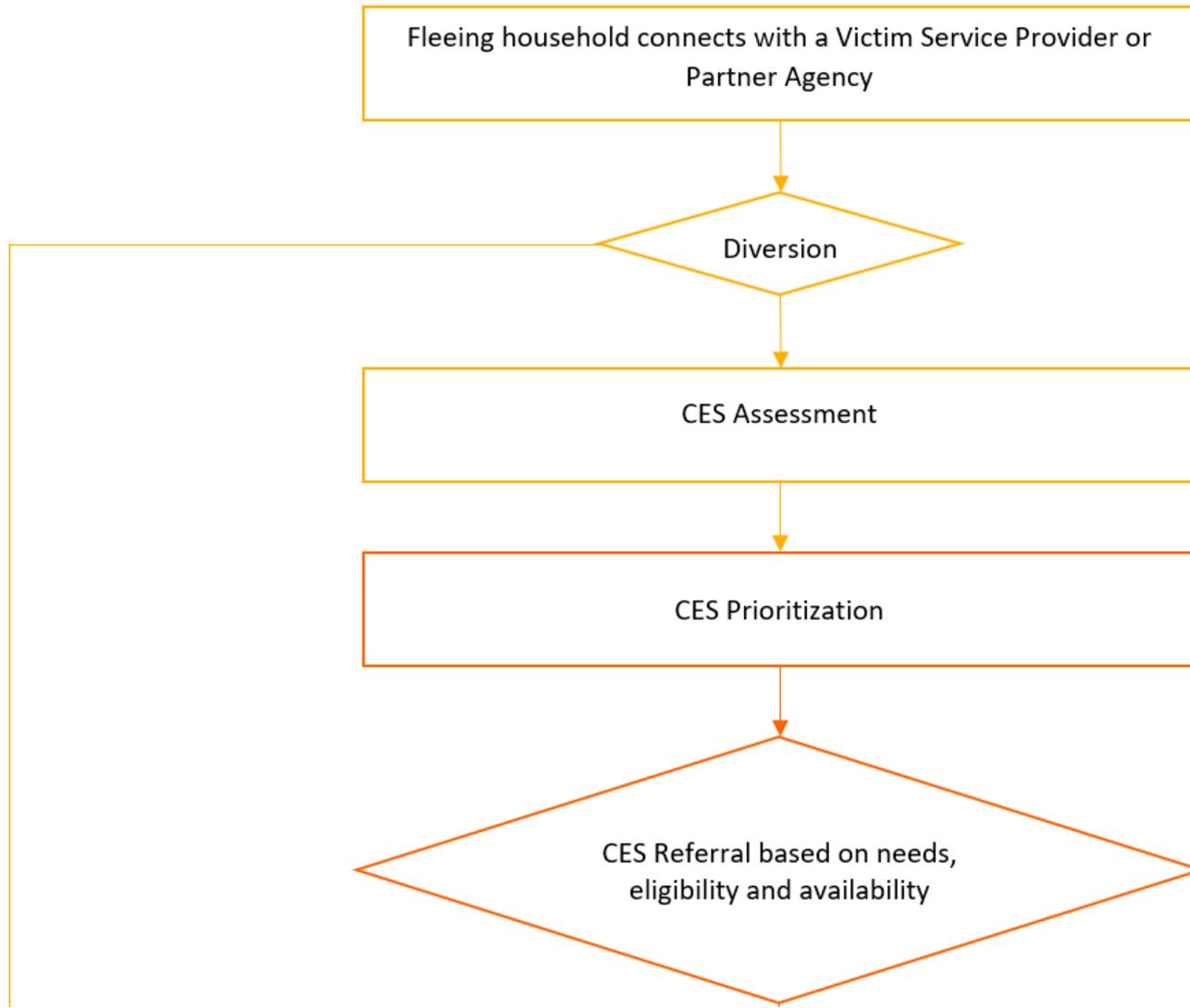
CES Policies and Procedures

Updates to the CES Policies and Procedures

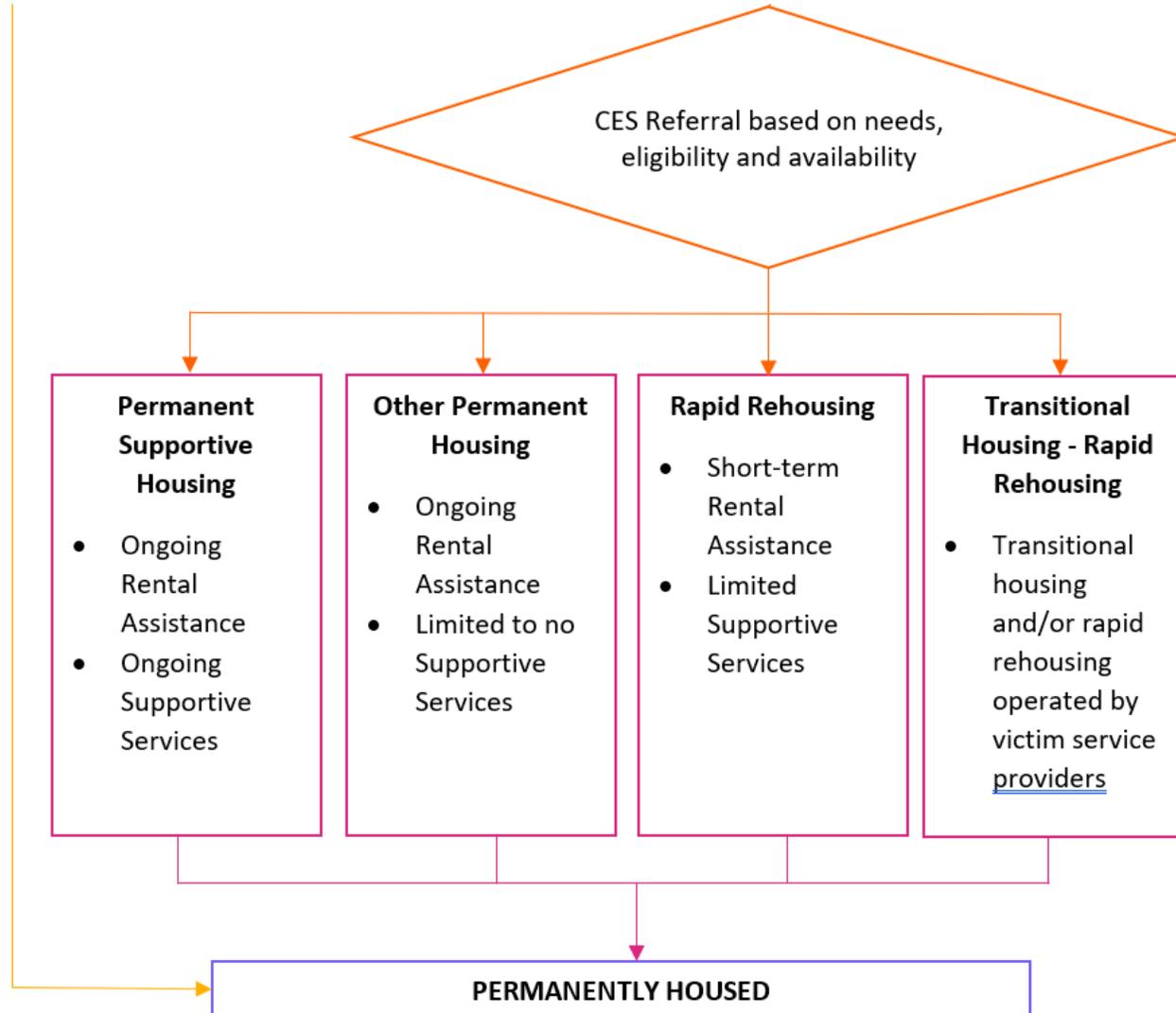
- CES for Survivors
 - ❖ Incorporate CES for Survivors into the CES Policies and Procedures, including the key components of CES: access, assessment, prioritization and referral.
- Assessment Updates
 - ❖ Adopt the use of the following CES assessments: Pre-Assessment Screening, Shelter Assessment, Housing Assessment, Survivor Assessment, Stepping Up Assessment, Moving On Assessment and Prevention Assessment.
- Establish a Disaster Prioritization Policy
 - ❖ Add a policy for prioritizing resources in the event of a local, state or national disaster.
- Adopt Clarifying Language
 - ❖ Clarify language related to expanding resources available through CES, definitions and regulations, roles and responsibilities, the use of case conferencing, and exits from CES.

Business Calendar – Item #1

CES Workflow: CES for Survivors



Business Calendar – Item #1



Current Challenges of Implementation

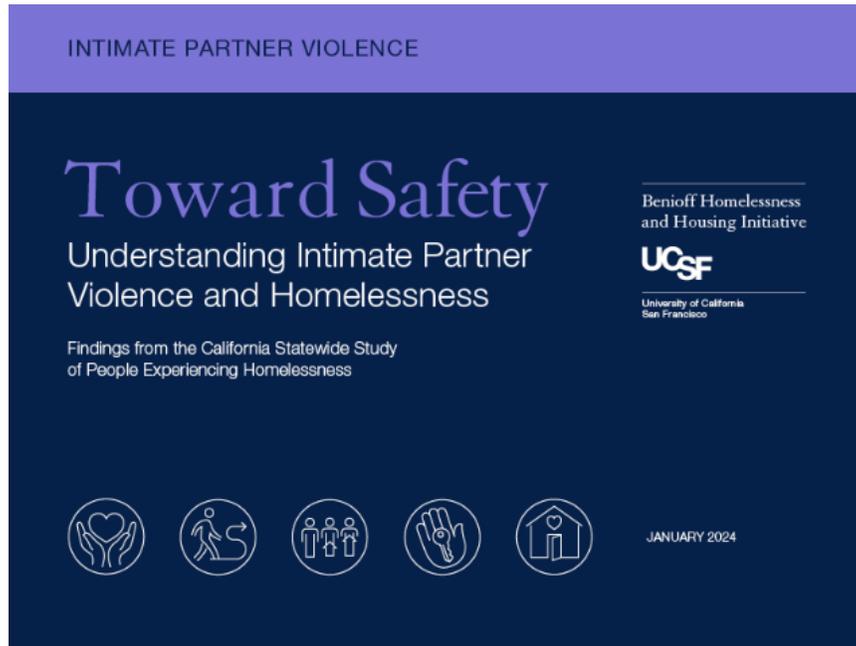
- Victim service providers are reporting that housing funds have largely been exhausted for the current program year, so survivor dedicated housing resources are extremely limited.
- There is a limited amount of victim service providers serving as CES access points, therefore, CES does not capture all resources.

**University of California, San Francisco
(UCSF) Benioff Homelessness and Housing
Initiative (BHHI) intimate partner violence
(IPV) and homelessness findings**

Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

Business Calendar – Item #2

Background



- In January 2024, the University of California, San Francisco BHHI released a report on the relationship between IPV and homelessness in California.
- The analysis is based on survey data and in-depth interviews from the [California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness \(CASPEH\)](#).
- The [IPV report](#), *Toward Safety: Understanding Intimate Partner Violence and Homelessness*, is the first in a series of deep dives into CASPEH data that will be released by BHHI this year.

Findings

■ Participants impacted by IPV were extremely low income. Among participants who reported IPV in the six months prior to homelessness, the median monthly household income in that same period was \$1000.

- The median monthly household income of those experiencing IPV in the months prior to homelessness was \$1,000, highlighting their **extreme poverty as a main cause of homelessness** in a state where the median monthly rent for a one bedroom is \$1,600.
- Participants reported leaving their homes as a survival strategy, even when they had rental subsidies, indicating that the **need to ensure safety superseded usual protections against homelessness**.

Business Calendar – Item #2

Findings

“ There wasn’t really any assistance at the time that I went to [the doctor] and told them about what was going on...If there was more proactive assistance when you’re facing domestic violence, things have a better outcome. ”

37-YEAR-OLD WOMAN

- Almost all participants indicated that **modest financial support** could have averted their homelessness despite IPV, with large majorities saying a housing voucher (92%), a lump-sum payment (83%), or a shallow monthly subsidy (73%) would have staved off homelessness for at least two years.
- **Barriers to seeking help that would protect participants** against homelessness included not knowing about specialized DV resources, having childcare responsibilities, and fearing that intimate partners would find out.

Business Calendar – Item #2

Findings

Most nights in the prior six months¹⁹

UNSHELTERED

60% 13% Unsheltered Vehicle
48% Unsheltered Non-Vehicle

SHELTERED

40% 28% Non-DV Shelter
5% DV Shelter
7% Other sheltered location
(e.g., motels, hotels, etc.)

- A majority of participants (60%) who both experienced IPV prior to homelessness and left housing due to violence **spent most nights in unsheltered settings**, indicating that **many people leaving housing due to IPV do not go to DV shelters**.
- Many participants (42%) who experienced IPV in the six months prior to homelessness, experienced IPV during homelessness and felt that **being homeless left them vulnerable to increased violence from their intimate partner**.
- Nearly all survivors (95%) reported that **the high cost of housing** was a barrier to their exiting homelessness and 61% indicated that **poor credit or eviction history**, often a consequence of IPV, was a barrier to regaining housing.

BHHI Recommendations

Based on the report findings, **BHHI endorses policy recommendations in four key areas:**

- promote policies and programs that center violence and homelessness prevention
- promote equity in responses to IPV
- increase access to affordable, permanent housing options for survivors
- and increase support for survivors currently experiencing homelessness

Policy and Programmatic Recommendations

Business Calendar – Item #2



Discussion

- ❖ From this report, what are key takeaways that should be highlighted?
- ❖ What would be helpful for the Orange County CoC to know?

Toward Safety: Understanding Intimate Partner Violence and Homelessness

Brown Act Update

Sarah Jones, CoC Manager,
Office of Care Coordination

Brown Act Update

- At this time, the CoC Board and all its associated committees are to adhere to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) requirements.
- The Office of Care Coordination received legal counsel and guidance that all committee meetings are to transition to being held in person, as the COVID-19 State of Emergency has ended and impacted allowance of continued teleconferencing without just cause and emergency circumstances.
- Moving forward, committee meetings will be held in-person while the Office of Care Coordination continues exploring additional opportunities for increased engagement.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: The Village at 17th Street

Address: 1505 E. 17th Street,
Suite 201, Santa Ana, CA 92705

CoC Board and CoC Committee Materials can be found
on the CoC webpage located at:

<https://ceo.ocgov.com/continuum-care>

For other inquiries, please contact the Office of Care
Coordination at CareCoordination@ocgov.com

