

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
POLICIES, PROCEDURES and STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, October 10, 2023
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Committee Chair: Becks Heyhoe, Orange County United Way

Committee Members:

Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward
Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual
Eric Richardson, Volunteers of America
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Orangewood Foundation
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, OC Health Care Agency

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions – Becks Heyhoe, Chair

- a. Chair Becks Heyhoe called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.
- b. Roll Call
 - i. Present: Chair Becks Heyhoe, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, and Nishtha Mohendra
 - ii. Absent Excused: Judson Brown, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, and Maricela Rios-Faust
 - iii. Eric Richardson arrived at the meeting before the Business Calendar.

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee on items listed within this agenda or matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the PPS Committee. Members of the public may address the PPS Committee with public comments on agenda items after the agenda presentation. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes. In order to address the PPS Committee, members of the public are to enter their name and agenda item number in the chat box to be placed in a queue. PPS Committee staff will call your name in the order listed in the chat box.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **Coordinated Entry System (CES) Policies and Procedures Recommended Changes** – Sarah Jones, Continuum of Care (CoC) Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Sarah Jones provided background and overview on the CES Policies and Procedures. From May to August 2023, a national technical assistance provider, Homebase, worked with a Domestic Violence

(DV) Survivor Stakeholder ad hoc and facilitated listening sessions with survivors to draft CES policies and procedures for survivors. The public feedback period for the revised draft of the CES Policies and Procedures occurred from September 12 through September 27, 2023. During the public feedback period, the Office of Care Coordination hosted two public listening sessions on September 13, 2023, and September 18, 2023. From the survivor feedback received, the recommended changes consist of incorporating CES for Survivors into the CES Policies and Procedures, adopting the use of revised CES assessments that are specific to survivors, establishing a policy for prioritizing resources in the event of a disaster, and adopting clarifying language related to CES and CES procedures.

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, for review and approval by the Orange County CoC Board.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve the recommended item. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. Chair Becks Heyhoe, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, and Robert “Santa Bob” Morse voted yes. Motion passed.

PPS Committee Member Comment:

- Nishtha Mohendra inquired about the timeline of implementation.

2. **CoC Updates** – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Sarah Jones provided the following CoC Updates:

- **FY 2023 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO):** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the CoC NOFO Competition on July 5, 2023. HUD made approximately \$2.7 billion in competitive funding available nationwide, including funds available for Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus, Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP), and funds for CoC Renewal and CoC Bonus Projects. For the Orange County CoC, approximately \$30.5 million was made available for the Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD), as well as funds for the CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, and CoC Planning. On Wednesday, September 27, 2023, the Office of Care Coordination posted a final version of the Consolidated Application and Priority Listing E-Snaps document on the FY 2023 CoC Program NOFO Webpage and the Orange County CoC submitted the final FY 2023 Orange County CoC Consolidated Application and Project Priority Listing to HUD.
- **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Funding:** On September 20, 2023, HUD announced the award of \$60 million to 16 communities under the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). This funding will help the awarded communities to develop and implement a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness through a wide range of housing programs. Though the Orange County CoC was not awarded YHDP funding, the CoC plans to continue applying for future opportunities to serve more youth experiencing homelessness.
- **FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards Updates:** HUD has released updates to the FY 2024 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Standards, which includes updates to the Coordinated Entry System data collection requirements announced on July 10, 2023. The FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards provide the requirements for the programming and use of all HMIS and comparable database systems and went into effect the beginning of October 2023. The FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards resources are now available on the HUD Exchange website.
- **National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) Updates:** On May 10, 2023, HUD published updates to the NSPIRE, that are used to assess whether housing meets minimum quality standards to qualify for assistance with HUD funds. On September 18, 2023, HUD published Federal Register Notice: Economic Growth Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act: Implementation of National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate; Extension of Compliance Date. This notice extends the compliance date for HUD’s

NSPIRE final rule for Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs, HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA), Emergency Solution Grants (ESG), and CoC programs until October 1, 2024.

PPS Committee Member Comment:

- Chair Becks Heyhoe expressed gratitude for the efforts put into the application for YHDP and shared it was the second year the Orange County CoC has applied. Though the CoC was not awarded the funding, Chair Becks Heyhoe shared that they are hopeful that with guidance from HUD and the experience of the past applications, the CoC will be better prepared for future applications to YHDP to better serve youth experiencing homelessness. Chair Becks Heyhoe expressed gratitude to the staff that contributed to the efforts to get the NOFO application submitted and acknowledged the time and hard work involved in meeting that deadline.

3. **Adjournment to:** Regular meeting on November 14, 2023, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.