ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD Wednesday, June 25, 2025 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.

Virtual Meeting Option*:

Zoom Meeting Link: Click here for meeting link
Join by phone: +1 669 444 9171
Webinar ID: 948 5702 2698

*Listen-in option only

MINUTES

Board Members

LaVal Brewer, South County Outreach
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health
Andrew Crowe, Scholarship Prep
Nichole Gideon, Individual [Secretary]
Shakoya Green Long, Thomas House Family Shelter
Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, OC United Way
Marisol Johnson, Dayle McIntosh Center
Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim
Sammie MarTínez, Individual
Melanie McQueen, PATH

Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Orangewood Foundation
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward [Vice Chair]
Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Individual
Talesha Payne, Individual
Jason Phillips, Individual
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options
George Searcy, Individual
Tim Shaw, Individual
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Individual [Chair]

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. 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 County Administration North (CAN) Building, located 400 West Civic Center Drive, 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 – Nishtha Mohendra, Vice Chair

Board Member Roll Call – Nichole Gideon, Secretary

Present: Judson Brown, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Shakoya Green Long, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, and George Searcy.

Absent Excused: LaVal Brewer, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Sammie MarTínez, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Tim Shaw and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells.

Absent: Talesha Payne

Becks Heyhoe-Khalil and Marisol Johnson arrived during Public Comments. Maricela Rios-Faust and Nichole Gideon arrived during Board Member Comments. Andrew Crowe left during Business Calendar 1 and did not vote on Business Calendar Items 1, 3, or 4. Judson Brown left during Business Calendar 1 and did not vote on Business Calendar Items 1, 3, or 4. Shakoya Green Long left before Business Calendar 3 and did not vote on Business Calendar Items 3, or 4. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil and Nichole Gideon left during Business Calendar 5.

<u>Public Comments</u>: Members of the public may address the 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. Members of the public utilizing interpreter services will be given double the amount of time to provide public comment.

To address the CoC Board, members of the public who are attending in person 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.

Members of the public, including those listening in via the virtual meeting option, may also submit public comment by emailing CareCoordination@ocgov.com. All comments submitted via email at least 24 hours before the start of the CoC Board meeting will be distributed to the CoC Board members for their consideration and all comments submitted prior to the meeting will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include "CoC Board Meeting Comment" in the email subject line.

No public comments.

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.

- Melanie McQueen shared information and advocacy on the opposition of Assembly Bill 339.
- Jason Phillips read the names of people who have passed away without fixed abode in April 2025.
- Vice Chair Nishtha Mohendra emphasized the importance of the work that the Board achieves and thanked everyone for showing up and caring for community members and neighbors.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2025.

Robert "Santa Bob" Morse motioned to approve Item 1 on the Consent Calendar. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Shakoya Green Long, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, and George Searcy voted yes. The motion passed.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) — Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination; Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; Jasmin Miranda, CoC Staff Specialist, Office of Care Coordination; and Joe Colletti, Chief Executive Officer, HUB for Urban Initiatives

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) formerly released an annual CoC Program NOFO that allowed CoCs nationwide to apply for competitive funding. In 2024, for the first time, HUD issued a two-year CoC Program NOFO as authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024. Zulima Lundy provided a presentation on the FY 2024 and FY 2025 NOFO Orange County CoC Application Score. For the FY 2024 and FY 2025 NOFO, the Orange County CoC had a total application score of 138 compared to the national median score for all CoCs being 151.5. The highest score of any CoC was 185.5 and the lowest score for any CoC was 54.5. Jasmin Miranda briefly shared about the CoC NOFO Ranking and Tiering process and how it relates to the CoC Application Score.

Felicia Boehringer presented an overview on the revised Reallocation Strategy. In effort to promote the most effective renewal projects and recommend renewal projects that improve the CoC's system performance and increases the Orange County CoC's competitiveness in the CoC Program NOFOs, the revised Reallocation Strategy will consider project performance and unspent funds.

<u>Recommended Action b</u>: Approve revised Reallocation Strategy for reallocating funding of CoC Renewal Projects, inclusive of reallocation criteria based on project performance score and unspent funds, for the FY 2025 CoC Program NOFO and ongoing competitions.

George Searcy motioned to approve Recommended Action b. Jason Phillips seconded the motion. Shakoya Green Long, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, and George Searcy voted yes. Nichole Gideon, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, and Maricela Rios-Faust abstained. The motion passed.

Public Comments:

- Stephen McNally with the Behavior Health Advisory Board shared that the importance on empowering and improving and emphasized the need to be able to assign dollars or find an outside funding source in order to obtain flexible dollars for the community. The outside funding sources can also help in being competitive. Stephen McNally note that the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) was not mentioned during the presentation on the FY 2024 and FY 2025 NOFO Orange County CoC Application Score. In regard to some of the zeros in the scoring, Stephen McNally that something is wrong and there may be controllables or uncontrollable factors as it relates to the data for the FY 2024 and FY 2025 NOFO Orange County CoC Application Score.
- Layla Said provided an introduction and shared about experiences of working with previous CoCs, submitting applications for HUD. Layla Said noted never having seen a drop in the NOFO scoring and offered suggestions. Layla Said emphasized that it is the responsibility of the CoC to own the data and that it is

- concerning to hear that the data came as a surprise to providers. Layla Said stated that there seems to be a disconnect of who is owning the data and suggested trainings and engagement of partners entering data into HUD. Layla Said stated that the length of time of homelessness calculations should be looked at and there must be conversation with each of the partners.
- Sara Behmerwohld with Human Options shared concerns about the Reallocation Strategy being applied on a retroactive basis, as the current evaluation period is over and now the "line is being moved". Sara Behmerwohld stated that Human Options has continued to raise concerns about the project performance measures as one of the only Joint Transitional Housing/Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing projects. Sara Behmerwohld noted concerns with the "Average Days Until Permanent Housing Placement" and other measures for the Joint TH/PH-RRH projects because of the need to offer both components of the projects. Sara Behmerwohld also shared that Joint TH/PH-RRH projects are also on two different performance periods for both components when trying to align scores.

Board Member Discussion:

- Dawn Price noted that the FY 2024 and FY 2025 NOFO Orange County CoC Application Score presentation was a lot of information to digest and suggested that agencies should be included in the conversations regarding system performance as the agencies are the ones whose data is included. Dawn Price asked if system performance only included HUD-funded projects and also asked if there is a difference in performance from agencies who might not be paying attention to HUD's expectations. Dawn Price stated importance of coaching individual organizations with hard conversations on improving scores and noted that the Collaborative Applicant must lead the coaching as the CoC Board is not the appropriate lead for those conversations.
- Maricela Rios-Faust agreed with Dawn Price regarding conversations needing to include CoC-Funded Agencies. Maricela Rios-Faust noted that some of the funding for bed counts was impacted by a lot of money flooding the system in previous years and shared that there should be some consideration of what that does and if it can fluctuate year after year. Maricela Rios-Faust mentioned Tier 2 funding impacts across the nation and how there was a notice of money for disaster impacted areas and noted what else are things that are out of the control of the CoC. Maricela Rios-Faust stated that system wide data needs to be looked at as a whole and is unsure about an ad hoc providing the continuity it needs as there could be a lot of hard stop and learning. Maricela Rios-Faust asked about new projects and how would that factor in the new reallocation strategy. Maricela Rios-Faust inquired on the impact of the delay in signing of CoC grant agreements.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil noted that there were four (4) areas where the CoC scored a zero in the CoC Application due to system performance measure data and asked if there is an equivalent comparison of last year. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil stated that one thing that will be helpful to look it when looking at quality of HMIS data is whether there is significant staff turnover for the staff responsible for entering HMIS data, or if there is a need for additional training on data entry. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil asked if there was a training resource for the input of system performance data.
- Vice Chair Nishtha Mohendra noted that the drop in system performance measure data from 2023 would be brought back at a later CoC Board meeting.
- Melanie McQueen emphasized on thinking of ways to get ahead of system performance and improve submission, inquired if the system performance measure report be adjusted before the submission to ensure alignment with national benchmarks, and asked to what extent is system performance being filtered through regular contract and performance management. Melanie McQueen noted that the County might be missing an opportunity to course correct through contract processes. Melanie McQueen asked if impact analysis can be included on how the system performance measures might impact the NOFO. In regard to the CoC Strategic Plan, Melanie McQueen stated that given the significance of performance, system performance should be prioritized in any plan moving forward. For the reallocation strategy, Melanie

- McQueen asked about the timeframes for being on notice or warning and the if there was enough time for correction prior to reallocation.
- Judson Brown shared experience of managing grants, noting that the deficiencies were found on the back
 end, and shared appreciation on the efforts to pinpoint the deficiencies of where improvement can be
 made. Judson Brown asked about HUD's guidance on appropriate amount of unspent funds for CoC grants
 and shared that the CoC Board should consider revising unspent funds portion of the Reallocation Strategy
 to reduce the percentages.
- George Searcy shared a process from the housing development sector called self-scoring and noted that there is constant work on major projects and looking at future processes. George Searcy asked if the CoC would have been able to guess of the data going up or down, or even have the capacity to course correct. George Searcy asked if organizations could adapt on the fly.
- Andrew Crowe expressed low confidence in moving forward due to the concerning amount of funding lost in Tier 2 and inquired if there was a correlation of loss of funding and FY 2024 and FY 2025 NOFO Orange County CoC Application Score. Andrew Crowe asked what the system performance was for the Orange County CoC last year compared to this year, how far the drop was in system performance scores, and whether it is related to data quality or the actual system not performing well.
- Marisol Johnson shared insight on processes of follow up reports for missing data and shared that the process helps get more data inputted.

2. CoC Strategic Plan – Nishtha Mohendra, Vice Chair

Vice Chair Nishtha Mohendra and Aubrey Sitler, Consultant, AC Strategies, provided an update on the CoC Strategic Plan. Aubrey Sitler presented on the seven (7) Strategies to Prioritize in Year 1, clarified the MOCHA Model roles, and provided the various options for the path to determining strategy owners of the CoC Strategic Plan.

Board Member Discussion:

- Judson Brown proposed revisions for seven (7) Strategies to Prioritize in Year 1 and proposed to remove strategy 2D as it is far too broad and beyond the scope of the CoC Board. Judson Brown agreed with the suggestion of asking committee chairs of what they want to personally own in the CoC Strategic Plan.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil shared appreciation for the work that has gone towards synthesizing and condensing the CoC Strategic Plan. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil noted that the previous discussion and training and importance of data can be seen in strategies 1A and 3A. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil asked questions regarding strategy 2D.
- Maricela Rios-Faust noted that the seven (7) Strategies are a good place to start and noted that the Orange County CoC is falling short of what gets accomplished and asked that in doing this, what is trying to be accomplished. Maricela Rios-Faust inquired on the funding to CoC Strategic Plan, especially as it relates to investment in resources. Maricela Rios-Faust noted that CoC staff have a lot they are currently working on, and some tasks or activities would need to be paused to focus on some of the activities being proposed in the Strategic Plan. Maricela Rios-Faust shared it would be helpful to look at how CoC staff time and tasks are being prioritized as a consideration for next month.
- Dawn Price shared that the Orange County CoC needs to be mindful of strategies being committed to and noted that anything assigned to an ad hoc takes staff time as staff time is a finite entity. Dawn Price shared caution on creating passive processes for committees and stated that the CoC Strategic Plan was something that was written before the current situation. Dawn Price noted that ad hocs can be opportunities to develop more leaders.
- 3. Addressing Veterans Homelessness in Orange County Eric Richardson; Director for Housing, Volunteers of America, Los Angeles, and Orange County Veterans and Military Families Collaborative (OCVMFC) Housing Working Group Chair; Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Veterans Committee Chair; and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Eric Richardson presented on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) One Team Veteran Surge, as well as the veterans 'surge' schedule. The next OCVMFC Housing / Surge Community meeting is on Thursday, July 17, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Orange County United Way located at 18012 Mitchell S, Irvine, CA 92614.

Becks Heyhoe-Khalil provided background on the Orange County CoC Veterans Committee. Since January 2024, the work of the Veterans Committee has increasingly overlapped with discussions and initiatives already taking place through OCVMFC Housing Working Group and the VA One Team initiative. Given the CoC's limited direct influence over federal veteran housing resources and strategies, questions were raised of whether a separate Veterans Committee under the CoC remains necessary. At the June 16, 2025, Veterans Committee special meeting, members discussed and unanimously agreed that sunsetting the standing CoC Veterans Committee would be appropriate. In its place, the Committee recommended having an ad hoc that would convene on an as-needed basis to address any emerging issues or coordination needs related to veterans' homelessness that the CoC has influence over, such as the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Veterans Registry, Point in Time (PIT) Count planning, or the CES Policies and Procedures.

<u>Recommended Action b</u>: Approve the sunsetting of the Veterans Committee, with direction to convene an ad hoc to address veterans homelessness on an as-needed basis.

Dawn Price motioned to approve Recommended Action b. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. George Searcy, Melanie McQueen, Jason Phillips, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Maricela Rios-Faust, Nichole Gideon, and Nishtha Mohendra voted yes. The motion passed.

4. Abt Global's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Request – Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 211OC, Orange County United Way; and Mary Schwartz, Senior Associate, Abt Global

On May 30, 2025, 211OC received a data request from Abt Global to receive two exports of client-level data for all veteran clients active in any project during the reporting period from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025, who had an active HMIS Client Consent Form recorded in HMIS as of the end of the reporting period.

<u>Recommended Action a</u>: Approve Abt Global's data request for the period of October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025, for two exports of data to be used to help identify Veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Orange County to target for the Unsheltered Surge, and to pilot the mandate for enhanced data sharing between the VA and HMIS by 2025.

Becks Heyhoe-Khalil motioned to approve Recommended Action a. Dawn Price seconded the motion. Nichole Gideon, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, and George Searcy voted yes. Maricela Rios-Faust abstained. The motion passed.

5. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

Zulima Lundy provided a HHAP Round 6 application update. HHAP Round 6 is a \$1 billion grant, application process currently underway with final applications due to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on August 29, 2025. HHAP-6 funding allocations include the jurisdictions of County of Orange, Orange County CoC, City of Anaheim, City of Santa Ana, and City of Irvine. Regions must apply together and submit a single Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan that builds upon the state approved

HHAP-5 Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan. The Orange County region will host three public meetings to seek feedback and input in the development of the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan from stakeholders and community members.

Community Listening Session #1 hosted by the City of Santa Ana on July 7, 2025 at the Delhi Community Center located at 505 E. Central Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92707. Community Listening Session #2 hosted by the City of Anaheim on July 8, 2025 at the Anaheim West Tower, 2nd Floor - Gordon Hoyt Conference Room located at 201 S. Anaheim Blvd, Anaheim, CA 92805, and Community Listening Session #3 hosted by the County of Orange on July 10, 2025 at the County Administration South (CAS) Building Conference Center located at 425 West Santa Ana Boulevard Room 104/106, Santa Ana, CA 92701.

Public Comment:

- Peter Warner suggested that when funding is provided to the different shelters, that contracts should remove the requirement of a background check. Peter shared former experience of being denied from shelter due to religious congregation connections.
- **6. FY 2024 Longitudinal Systems Analysis Report** Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 211OC, Orange County United Way

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 6 was not presented.

- 7. Orange County Homelessness Updates Doug Becht, Director, and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination
 - a. System of Care Updates Doug Becht provided the following System of Care Update:
 - The County Executive Office and the OC Health Care Agency will transition the OC Outreach and Engagement (OC O&E) to the Office of Care Coordination (OCC), effective July 1, 2025. OC O&E remains committed to ensuring this transition is seamless with minimal disruptions to services or engagement with all community partners.
 - The aim of the 2025 Homeless Survey is to explore the complex issues and journey people experienced as they loss their housing and started experiencing homelessness. This includes understanding what services and programs they may have accessed or attempted to access in efforts to remain housed, and the challenges they have faced as a result of unsheltered homelessness. The Office of Care Coordination will present the findings to the Commission to Address Homelessness and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board in August; and facilitate a Joint Special Meeting of the Commission and the CoC Board to discuss the findings and determine next steps.
 - Doug Becht provided the staffing update that Felicia Boehringer will step into the role of Interim CoC Manager.
 - b. CoC Updates Felicia Boehringer provided the following CoC Updates:
 - The Office of Care Coordination has been working on the launch of an Instagram account for the
 Orange County Coordinated Entry System (CES). Content will be geared toward CES Access Point
 staff, housing providers, and members of the public as the team provides educational and relevant
 information on CES in an easy, accessible format.
 - HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) sent the FY 2025 GIWs for review by CoC Collaborative Applicants and project applicants on June 18, 2025. Project applicants must confirm with the Office of Care Coordination whether any changes are needed to the FY 2025 GIW by July 17, 2025. The Office of Care Coordination will work to confirm accuracy of the FY 2025 GIW with the local HUD field office before the July 29, 2025, deadline.

- A new <u>brief</u> released by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) uses visuals to convey the potential impact of the President's FY 2026 budget proposal. The proposed budget would directly threaten the local homelessness response system. Currently, 51% of the Orange County CoC's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds are funded through the CoC Program. These beds serve individuals with complex needs, including mental illness, disabilities, and histories of long-term homelessness.
- The Office of Care Coordination has been providing CoC Board members with updates regarding upcoming CoC activities. Calendar Year 2025 Quarter 3 activities are highlighted in the CoC Board Presentation. Activities in bold require active participation from CoC Board members outside of normal meetings.
- The Office of Care Coordination is currently recruiting to fill one (1) Staff Specialist Extra Help
 Position to support with CoC and CES projects and initiatives being led by the Office of Care
 Coordination. If you have any questions pertaining to this recruitment of if you are interested in
 the employment opportunity, please contact or submit your resume to Aida Lomeli at
 aida.lomeli@ocgov.com.
- Upcoming meetings of the Orange County CoC can be viewed at: https://ceo.ocgov.com/continuum-care

Public Comment:

- Peter Warner stated that something must be done at a specific facility due to bedbugs and other
 infestations. Peter expressed that the infestations must be addressed for the patients living at the facility.
- **8.** HMIS Lead Update Elizabeth Andrade, Executive Director, 2110C and Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 2110C, Orange County United Way

Erin DeRycke provided the following HMIS Lead updates: the 2025 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Sheltered Point in Time Count (PIT) were submitted to HUD on June 12, 2025 and results will be shared at a future CoC Board meeting and HUD released an update to the FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards to be compliant with the current administration's Executive Orders with software updates for the FY 2024 Data Standards changes being required to be completed by October 1, 2025 and the CoC Board will discuss whether these fields should continue to be collected at a future CoC Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 23, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.