

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE  
LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Location:**

**County Administration South (CAS) Building  
County Conference Center, Room 104  
425 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701**

**[Click here](#) for parking instructions.**

**Virtual Meeting Option:**

**Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)**

**Join by phone: +1 669 444 9171**

**Webinar ID: 923 4439 7221**

***\*Listen-in option only\****

**Committee Chair:** Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual

**Committee Vice Chair:** Paul Kaiser, Individual

**Committee Members:**

Reha Agar, Individual

Elizabeth Flores, Individual

Nichole Gideon, Individual

Deborah Kraft, Individual

Miranda Mears, Individual

Jason Mercado, Individual

Larry “Smitty” Smith, Individual

Vinny Zarrella, Individual

**MINUTES**

**Welcome and Meeting Overview** – Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Chair

Chair Robert “Santa Bob” Morse called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Present: Reha Agar, Elizabeth Flores, Nichole Gideon, Paul Kaiser, Miranda Mears, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Larry “Smitty” Smith, and Vinny Zarrella.

Absent Excused: Deborah Kraft and Jason Mercado

Elizabeth Flores arrived during General Public Comment. Vinny Zarrella arrived during Business Calendar Item 1. Reha Agar arrived during Business Calendar Item 2.

### **1. Request for Virtual Participation**

The Brown Act allows exceptions for members of legislative bodies to participate remotely under two specified circumstances: (1) “just cause” or (2) “emergency circumstances”. At least a quorum of the committee must be participating in-person for the exception(s) to be voted on and enacted. Following Business Calendar Item 1, Chair Robert “Santa Bob” Morse referenced a request for committee member Miranda Mears to join virtually due to just cause.

Recommended Action: Allow Miranda Mears to participate remotely for today’s LEAC meeting.

Paul Kaiser motioned to approve Miranda Mears request to participate virtually. Elizabeth Flores seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comments** – Members of the public may address the Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) 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 LEAC. Public comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes. Members of the public utilizing interpreter services will be given double the amount of time to provide public comment.

To address the LEAC during the Public Comment period, members of the public are to complete a Request to Address the Committee form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to Continuum of Care (CoC) staff. Staff will call your name in the order received. 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 24 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the LEAC members, and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “LEAC Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

**LEAC Member Comments** – Members of the LEAC may provide comments on matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the LEAC. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five members wishing to speak, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

- Elizabeth Flores shared plans to attend the CSH Conference in Chicago and will be sitting in on discussion around establishing a Lived Experience Advisory Board. Additionally, provided a shoutout for Nichole Gideon who was honored with a Distinguished Award.
- Vinny Zarrella discussed personal opinions and impressions of the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee meeting, after recently attending.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve the LEAC Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2025.

Due to pending quorum, Consent Calendar Item 1 was presented after Business Calendar Item 1.

Vice Chair Paul Kaiser motioned to approve Consent Calendar Item 1. Elizabeth Flores seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

### **1. CoC Updates** – Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Due to pending quorum, Business Calendar Item 1 was presented before Consent Calendar Item 1.

Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, provided updates from the March 26, 2025, CoC Board meeting, the OC Same Day Solutions Fair, and shared federal updates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), including in the second award announcement of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 CoC Program funding, Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) funding cuts, removal of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) from the federal grant website, and the announcement of California’s Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 6 funding.

#### Committee Discussion:

- Nichole Gideon showed appreciation for the housing presentation by Doug Becht, Director of the Office of Care Coordination, during the March 26, 2025, CoC Board meeting, and noted it may be helpful for the presentation to be added to a future LEAC meeting. It was emphasized that communication between clients and providers regarding available housing stock needs improvement. Nichole Gideon inquired about HHAP Round 6 funding.

### **2. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Policies and Procedures Recommended Changes** – Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC), Orange County United Way and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Erin DeRycke presented the recent updates and recommended changes to the HMIS Policies & Procedures. Revisions reflected feedback from the previous LEAC meeting, including input on the Client Records Request. An overview was also provided on recommended changes to the Grievance Form, Privacy Notice, Data Use and Disclosure, Data Integration, and Data Release policies.

#### Committee Discussion:

- Nichole Gideon showed appreciation for the updates made to the Client Records Request, as well as updates made from feedback by LEAC. Nichole Gideon also asked a question about recommended changes to Data Request and Data Integration and if both will no longer be going to the CoC Board for approval or if this will now be an administrative action. Nichole Gideon clarified that the Client Records Request will be available to the public.
- Chair Robert “Santa Bob” Morse inquired about why partnering agencies do not have adequate liability insurance.
- Vice Chair Paul Kaiser acknowledged the well-considered updates and recommended changes but expressed concerns about client access to the newly created and updated forms. Vice Chair Paul Kaiser questioned whether agencies would provide these forms upfront and assist clients in completing them or if service providers will tell clients they do not have access to that information.

- Larry “Smitty” Smith asked where HMIS data originates and how it is entered into the system, seeking clarification on why clients would need to request access to data they themselves provided to agencies. Larry “Smitty” Smith also inquired whether there are any fees associated with using HMIS.

Recommended Action a. Approve the recommended revisions to the HMIS Policies and Procedures, inclusive of the Client Record Requests, Data Use and Disclosure, Data Integration, and Data Release policies, as well as updates to the Client Consent Form, Grievance Form, and Privacy Notice, as recommended by the Orange County HMIS Policies and Procedures Working Group, for review and approval by the Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee.

Vice Chair Paul Kaiser motioned to approve Recommended Action a. Elizabeth Flores seconded the motion. Elizabeth Flores, Nichole Gideon, Paul Kaiser, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, and Vinny Zarrella voted yes. Larry “Smitty” Smith voted no. Miranda Mear and Reha Agar voted to abstain. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at the County Administrative North (CAN) Multipurpose Rooms 103/105, 400 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701